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lumouth Observer

Your hometown newspaper serving Plymouth and Plymouth Township for 115 years

Sunday, December 24, 2000

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Plymouth, Michigan

75c **62000 HomeTown Communications I**

HOLIDAY HOURS

In the city: Except for the treasurer's office, the general city offices will be closed Dec. 25 through

Jan. 2. The treasurer's office will be open Dec. 27-28 to handle walk-ins



who wish to pay taxes or other city bills. Residents may also use the 24-hour payment drop boxes in the Church Street lobby of City Hall and the Plymouth District Library. All tax payments dropped in the boxes will be processed by Jan. 3 and will be considered received by Dec. 31.

In the township: Offices will be closed Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 25-26, and Monday and Tuesday, Jan. 1-2. Township offices will be open Dec. 27-28 from 8 to 4:30 p.m., and Friday, Dec. 29 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Offices will be open Jan. 3-5 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Taxes must be paid or dropped off by Dec. 28 to be considered paid.

Season of giving



Helping hands: Plymouth Rotarian Paul Dillon, right, cuts a board as John Folino, left, lends a hand. The Rotarians, along with some help from Horton Plumbing, assembled a handicap ramp in front of the trailer of Steve and Terry Buentello. Kirk Kohn is at rear, watching.

Plymouth dealer helps make girl's wish come true

BY BRAD KADRICH STAFF WRITER

Robin's eyes light up as she penders the

"I've never been!" she says of her upcoming trip to Disney World. "It's

gonna be fun!" The 11-year-old from Inkster, recovering from a heart transplant, will get her chance to meet Mickey, Donald Duck and the gang thanks to the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Michigan and Plymouth auto dealer Lou LaRiche Chevrolet.

LaRiche sales employees were among those who helped finance the wish through donations on each new car sold,

Please see WISH, A2

Rotary rides to the rescue

BY BRAD KADRICH STAFF WRITER bleedrich Con. home

erri and Steve Buentello lean back in their dual recliners, each burdened by individual pain that now plagues

Steve has long suffered from chronic bouts of rheumatoid arthritis that attack his joints. In recent months, renal failure has chased him into kidney dialysis. A rare form of bone cancer appears to be wrapping itself around Terry's sacrum.

The pain forced Terry first to crutches, then to a wheelchair when she couldn't walk. Getting around their Plymouth Hills home got to be problematic; getting out of it was nearly impossible.

That led the Buentellos to start looking for a handicap ramp on the outside of their home. First estimates came in at about \$4,600, a price too high for a couple forced to use their savings and credit cards to survive. That's where the Plymouth Rotary Club

Dick Scott Dodge pitches in, A2

came in. After getting a tip from the Goodfellows, Rotary Club members came to the Buentellos' rescue, huilding a remp outside the house that will now allow easter access. "Rotary was a God-send," Terry Buentello says bluntly. "I didn't even know they did

The Family Independence Agency was the first place the Buentellos looked for help. Four months passed, with no assistance in sight. Rotary's Carrie Blamer, after getting a call from the Goodfellows, called Terry Buentello and asked if the club could come take a look.

Last week, construction of the ramp

"It was amazing, especially how fast they came out," Terry said. "I'd been waiting four



Robin Carvin of Inkster, 11, unwraps a present from the staff at Lou LaRiche Chevrolet Wednesday. The youngster, who suffers from a rare type of cancer and who underwent a heart transplant in September, will travel to Disney World with her family courtesy of the Plymouth auto dealership in conjunction with Please see RAMP, A2 the Make A Wish Foundation.

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School district suffers 2nd key departure

BY BRAD KADRICH STAFF WRITER bkadrich@oe.h

Errol Goldman has seen friends and colleagues reach the point of retirement, then be unable, for whatever reason, to take advantage of it. He didn't want that for him-

Goldman, for 10 years the Plymouth-Canton School District's assistant superintendent for personnel and employee relations, announced his retirement this week, effective Jan. 17.

"It just seemed like time," said Goldman, who came to the district out of private law

practice. "I've planned for it. trict in contract negotiations. I've always said, 'When I can go, I'm going to go.

Goldman joined Plymouth-Canton schools in July 1990, after three years in private practice and 10 years with Ann Arbor Schools. He has frequently been the diving rod for controversy, leading the dis-

"I think you've had a real hard job," board member Sue Davis said. "My sense is often times you've been a scapegoat, and it takes a special person to handle a job like that."

It's the second announced departure in recent weeks. Assistant Superintendent for

Instruction Patrick O'Donnell announced last week he is leaving to become superintendent of schools for the Fenton school district.

The departures leave Plymouth-Canton with a couple of big sets of shoes to fill, according to Kathleen Booher, Ph.D.,

Please see GOLDMAN, A4

New bank beats finance deadline

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

thruscato@oe.homecomm.net

Plymouth's first community bank in nearly 40 years will open its doors early next year.

Plymouth Financial Corporation has raised enough capital to receive approval by state regulators to open New Liberty Bank, which is scheduled to buy the assets and debts of Peoples State Bank in Plymouth for approximately \$1.3 million.

"We made it over our largest hurdle, raising capital of \$8 million without any kind of brokerage," said Michael Weaver, chairman of Plymouth Financial Corporation and president and CEO of New Liberty Bank. "We did it ourselves during one-onone meetings with investors who invested anywhere from the minimum of \$10,000 up to \$750,000.

Plymouth Financial Corporation, which began selling stock last July, had until 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 15 to raise its capital, and did so with only minutes to spare as corporation members met with investors

Please see BANK, A4

Kendal's coming out party



Happy birthday: Cindy White holds her new born daughter Kendal at St. Mary's Hos pital after birth. See the special story about the hours leading to Kendal's birth on Page D4.

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STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HUBSCHMANN

Happy face: Robin wipes away a tear as brother Justin opens a gift from the dealership. Mom Sharon Carvin of Inkster is at left.

Wish from page A1

But they took the program one step further, chipping in as much as \$100 apiece to help make Robin's wish a reality.

When the idea that, in addition to participating in the foundation's Wish Match 25 Program, the sales staff also get personally involved, there was no shortage of volunteers.

Without hesitation, hands went up," said Scott LaRiche. "It makes us feel real good. I'll give my dad (Lou LaRiche) a plug; he leads by example. He's very involved in the community and by that example without hesitation our employees get involved."

Robin was diagnosed 16 months ago with a type of cancer that attacks the kidneys. Complications from the disease led her to the University of Michigan Hospital, where she underwent a heart transplant in September.

"It's been tough," said Robin's mother, Sharon Carvin. "I didn't think they'd find a heart, but they did."

Sharon Carvin doesn't have any idea who donated the heart, but she's hoping the family will contact her, because she wants to thank them.

"I'm hoping and praying they contact me," she said. "I'd tell them I'm grateful because it saved Robin's life, but I'm sorry for their loss."

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First shows on Christmas wil

O WHAT WOMEN WANT (PG-13)

OMISS CONGENIALITY (PG-13)

OEMPEROR'S NEW GROOVE (G)

UN 11:20, 1:10, 2:50, 4:45

start after 3pm

SUN 11:10, 1:40, 4:10

ION 4:10, 6.50, 9:20

OCASTAWAY (PG-13)

MON 3:00, 6:30, 9:25

UN 11:50, 2:10, 4:30

MON 4:45, 7:30, 9:15

SUN 11:15, 1:45, 4:15 MON 4:15, 6:45, 9:15

HRISTMAS (PG-13)

SUN 12:10, 2:25, 4:40

COUPON

FREE

VERTICAL LIMIT (PG-13)

UN 12:00, 3:00

O No Passes

Make-A-Wish program, LaRiche employees are also contributing sponsors in Robin's trip to Florida by virtue of the approximately \$2,400 they raised in personal contributions.

"We're real excited to be involved," Scott LaRiche said. "It's a real feel-good thing for

It's all in a day's work for Make-A-Wish, which granted 332 wishes last year and hopes for 375 this year (the Foundation's tiscal year runs from September to September).

"We try to make it an unparalleled experience," said Matt Shinabarger, the foundation's manager of national partnerships. "For us, it's more than granting children's wishes. It's a chance for the family to come together in the child's joy. Our goal is to make them forget about the doctors and the pain for a short time."

For more information on the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Michigan, call toll-free (888) 857-WISH.

Dodge dealer helps woman with car trouble

BY BRAD KADRICH STAFF WRITER

After more than two years of struggling to keep her car running, Tammie Gramling of Adrian was beginning to wonder if things were ever going to change.

Along came Dick Scott Dodge of Plymouth, heeding a call from television reporter Bill Spencer, to bail Gramling and her family out of a jam.

The Plymouth car dealership Thursday handed Gramling, a first-grade teacher, the keys to a 1994 Ford Taurus, ending the woman's search for reliable transportation.

"We want to help when it's a good reason to help," said Jason Scott, the dealership's general sales manager. "(Spencer, a Channel 7 reporter) contacted us and said he had someone in need, and we said we'd love to help.

Gramling, who has a young daughter and parents who are seriously ill, had been fighting a seemingly unending battle since her last car broke down in October 1998. She bought the car and, after driving it less than 200 miles, began having trouble

Endless squabbles between Gramling, the Adrian repair

shop where she took the car to get it fixed, and the warranty company began, winding up in court over who should pay for the repairs. At one point, the warranty company offered a new engine in exchange for being removed from Gramling's law-suit, but even that failed to settle the problem.

During all of that, Gramling's mother was diagnosed with bone cancer and her father, R.T., underwent a pair of heart operations. With all of that on her mind, Gramling was about to

"My mother's cancer is coming back, and they basically told me there's nothing more they can do for my father," Gramling said.

Finally, Gramling contacted Channel 7's Spencer, who is the station's "watchdog" reporter. Spencer, in turn, got hold of Dick Scott Dodge. Owner Dick Scott arranged for Gramling to get the '94 Taurus.

"It's good transportation, which is what she needs," Jason Scott said. "It's a great car."

Gramling is happy her auto travails are over.

"There aren't words to say how happy I am they're helping,' Gramling said. "I'm grateful for what they're doing for me, but also what they're teaching my daughter, that there really are people willing to help."



STAPF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHMANN

Tami Gramling, right, wipes away a tear as she accepts a used car from Dick Scott, right, or Dick Scott Dodge in Plymouth Thursday.

Ramp from page A1

CANTON 6 The Buentellos' story, and the resultant need, brought out the best helping instincts in the club. 84.00 Family Twilight 4-6pm daily \$4.75 Kids & Seniors all shows

'When you hear their story, it's amazing,' Blamer said. "We felt like we had to do something to help them." The story is pretty amazing. Steve Buentello, 45,

has suffered from rheumatoid arthritis for 15 years, and Terry has always taken care of him. Last year, he developed a boil which had to be removed. According to Terry, doctors never drew blood work. A week later, he was so weak he could-

"His blood pressure was so low," Terry remembered. "They did the blood work and found out his kidneys had about shut down.'

In the meantime, Terry was dealing with her pain. Her first doctor diagnosed the lump in her hip as a knotted muscle and ordered no further tests. In December 1998, Terry had had enough of her pain, and convinced her doctor to order an MRI. The test confirmed Terry's fears: A tumor. He sent her to an orthopedic surgeon, who told the frightened Terry it looked as though the tumor were wrapping itself around the bone.

The surgeon then sent Terry to an oncologist at the University of Michigan.

"I knew what that meant when I heard the word oncologist," she said. "Otherwise, I felt good, except for the pain."

Steve had been in the hospital due to complications from his kidney shutdown. Two weeks after he got out, Terry had to deliver the news: She had

"I couldn't believe it," Steve said. "The things I was going through, and then I find out about (Terry). I could-



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SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY OFFER

Terry now can barely walk. Her doctors referred her to other doctors in Massachusetts, where they tried proton radiation. Then came the radical recommendation: remove the sacrum. Her leg would no longer be attached to anything, but she'd still have the left leg. She wouldn't walk normally, but she could use crutches. She agreed.

She got through post-operative physical therapy - though there were some complications — and was actually getting around pretty well. Then the pain started in her other leg. She had more tests and, in February 2000, got a good news/bad news talk with her doctor: the CT scan of her pelvis looked clean, but the cancer had metastasized into her lungs.

Doctors wanted to do chemo, though the success rate, she said, isn't good. They decided to try it for three months and, if there was little improvement, stop the treatments.

"That's what ended up happening," Terry said. The couple endures. Steve is on the kidney transplant list at U-of-M, though the couple hasn't heard anything. Terry's prognosis is less clear. "I could go tomorrow, or I could live a long time," she said. "Who knows?"

Still, the couple remain upbeat yet pragmatic. Although she sometimes blames him for burdening them, Terry attributes the couple's ability to cope to God. She also says the moods sometimes swing

"Either you're going to cry hysterically or you're going to laugh," she said, a slight smile creasing her lips. "Sometimes, I do a little of both." Steve's approach is a little more blunt, and it's

how the couple are getting through the tough

"What are you going to do?" he asks rhetorically. Once active, "Jump off a bridge?"



n't believe it."



HOW TO CARE FOR A PAINFUL BUNION

A bunion is an enlarged bone on the side of the big toe that is angled outward. Depending on the severity of the bunion, the big toe may be angled mildly or sharply toward the other toes. Bunions often develop along with other foot problems, including hammer toes, corns and clauses. Bunion can become very painful, and are treated conservatively with wider shoes, orthotics and medications. If unresp conservative care, surgery can be performed to remove the painful bump and realign the toe



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baby doll with peas and a real

I love you. I hope you will

have fun. You make me feel so

happy. You do a lot's of work.

and Merry Christmas.

Avery

Alyson

Canton

Canton

kitten named Joey.

Dear Santa.





'All I want for Christmas'

Local kids share their holiday wishes with Santa Claus

"mostest" of the year I've been

nobodys hunting for reindeers.

For Christmas I would like a

a really good girl. when you

come to visit make sure

so they are safe.

Dear Santa.

For this Christmas, I want a scooter, telescope, and a fish lamp. I have been good at school and at home. I hope you bring what I want. I will not have a fire in the fireplace, so you can leave my gifts under our tree without burning your suit. I will leave some cookies for you and carrots for your reindeers. I hope the grince won't come this year. Merry Christmas.

Aaron Plymouth

Hi Santa,

Looking forward to having you come for milk and cookies at our house.

Love, Brittany, Lauren and Nicholas Plymouth P.S. We like lots of toys.

Dear. Santa

I would like Amazing Ally, a scooter, and a lap top conputer, and maybe some nail polish. I hope you have a very Merry Christmas.

Sincerely, Nicole Plymouth

Dear Santa

I want silver version for game boy. I also want a pokemon battle stadium. Thank you.

Love

Plymouth

P.S. You're cool!!

Dear Santa.

I hope you have a fun time at Christmas. Thank you for the presents. Love

> Shannon Plymouth

I love you

Dear Santa.

I want for Christmas a teacher's pet, 3 billy goats gruff with finger puppets, hit the mole game, and a September birthday bear.

Jessica Schroeder Plymouth

Dear Santa,

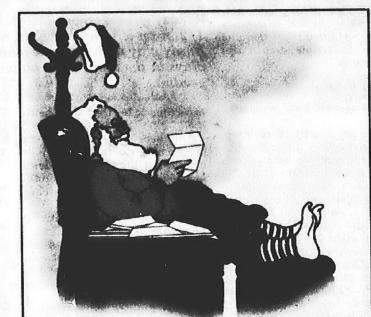
I hope you don't have trouble delivering eveyones presents! I have a few things I want and a poem to share. I hope you have a happy Christ-

Christmas day horray hor-

Like a horse going neh neh What shall I wear Should I curl my hair Because I look like a fuzzy bear

The End

Katie's Wish List A keyboard, walkie talky, me and my shadow, jewel girl barbie, neon tetra fish, a hu huge panda beanie baby, charlies angels movie, charlies angels CD, bring it on move, 9 degree CD and more in



Dear Santa Claus, Thank you for the letter you sent me. Please if you can bring kit the new A.G. doll. I've had two snow days out of school. I'll make sure I live some cookies for you and a snak for your reindeer.

Your friend. Stephanie Canton

P.S. My sister does not have as much as time to write you a letter so please bring her a kit A.G. doll too. Her name is Lindsey Petrusha.

Dear Santa,

You've been watching me say what I want for christmas this year. I really want a new razor scooter for christmas. Will you mail me a letter to say if I've been good or not. Make sure you bring me a scooter. Tell the elfes I want something good in my shoe on 12/12/00.

Thank you. Love Ashley

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Dear Santa Claus,

I think I've been good. Can you please get me a poo-shy? poo-shy comes with a bone and he sings six different song. would you make him sing christmas songs? will you get me a bear in need of a holiday home! thay are tiny.

> Kay Plymouth

Dear Santa,

I would like to have a red, blue green or hot pink scooter. A girls basketball and soccer ball. A pokemon CD, a new tea set and hope my daddy can come home for Christmas.

Love Gabrielle Canton

I have been good this year. I would like a walker t tool man and a talking choo choo train.

P.S. Please bring me seecer-

Dear Santa.

is snow pants, cd's, some boks to read, but most of all I want to be with my family. They have cared for me my whole life, they supported me, helped me when I needed help, and

What I wan't for Christmas

showed me that they are the most wonderful, loving, and caring people a son could ever have. The reason I would like snow pants is because whenever I go outside and play in the snow my pants get all wet, but with snowpants that won't happen. So in other words I just her to be able to let her have more time to enjoy with her family. The reason I won't some cd's is because I like listening to music and I'll have something to do when I get bored. The reason I would like some books is because I enjoy reading and it is also something I can do when I get bored. So I hope I'm on your Christmas list this season. I think I've been pretty good.

Sincerely, Tyler Canton

Dear Santa Claus.



Hi! This is Amber. I am 8. You can choose something from my list please.

List 1. CD (portable please)

player 2. Piano

3. Poo-chi 4. Karioke set

5. Chapter books (Nancy

Drew, Mary Kate and Ashley, or other writers) 6. Candy wrappers (for my

collection P.S. And a Healthy Merry

Christmas Ohhh! Oops, I forgot the

most important thing!!!!! A GREAT CHRISTMAS TO

ALL PEOPLE!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Amber, Canton

to the magic

Throughout these festive, frantic days, a real magic does remain. Take time to enjoy it with the ones who matter most to you.

Happy Holidays to you and your family.

Goldman from page A1

Plymouth-Canton's superintendent. Marcee Martin, Ph.D. retired superintendent of Ferndale Schools, filling O'Donnell's



position on an interim basis; Booher figures to do the same thing with Gold-

"I have greatly appreciated working with Errol," Booher said. "He is a highly reliable person, and anything I asked of phase of life."

him, Errol delivered. That was very important in this first year while I got acclimated." School board members were,

as might be expected, generous in their comments at Friday's

"I'm going to miss your sense of humor," trustee Liz Givens said. "We've had some pretty spirited discussions. Board president Dar Watts

Goldman had always seemed a good fit. The district has served you well, and you've served the district well," Watts said. "It's nice,

on that note, to go on to the next

pointed out the district and

from there.

III 'The district has served you well, and you've served the

Darwin Watts -School board president

Goldman isn't exactly sure what his plans are, except to enjoy his retirement. He and his wife, Candi, will move to the other side of the state and take it

"Then we'll do whatever we feel like doing," Goldman said. "I'll probably do some legal work and just take it easy."

Three's company

Triplet group a hit with families

When last we visited with Car-ole and Jim Kody of Canton and their group of triplet families late in the summer of 1998, the trios of children ranged in age from then 4-month-old Kyle, Abigail and Emily Lindbloom to the eldest, Elizabeth, Philip and John Kody, then 15 months.

The Lindblooms are now 21/2 years old and the Kodys now 3h The original group of seven families has grown to 17 and given themselves a moniker, "Aftershock X 3," (pronounced "after-shock times three").

We caught up with the Cantonbased triplet family group again for a holiday party at the Kody's. Labor pains and pregnancy concerns have turned to simply keeping up with a triple threat of toddler tantrums, trials and tribulations.

BY PAUL HURSCHMANN STAFF WRITER phurschmann@oe.homecomm.net

There are exactly 25 children, 18 adults and a photographer running around the family room, kitchen and basement of the Kody home in a comfortable neighborhood west of Beck Road in Canton on a recent Saturday afternoon. That's eight sets of triplets, eight sets of parents, a grandmother, a family friend and an Observer photographer.

It is - as hostess Carole Kody warned - "rather loud." But not nearly as loud as one might

Natalie Gan-

begins

Soon her sister Madeline fol-

lows. Brother Gregory investi-

gates. He, too, begins the famil-

"I'm right here," assures

Susan Gannon, returning to Natalie's view. "They're still at

that stage. If I'm not where they

until the last minute. Plymouth

Financial Corporation has 161

shareholders, most of whom are

members of the Plymouth com-

transition, and not a lot will

change," added Weaver. "It will

be the same building, same peo-

ple servicing accounts, the same

loans. Everything that's here

will just have the New Liberty

customers informed of the

Plymouth's last true communi-

Savings Bank, which was sold in

1952 to National Bank of

Detroit. Weaver said along with

having local owners, the commu-

nity bank has its own philoso-

"We expect to have a smooth

munity, according to Weaver.

Dank from page A1

non of Livonia,

screaming.

iar yowl.

changes."

expect considering the num-They're up and runber of young ning constantly. They're children. Sure, there is the tugging at you and you occasional wail don't know what of crying from they're saying.' one, or more of the ciblings.

Rick Lindbloom -Father of triplets

> experiences with a triple dose of babies at Oakwood Hospital. Aftershock X 3 grew as other families with triplets were referred through friends and family members.

> summer," said Pam Ealem of

STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHIANS

Holiday get-together: Abigail Lindbloom of Canton, 2 1/2, from left, brother Kyle, mom Lisa and sister Emily play with a puzzle while the orginal "Grinch," plays in the tape player on television in the back-

expect me to be, they start howl-

And there is the occasional cry of pain as one of the triplets falls off a teeter-totter, or rolls down a couple of steps onto his brother's head before mom catches

"I think it's more challenging now that they're older," said Rick Lindbloom of Canton. "They're up and running constantly. They're tugging at you and you don't know what they're

saying."
"They require more physical attention," adds his wife, Lisa Lind-"It's bloom. more tiring."

The group started with the original seven moms who had met and become friends through their

"I was shopping at JC Penny in the Westland Mall in late

Canton, mother of Megan, Shelby and Haley, 2 - as well as older brother Travis, 4. "My mother was with me and we were buying dresses and a woman overheard me say how hard it was to shop for three of the same of everything.

Well, she knew Carole (Kody) and she put her in touch with me. And, then I met Jeanne (Page, of Canton) out on a walk." The women get together once a month. Without kids

We go to a different restaurant every month," said Kody. And it's great. We're with a group of others who really understand what you're going through.

The dads usually handle the kids for the days when the moms meet. The men usually only get together only once a year twice, if they're lucky - without moms and toddlers.

The families also get together whenever they can. This year it was St. Patrick's Day, Fourth of July and Halloween, in addition to the holiday gathering at the

The group decided it was growing too large and now sends new triplet parents to another group of metro area parents of multiples. To contact that group call Livonia resident Barb Elandt, (734) 522-3506.

PLYMOUTH PIPELINE

Chorus auditions

The 120-member Plymouth Community Chorus presents its annual Spring concert April 28-29, with rehearsals starting Jan. 9.

Open auditions for new members will be held Tuesday, Jan. 2, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Auditions by appointment take place Jan. 9, Jan. 16, Jan. 23 and Jan. 30 beginning at 7 p.m. All auditions take place at the First United Methodist Church, 45201 North Territorial Road, west of

Sheldon. First sopranos, tenors and basses are especially needed, but there are openings fro second sopranos and altos.

The Plymouth Community Chorus is in its 28th season. Persons wishing to become a member can call (734) 455-4808 for an audition appointment.

Symphony concert

Nan Washburn and the Plymouth Symphony principal players ring in the New Year with a chamber concert of mIniature masterpieces Saturday, Jan. 27 at 89 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 45201 North Territorial Road in Plymouth.

Washburn conducts a mini-orchestra of the PSO's 10 principal musicians performing smaller, intimate versions of works by Claude Debussy, Johannes Brahms and Bohuslav Martinu. Guest artist and PSO principal bassist Andrew Lee Wolfgang Anderson adds a bit of theater to the mix with a performance of American composer Tom Johnson's Failing: A Very Difficult Piece for Solo Bass.

Ticket holders are invited to attend an informal On-Stage "chat" with Washburn prior to the concert at 7:15 p.m. at the church. Following the performance, audience members are welcome to attend an Afterglow reception hosted by E.G. Nick's at 500 Forest Avenue in downtown Ply-

are admitted free. Groups of 10 or more receive a 10-percent discount. For tickets, season subscriptions or more information, contact the symphony

office.

Arts and Cultural Affairs.

Water heater check Owners of water heaters manufactured between 1993 and 1996 might have a defective part and not know about it unti it is too late, according to Rick Bowling, owner of AmeriSpec

Anderson's appearance is sponsored by the Ply-

mouth Rotary Foundation. This program is sup-

ported by a grant from the Michigan Council for

Admission is \$14 for adults and \$12 for seniors

and college students. School age children (K-12)

451-2112,

plymouthsymphony@aol.com or visit the sympho-

ny's website at www.plymouthsymphony.org.

Inspection Service of Plymouth. Most water heaters manufactured during that time frame had a defective dip tube manufactured by Perfection Corporation. Rheem, AO Smith, Bradford White, Lochinvar, State and American are among the brands affected.

The dip tube is a plastic part that directs cold water to the bottom of the tank, where it can be most effectively heated. The Perfection dip tubes were made with a defective resin that crumbles over time, causing a lack of hot water and poor water flow at faucets, Bowling said.

"One of the sad things is that some consumers have replaced perfectly good appliances that only needed a proper cleaning arfter replacement of the dip tube," Bowling said.

Most water heater manufacturers are participating in a repair-and-replacement program, but that program ends at the end of the month, Bowling said. Customers can call 1-800-329-0561 or visit www.diptubesettlement.com to determine if the defective dip tube affects their heater.

Got an interesting story to tell? Tell it to YOUR hometown newspaper by calling (734) 459-2700, or by email at bkadrich@oe.homecomm.net

- Steak and Lobster
- Filet mignon with a steamed Maine lobster tail. Served with redskin potatoes, asparagus and béarnaise sauce. \$29
- ➤ Seafood Pot-Au-Feu
- Crab legs, mussels, clams, shrimp, redskin potatoes and corn on the cob, steamed together in a garlic white wine broth. \$22
- Stuffed Veal Chops Filled with spinach, fontina cheese, pine nuts and sun-dried tomatoes. Served with soffron and rosted onion risotto, asparagus and roasted red pepper coulis. \$27
- ➤ Herb & Pepper Roasted Capon
 Roasted breast, leg and thigh, served with baby field greens,
 wild mushroom and garlic salad, grilled baby ramps and a
 chardonnay jus. \$18
- ➤ Strawberry Champagne Mousse Served in a marbled chocolate cup with berry compote and orange vanilla sauce. \$6
- ➤ Our entire menu will also be available
- ➤ We are accepting reservations for this special evening
 Ask your host or call 248-735-4570
- ➤ Party favors and champagne toast at midnight!

Gather 'Round the Bonfire New Year's Eve!



Bonfire Bistro & Brewery 39550 Seven Mile (at Haggerty) > Northville 248-735-4570 > www.michiganmenu.com

Sharing a Commitment to the Community.

We encourage you to call us today for a free, no-obligation insurance quote. Ask about special discounts for Chamber of Commerce members, Platinum credit card holders, insuring both your auto and home, and other ways you can save with

We look forward to building a long-lasting relationship with you ... and serving the community.

Superb personal service comes from doing business close to

> home ... with people who support the community and contribute to its prosperity.

AAA SALES AGENCY 41804 FORD RD. IN CANTON GERRI WIREMAN

MICHAEL COXFORD 734-981-5100 WEEKDAYS 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM

LARRY MCARTHUR



Insurance underwrit en by Auto Club Insurance Association family of insurance companies

We expect to have a smooth transition, and not a lot will change.'

Michael Weaver -New Liberty Bank

from the community and loaned back to the community," he said. "More than 75 percent of the loans in this office (Peoples Bank name on it. We'll keep State Bank) have been made to people in Plymouth and Plymouth Township. Community banking is more relationship ty bank was Plymouth United and service driven."

New Liberty Bank will remain in the current offices in Charlestown Square on Main Street. However, when the Mayflower Centre is completed

become one of the new tenants, leasing 6,000-square-feet of

"We're excited about being in the new main office," said Weaver. "We'll be able to have a drive-thru teller, drive-thru ATM and safety deposit boxes."

Bill Graham, a former vice president with Peoples State Bank, is the Chief Financial Officer of New Liberty Bank. Both he and Weaver, a former regional bank president with Peoples State Bank, left their positions in January when they signed an agreement to purchase the bank's Plymouth branch.

Weaver said if all goes well, he'd eventually like to open New Liberty Bank branches in Canton and Novi.



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look for the red balloon signs storewide and

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off selected red-lined merchandise already reduced by 25-50% for a

total savings of 45-70%

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plus, use your coupons for even more savings

extra 20% off

any single sale or clearance item

valid sueeday, december 26, 2000

"or eday 10% off any single sale or clearance item in maternity, shoes, leather apparel, man's suits and sport coats, cookware, and small electrics.

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PARISIAN

holiday store hours:

tuesday, december 26 - 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; wednesday, december 27 - 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

plus...75% off entire stock of holiday trim-a-home

take charge for a cure

P-A-R-I-S-I-A-N

AND ANY TRANS. STORE MOUTE: Laurel Park Place (953-7500) open Sun. 8-5, closed Monday, Tues. 7-9, Wed.-Sat. 10-9

Services for Sophie T. Zboch, 87, of Canton were held Dec. 19 at St. Thomas a' Becket Catholic Church with the Rev. C. Richard Kelly officiating. Burial was at Rural Hill Cemetery.

Mrs. Zboch was born April 28, 1913 in Detroit and died Dec. 15 in Livonia. She was a homemaker.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Aleysius Zboch. Survivors include four daughters, Patricia Kozlowski, Geraldine Klemk, Gloria Bisdorf and Paulette Klimczak; a brother, Stanley Siepierski; three sisters, Jean Stanton, Rose Henry and Virginia Siepierski; 10 grandchildren; and seven great-grand-

Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

Arrangements were made by McCabe Funeral Home Canton Chapel.

MINALIS F. PORTELLOS Services for Mihalis F. Portellos, 52, of Plymouth, were held Dec. 20 at St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Southgate with the Rev. Philemon Karamanos officiating. Burial was at

Michigan Memorial Park. Mr. Portellos was born Sept. 14, 1948 in Ikaria, Greece, and died Dec. 16 in Detroit. He was a painter.

Survivors include his wife,

OBITUARIES

Marie Portellos of Plymouth; son, Phillip Portellos; daughter, Emily Portellos; parents Phillip and Emily Portellos; brothers, Nick Portellos and Costa Portel-

los; sister, Kiki Chapley; and inlaws Peter and Lemonia Gelematis. Arrangements were made by McCabe Funeral Home Canton

Chapel. SARAH CHRISTINE SMITH Services for Sarah Christine Smith, 73, of Plymouth were held at Trinity Presbyterian Church with the Rev. William C.

Moore officiating. Burial was at

Oak Grove Cemetery in Dixboro. Mrs. Smith was born August 6, 1927 in Lawrenceburg, Tenn. and died Dec. 17 in Superior Township. She was a homemak-

er and Registered Nurse. She was preceded in death by brothers, Astor Clayton, Howard Clayton, James Clayton and Dolphus Clayton; and granddaughter, Brianna Edoff.

Survivors include husband, Robert A. Smith of Plymouth; son, Robert A. (Olga) Smith; daughters, Cynthia D. (Charles) Cole of Canton, Susan E. (Brian) Smith-Edoff of Redford; sister, Peggie (Christopher) Kelly of Plymouth; brother, Eugene (Faye) Clayton of Uniontown, Ohio; grandsons, Robert Smith, Aaron Smith, Jason Smith, Charles Cole, Matthew Cole and Nicholas Cole; granddaughters

Savanah Sarah Christine Edoff and Sarina Edoff; many nieces and nephews.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Kidney Foundation of Michigan, 2350 S. Huron Parkway, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Arrangements made by the Vermeulen Funeral Home.

JANE C. HAMILTON

Services for Jane C. Hamilton, 81, of Farmington were held Dec. 22 at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home with the the Rev. Leonard Partensky officiating. Burial was at Evergreen Cemetery in Grand Blanc.

Mrs. Hamilton was born Dec. 30, 1918 in Omaha, Neb., and died Dec. 19 in Farmington. She was a homemaker.

She was preceded in death by her husband, George W. Hamil-

Survivors include son. Lawrence (Donna) Hamilton of Wixom; daughters, Carole (Jerry) Bourlier of Canton and Barbara (Ira) Rosenberg of Wisconsin; sisters, Kathryn Nawrocki of Hartland and Jacqueline (Leo) Majewski of Redford; six grandchildren and one greatgrandchild.

Arrangements were made by Thayer-Rock Funeral Home. GERTRUDE F. VANDERWORP

Services for Gertrude F. Van-Derworp, 81, of Plymouth were held in Knoxville, Tenn. She was born June 25, 1919 in Detroit and died Dec. 15 in Livo-

nia. She was a bookkeeper. Survivors include husband, Theodore VanDerworp of Plymouth; son, Dennis VanDerworp

of Knoxville, Tenn.; grandsons David VanDerworp of Plymouth and Theodore VanDerworp of Westland.

Arrangements were made by Vermeulen Funeral Home.

Services for Roy C. Bennett, 72, of Big Cedar Lake, Ind. were held Dec. 23 At Smith and Sons Funeral Home in Columbia City, Ind.. Burial was at South Park Annex Cemetery in Columbia City. The American Legion Post No. 98 presented military honors at the cemetery.

Mr. Bennett was born July 2, 1928 in Dearborn and died Dec. 19 at Columbia City, Ind.

He graduated from Plymouth High School and continued his education at Plymouth Community School. He was veteran of World War II, serving in the United States Army. He was employed at Stroh Brewery Wholesaler from 1954 to 1966, owned the Western Auto in Evart, Mich. for six years and retired in 1986 from Stroh Brewery Co. as manager of sales planning and administration.

He was a life member of Evart F. & A.M. No. 320, Columbia City V.F.W. No. 5212, Columbia City American Legion Post No. 98, and a member of the Mizpah Shrine and Scottish Rite.

He was preceded in death by a son, Roy Charles Bennett, Jr.: a brother, George Bennett; and two sisters, Jean Bassett and Doris Fulton.

Survivors include his wife, Berniece; three sons, Thomas D. (Karen) Bennett of Huntington,

Charles W. (Jean) Bennett of Columbia City and Paul J. Bennett of Columbia City; a daughter, Katherine J. Winters of Columbia City; 12 grandchildren; three great grandchildren; a sister, Marilyn McLachlin of Fort Myers, Fla.; and a sister-inlaw, Florine Bennett of Col-

Memorials may be made to Shriners Children's Hospital.

Arrangements made by Smith and Sons Funeral Home.

ERNEST EVGENE SAYRE

Services for Ernest Eugene Sayre, 47, of Canton Township were held Dec. 21 at L.J. Griffin Funeral Home in Canton, with E. Wayne Byrum, Chaplain of the Canton Police Department, officiating.

Mr. Sayre was born July 8, 1953 in Garden City and died Dec. 17 in Superior Township. He was a Canton Township Police Sergeant and a police officer for over 20 years.

Survivors include his wife, Joan Sayre; daughter Leigh Sayre; and four brothers and one

Arrangements made by L.J. Griffin Funeral Home-Westland Roses are test.

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PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY'S

1) The O'Reilly Pactor, Bill

2) Beatles Anthology, Th

PARISHT'S CE

1) Escape to the Forest; Ruth Radin Goodbye, Amanda the 3) The Vampire is My Bathtub, Brenda Seabrooke 4) A Straw for Two, Eric 5) The Pictish Child, Jame

CANTON, MI 48187

SHURGARD OF CANTON

2101 HAGGERTY RD.

Notice is hereby given that the following unit(s) will be sold to the highest bidder by open auction on January 23, 2001 at approximately 9:30 a.m. at Shurgard Storage located at 2101 Haggerty Rd., Canton, MI 48187, (313)

#3044 Schaefer: Dryer, Washer, Bed Frame, dresser, luggage, dining room set, misc. boxes

Publish: December 17 & 24, 2000

SHURGARD OF PLYMOUTH

Notice is hereby given that the entire contents of the following storage units will be sold to the highest bidder by way of an open bid on JANUARY 23, 2001 at approximately 9:00 a.m. at Shurgard Storage Centers located at 41889 Joy Road, Canton, MI 48187.

Unit #107 KEN LAPORTE: TV, dressers, beds, chairs

Unit #361 GLEN WHITAKER: Press JAHUE "JAY" WHITLOW: Tires, boxes, mattress, household Unit #9114

Unit # 9123 MISTY FINKBEINER: Dresser, chair, bed

Unit # 9253 ROGER COLE: Dressers

Publish: December 17 and 24, 2000



NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to State Law 257.252, the following vehicle (s) will be sold at public sale at B&B Towning Co., 934 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth, Michigan, on the date and time listed below:

Tuesday, January 2, 2001 9:00 a.m. VEHICLE(S):

CASE NUMBER YEAR/MAKE/STYLE/VEHICLE ID NUMBER 1VWEG017XEV095946 00-59942 1984 Pontiac 4D Rabbit 2G1WN54T0P9240851 00-61383 1993 Ford Lumina JN6ND01YXEW000099 00-49314 PU Truck 1984 Chevy Inquiries regarding these vehicles should be directed to officer Al Cox, City

of Plymouth Police Department, at 453-8600 LINDA J. LANGMESSER

Publish: December 24, 2000

City Clerk

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed proposals at the Engineering Services Dept., 2nd Floor up to 5:00 p.m. January 10, 2001 for the following

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING SERVICES TO COMPLETE GENERAL STORM WATER PERMIT AND GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SERVICES ACTIVITIES Specifications are available in the Engineering Services Dept. 2nd Floor. All

proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposal name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk



Publish: December 24, 2000

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN

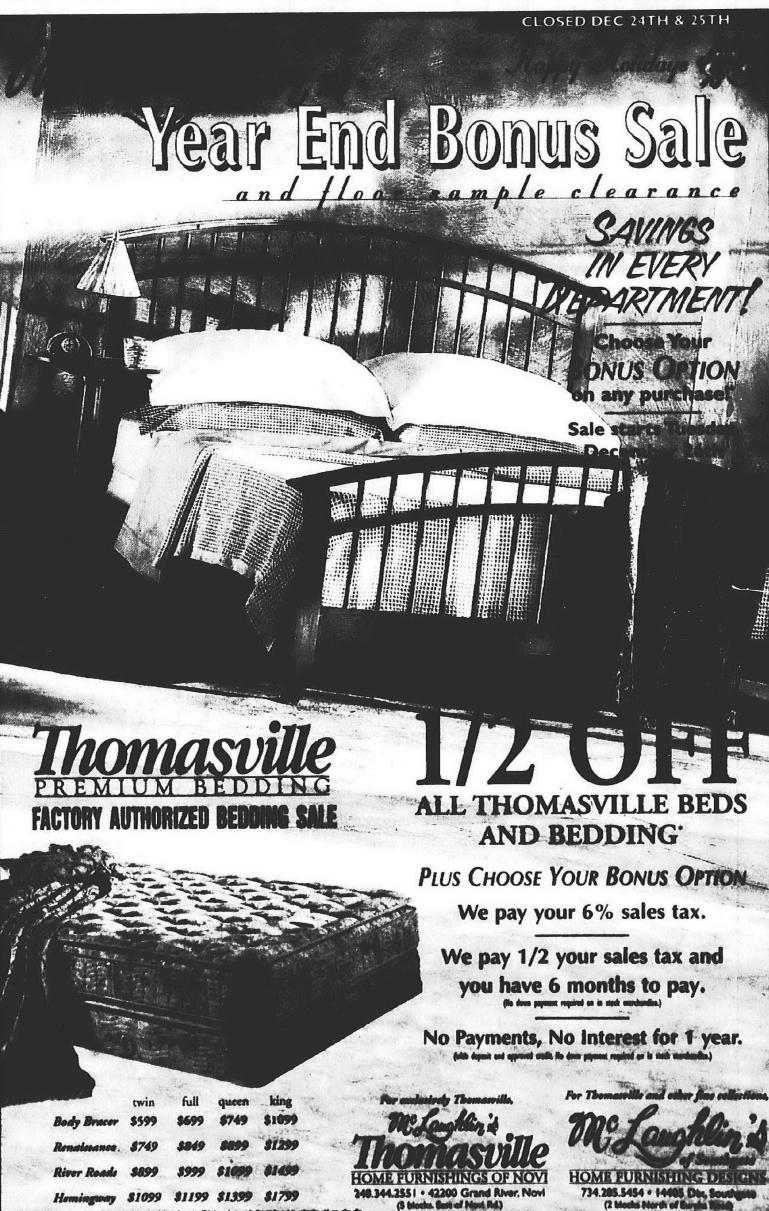
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to State Law 257.252, the following vehicle (s) will be sold at public sale at Mayflower Auto Transport, 1179 Starkweather Rd., Plymouth, Michigan, on the date and time listed below: Tuesday, January 2, 2001 10:00 a.m.

VEHICLE(S):				
YEAR/MAKE/	STYLE	VEHICLE	ID NUMBER CAS	E NUMBER
1979 Pontiac	2D	Trans Am	2W87K9L202774	00-60321
1982 Ford	VAN	Econoline	1FMEE11G1CHA21062	00-60791
1999 Chevy	4D	Malibu	1G1ND52M0X6128200	00-62477
1988 Buick	4D	Park ave	1G4CW51C5J1640939	00-63942
1991 Chevy	4D	Cavalier	1G1JC54G4M7153518	00-64430

Inquiries regarding these vehicles should be directed to officer Al Cox, City of Plymouth Police Department, at 453-8600 LINDA J. LANGMESSER

Publish: December 24, 2000

City Clerk



Ameritech says it's making progress on service call

Is Ameritech making good on its mid-September promise to reduce its backlog of calls and

improve its response time?
The company claims it has and cites figures to prove it, but opinion among customers is split.

Ameritech said it finally

dipped below its Michigan target of 19,125 pending orders for installation and repairs on Dec. 10, hitting 18,232 for the first time since Sept. 19.

That was 42,147 fewer orders than on Sept. 19, when the com-pany had a backlog of 60,379. That was the day after

Ameritech and its parent company, SBC Communications Inc. of Texas, began bringing to Michigan 140 SBC technicians from other states to try to trim the

The company also announced then a campaign to hire and train more technicians for Michigan. It since has hired over 700. a spokeswoman said, and has

Dana Whinnery Formington Hills Assistant City Manager

sent the out-of-state techs home for the holidays - possibly for

Ameritech's claim tended to draw agreement from officials in Livonia and Farmington, who based their opinions on a fall-off in phoned-in complaints.

Both Gail Skarczynski, an administrator in Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey's office, and Farmington City Manager Frank Lauhoff said calls have diminished, with Lauhoff saying his office went from more than a dozen calls to zero.

But a Farmington Hills colleague of theirs and a Livonia resident begged to differ.

Dana Whinnery, Hills assistant city manager, said Ameritech's level of service "still is not acceptable" while Barbara Hastings of Livenis claimed the company is flat-out ignoring her. Hastings, who says she has been calling and writing Ameritech since last spring to get it to have a coble it installed.

get it to bury a cable it installed along a walk on the side of her house, said neither Ameritech nor the Michigan Public Service Commission is responding to her

In September, she told the Observer she'd like the line buried "before it snows." She said she was given several target

I'll have to wait until spring and not use the sidewalk. It's too difficult" to navigate now.

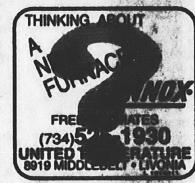
Whinnery said complaints about Ameritech's service "have dropped off," but added, "We are still receiving an unusually high number" - considering, he added, that his office never got

any calls in previous years.

The efforts (Ameritech) made in bringing in manpower has had an impact, but they're nowhere they need to be in terms of delivering service to our

people," Whinnery stated.
When Ameritech dipped below
the target figure, it stated it would now "dedicate its efforts to maintaining its target levels on an ongoing basis."

Although service orders for telephone installations and repairs crept back up last week,





She said snowfalls have caused technicians to spend more time potting to and to job sites and the special time at the site that agency

On out-of-service calls, its supposes times for the six western Wayne County suburbs was sted as three days, down from 20 days on Sept. 19; and two days for Farmington-Farmington-Hills and Southfield, down from

Ameritech plans to hire 800 technicians in state for 2001

BY RICHARD PRARL

Ameritech plans to hire 700-800 new telephone technicians and call-receivers in Michigan for 2001, adding to the 700 it hired this year, company officials said this week.

The new hires will continue to beef-up the company's response to orders for new telephone installations and repairs - something which had suffered after Ameritech lost many workers to either retirement or competitors.

Ameritech, which serves Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin, planned to hire only 1,000 non-management network services personnel regionwide this year, said Denise Koenig, a spokeswoman at division headquarters in Chicago.

But needs boosted that figure to 3,300 region-wide next year,

S

II Amoritoch has a 24hour job hotilne at 1-800-904-WORK

Cindie Bucks, Detroit general manager for customer provisions and maintenance, said, "We need all the good candidates we can

Ameritech's aggressive recruitment policy for both technical and support personnel includes a one-day hiring process, increased participation in job fairs and a toll-free, 24-hour job hotline: 1-888-904-WORK.

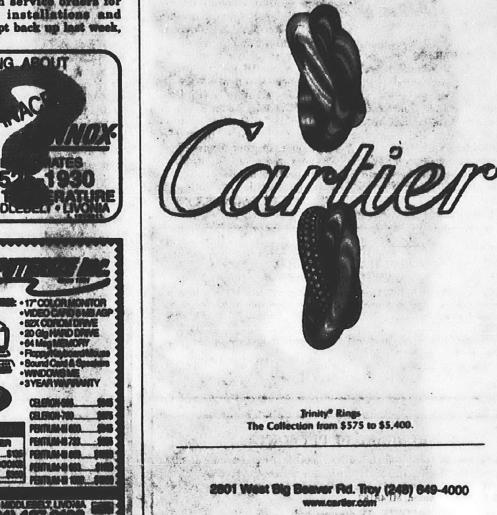
Among this year's new hires is Dave Clark of Westland, who just completed most of his training as a communications technician at the Ameritech training facility

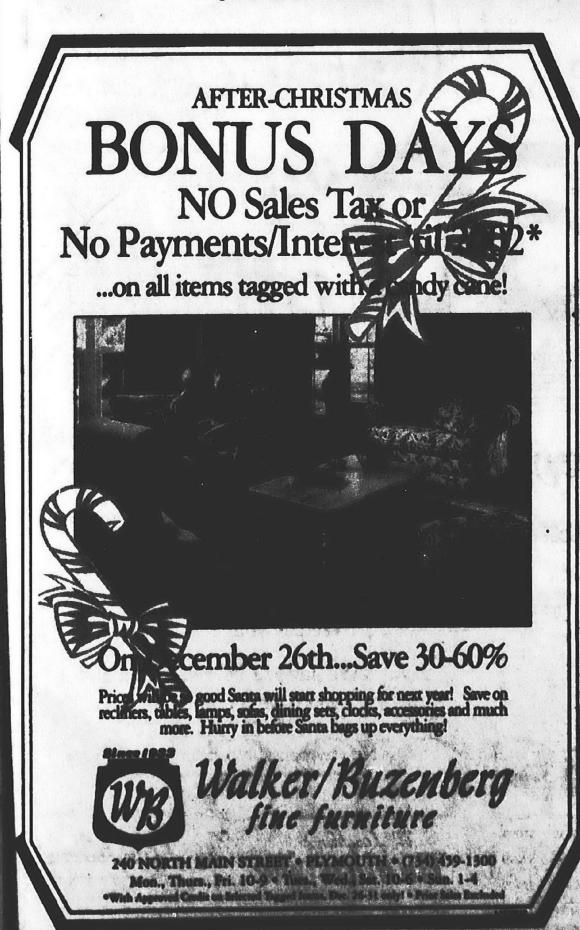
Clark, 52, was trained in pole climbing, first-aid and defensive-driving and has completed both installations schools. He also ges on calls with Ameritech veterans.

The training marks a happy turnabout for Clark, 52, who learned communications in the military and had experience as an installer, but was initially told he qualified only for a customer service desk job.

Clark, who'd read in the Observer that Ameritech wanted experienced personnel, told the Observer what happened. A check by the newspaper straight-ened things out and Clark was hired and bumped up the pay scale, based on his background. "It's going to be a good job," he said. "The benefits are great

with them."







THERE ARE A NUMBER OF REASONS WHY PEOPLE FEEL GOOD **ABOUT LIVING** IN THE AREA.

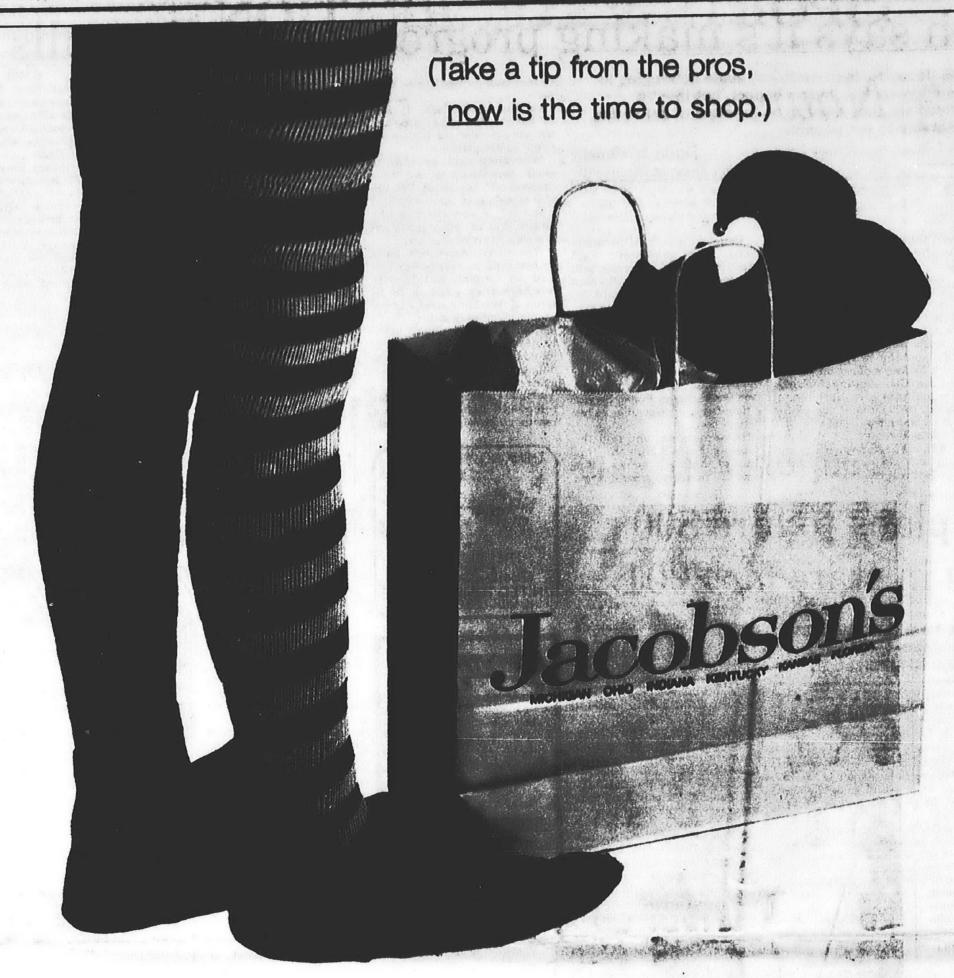
Because of their skill and experience, the doctors and nurses of St. Mary Mercy Hospital can't help nspiring trust. But in addition to treating people area. They live here. Raise families here. Attend PTA meetings here. In short, they have their fingers on the pulse of the entire community. And in their expert medical opinion, it's a very healthy pulse indeed.

Great doctors. In your own backyard.



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Livonia, MI



After Christmas Clearance

30-50%*

on selected merchandise throughout the store.

Open Early Tuesday at 8 am.

Hurry in before little elves get all the best deals.

*Savings off original prices of selected merchandise as identified by signs. No adjustments made on prior purchases.

Jacobsons

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WED-SAT 10-9 • SUN NOON-5 • CLOSED NEW YEAR'S DAY | Robinster • Resident •

Good Sports winners

Several area school recieved district and regional "Good Sports are Winners!" awards for their participation in Michigan High School Athletic Association tourney play during the fall season.

In boys soccer, Livonia Churchill, Farmington, Farmington Harrison, North Farmington, Redford Union and Redford Thurston took district

In football, Redford Catholic Central won a district and regional award, while Redford St. Agatha won a district honor.

In girls basketball, Livonia Franklin, Westland John Glenn, Livonia Stevenson, Livonia Ladywood and Farmington Hills Mercy all won district awards, while Livonia Ladywood and Plymouth Canton won regional honors.

The awards were made by tournament managers at various sites, to schools meeting a set of sportsmanship standards set down by the

Academic athletes

The Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference has named its allacademic teams for the fall semester, and several Observerland athletes now attending Wayne State have been honored.

 Men's cross country: Joseph Verellen (from Livonia Stevenson), senior, 3.66 grade-point average. majoring in science; Raj Singh (Canton/Dearborn Robichaud), senior, 3.07 gpa, science major.

•Men's golf: Greg Bores (Plymouth/Dearborn Divine Child), senior, 3.32 gpa, business major.

•Women's volleyball: Katie Brogan (Livonia Ladywood), junior, 3.59 gpa, science major.

Basketball tryouts

Team Michigan will hold tryouts for its select boys basketball tournament teams in the 10-and-under, 12-andunder and 14-and-under age divisions in January

For information, call (734) 324-

Baseball camps

Avery's All-Star Baseball Camps, for ages 11-18, will run five consecutive weeks starting Jan. 13 or Jan. 14 at Oakland University. Cost is \$215 for each five-session camp.

Camper may choose to attend the Saturday or Sunday camp. There will be a hitting camp (75 minutes in length), a catching camp (100 minutes in length) and a pitching camp (90

minutes in length). Staff includes OU head coach Mark Avery, assistant coaches Andy Fairman and Chuck Van Robays, and Erick Swanson, Aaron Shrewsbury

and Mario Borrocci. For further information, call (810)

Girls hoops Thursday

362-3583.

Been wondering when the All-Observer Girls Basketball team is going to appear?

Fear not, we haven't forgotten about it. You'll be able to read all about the best girls basketball players in the area in Thursday's edition of the Observer.

GC playing alumni

Garden City's basketball teams will face the program's alumni in three scrimmages on Thursday, Dec. 28 beginning at 5 p.m. at the high school

The current freshmen squad will play alumni from the 1960s and 70s at 5 p.m., the current JV players will play alumni from the 80s at 6 p.m. and the current varsity and alumni from the 90s will play at 7 p.m. Admission is free.

Hockey double-header

The Plymouth Canton and Plymouth Salem hockey boosters have something special planned for the first Friday of the new year: a Student Night, with all Plymouth-Canton school district elementary and middle school students admitted for free when accompanied by a paying adult.

The games, scheduled for Jan. 5 at the Plymouth Cultural Center, feature Salem against Livonia Stevenson at 6 p.m. and Canton vs. Walled Lake Central at 8 p.m. Also, the first 100 students will receive a free hockey puck.

Now Santa, here's what I want

It's that time of year, filled with joy and hap-piness and thankfulness — and a lot of lists of what people want. Well, the Observer sports staff gives a hoot (that's one of us pictured at left), and we asked. Here are the answers. dents), a new school building and a

When we asked area athletes and sches what they wanted for Christnes, it was as far ranging as the sports They wanted thampionships and

But they were fun to ask and some of

They wanted no more snow days (the Which ones? You'll Which ones? You'll have to ask them. coaches), more snow days (the stupoor. I've got en '89 Trans-Am with a 350 engine. It's a gas guzzler and I want so

Clothes... I have a dar, but a CD player for it would be nice, a book of poetry by e.e. cum-

think I'd like to finish first in the league again (for hockey) and give the regionals a good run.

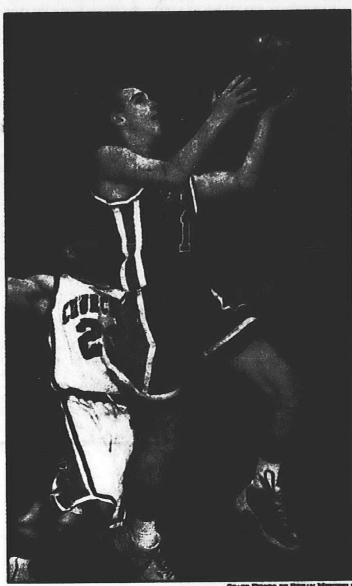
Or maybe, just another list trick.

Bill Hayes, Catholic Central golf coach: Health, peace of mind and happiness and

lusty, it's what I want to do. I'd like to help

One way or another

Cougars find a way to beat Churchill



In for two: Garden City's Rick Warnock (with ball) glides in for a layup, just ahead of Churchill's pursuing Dave Semizian.

BY PAUL BEAUDRY STAFF WRITER pheaudry@ce.hom

For all those who think extra work doesn't pay off, we present Garden City junior guard Brandon

"For hours and hours, he'll stay in the gym shooting by himself," said Cougars coach Greg Williamson. "He carried us in the first half."

Audette knocked down all of his game-high 24 points in the first two quarters to lead the Cougars to an 80-62 win over heat Livonia Churchill on Thursday

"A lot of people think we're just Justin (Ocker-man)," said Williamson as his team improved to 4-0. "They don't realize that we're a whole lot more and more people can con-

game saddled with foul trouble and never got into the flow - helped in part by the play of 6-7 junior

Shaun Foster.

"We told him he had to be in the game and had to challenge Ockerman," said Churchill coach Rick Austin. "But the problem was that with a glitch in our defensive rotation, we didn't adjust to Audette." Not until the second half,

anyway, when the Chargers (1-4) held Audette score

But the first half was Audette. He scored 10 points in the first quarter, helping his team to a 22-18 lead. And after Churchill had tied the score at 22-all, Audette greased the Chargers' skids with a pair of 3pointers 25 seconds apart for a 28-22 lead that bulged to 43-27 as Garden City ended the quarter on a 13-0 run, behind Audette, Mike

Sparks and Colin Sizemore.
The Chargers adjusted their rotation in the around half to shut down Augusts and did a good job, whit-tling away at the lead to bull within 50-38 with 1:47. left in the third quarter. hurchill stayed within 18 9-45) with 2:36 left with a A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR

Matt Neimczewski's 10 points and the Chargers were never close again.

"After we closed the gap, "We started having defensive lapses and gave up layups. But even though we lost, I think we found our identity tonight. We played well and came together a bit. We made progress."

Please see COUGARE. BS

Ypsi hands Wayne 1st loss

BY BRAD EMONS SPORTS WRITER

Wayne Memorial couldn't get over the hump Thursday.
The Zebras stayed close throughout, but visiting Ypsilanti pulled out a 50-45 Mega Conference Red Division boys bas-

Both teams are 4-1 overall and 1-1 in the Mega Red. 'Ypsilanti is very disciplined, they've got their system

down," Wayne coach Wayne Woodard said. "They're hard to beat the way they play, but you'll always be game, too, because of their style. "We played hard and competed, but we just didn't make

the most of our opportunities." Wayne was down 20-18 at halftime and 33-30 after three

quarters.

Michael Rashad converted a steal into a layup with 7:11 to go in the game, tying the score at 34-all.

But Ypsi, patiently running its half-court offense, pulled Cousins Cedrick and Jason Bird led the victorious Braves with 21 and 12 points, respectively. Guard Marcus Walker

added 11. Bird's three-pointer proved to be a pivotal play with 5:38

remaining, giving Ypsi at 42-36 cushion.
Senior guard Gary Johnson, coming off a 39-point perfermance Tuesday against Plymouth Salem, led Wayne with 17. He had only one free throw in the final period as Ypsi outscored the Zebras 17-15.

Shannon Jefferies, a 6-4 senior, added 10 points for Wayne while 6-4 senior Jeff Logwood added eight.

Wayne hit just five of 16 shots in the final period, while Ypsi made the most of its chances, nailing four of five. Ypsi also connected on 17 of 24 free throws (70.8 percent), while Wayne was 12 of 17 (70.5 percent).

. WILLOW RUN 50, JOHN GLENN 40: Margus Anthony scored 12 of his 21 points in a 21-3 second-quarter outburst. Thursday to lead host Willow Run (3-0) past Westland John Glenn (0-4).

Demarius Billups added 14 for the Flyers, who led 33-19 at halftime. Michael Franks scored 18 points - all on three-- to pace the Rockets. Michael Goree added 10 points.

ANN ARBOR HURON 76, CATHOLIC CENTRAL 78 Rufus Poole's basket with 1:10 to play proved to game-winner as Huron improved to 4-0.



PCA girls cage coach resigns

After eight solid seasons as girls' basketball coach at Plymouth Christian Academy, Rod Windle is leaving.

Of course, Windle's heritage with PCA dates back much further. He graduated from the school in 1986, then started coaching the boys junior varsity team there - a job he kept until 1993, when he became the varsity girls coach.

So it wasn't an easy decision for Windle to make. But realizing that Dave Balog, the Livonia Churchill girls basketball coach, was going to resign prompted Windle's move.

"I do have an interest in that position," he admitted. "I haven't officially applied, but I have sent a letter of intent."

The reason is that Windle teaches at Livonia Churchill. He also coaches the boys JV

"It makes it better to coach at the school you teach at," he said. "I can get closer to the kids I teach.

In his eight seasons at PCA, Windle's teams posted a 92-80 record and won two Class D district titles — including this season, which ended with a loss to Lenawee Christian in the regional semifinals.

In his nearly two decades at PCA, Windle naturally built an attachment to the school, adding to the difficulty of his decision. "It really was," he said. "It was my alma mater and I'm certainly proud of the basketball family. They have high hopes of carrying on the tradition there.

Whoever gets the Churchill job won't be stepping into a great situation. The Chargers

have struggled the last few seasons; they were 5-15 this year and, during Balog's eight seasons, never had a winning record. His career mark at Churchill was 40-126.

Still, the possibility of coaching the kids he teaches was overpowering. "I really enjoy being involved with the people I teach outside the classroom," Windle said.

And despite his record of success at PCA it wasn't a particular accomplishment on the court that Windle chose as the fondest memory in his tenure there.

"It would be the spaghetti dinners at kid's homes, and the bus rides on our way to games," he said. "The camaraderie of the team, the relationships I built.

"The basketball family is what I really enjoyed about PCA."

The Eagles' athletic director, Doug Taylor, was certainly sorry to lose Windle. "If he ever wants to return, the door is always open," he said.

p. Brad Gregory, 2:40; 152: CHris Wolfgang (WJG) p. Ryan Butts, 0:37; 160: James March (PS) dec. Nick Wroblewski, 7-5; 171: Craig Blair (WJG) dec. Jake Fairchild, 11-8; 189: Jack Seres (WJG) p. Quintin Arndt, 3:25; 215: Zack Jensen (PS) p. Steve Perry, 5:50; heavyweight: Ricardo Smith (PS) p. Blake Colbert,

ada: Jamie Chandler (WR) won by void: 112: Bryan Kannell (RU) won by void; 119: Jason Lynn (RU) won by void; 126: John Gourlay (RU) won by void; 130: Mike Buchanan (RU) won by void: 135: Jesse Stevens (RU) tech. fall Rito Aguirre, 17-2; 149: Travis Mitchell (WR) won by void; 145: Butch Choreszewski (RU) dec. Erine Bentley, 4-1; 152: Jermaine Hood (WR) pinned Chris Hookins, 2:16: 160: Brian McCoy (WR) p. Kevin Alfrey, :29: 171: Eric Kelley (RU) p. Nick Schwaggle, 1:06; 215: Scott Dezaron Steve Brannon (WO) won by void; 152: Ken

(WR) d. Jake Bongero, 6-4: MVY: Ollie Muscarella (RU) p. Mike Schmitt, 1:13.

Records: RU 2-0 overall, 2-0 Mega Blue; WR 0-2 Mega Blue.

> FLAT ROCK-WOODHAVEN 54 REDFORD THURSTON 24

103: Double void: 112: Kurtis Kind (WO) won by void; 119: Adam Duhame (wo) won by void: 125: Dave Paytee (WO) won by void; 130: Rob Abbott (WO) pinned Chris Usher, 1:14; 135: Jay Midiffer (WO) won by void; Nate Heard, 4:13; 189: Alan Clay (WR) p. 140: Chris Case (WO) won by void; 145:

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(RT) won by void: 171: Brandon Antosh (WO) won by void; 189: Josh Harrington (RT) p. B.J. Williams, 1:45: 216: Chris Captain (RT) p. Mike Ash. 1:12: HVY: Carl Lalonde (RT) p. John Slowski, 4:19.

> **PLYMOUTH SALEM 37 WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 27** Dec. 19 at Salem

103 pounds: Nick Naber (WJG) pinned Mike Dendrinos, 3:57; 112: Chris Smith (WJG) dec. Pete Bobee, 8-4; 119: Mike Goethe (PS) dec. Kefenste Mandisa, 12-2; 125: Shawn Parker (WJG) dec. Nate Dillard, 10-6: 130: Brandon Sammutt (PS) dec. Phil

Perry, 4-3; 135: Enrique Garcia (WJG) dec. lan

Eichel, 3-0; 140: Tony Kennard (PS) p. Daron

Kruickshank, 3:39: 145: Adam Scheefer (PS)

Colin Sizemore chipped in with 13 points for the Cougars, who shot 31-for-59 from the floor, while Sparks had 11. Kevin Zielinski had eight of his 14 points in the second quarter for Churchill, which shot 22 of 53 from the floor, while Brandon Dziklinski and Foster had eight

Basketball from page B1

Mark Willoughby's layup rattled out and Ryan Clark's putback lot of guys in at the end who also fell away as the horn expired.

"It was a rough day in terms of layups," said Mulroy. "We got in foul trouble too. We had a were playing their first combative minutes.

The Shamrocks - who trailed at half, 30-25, but took a 51-50 were led by Willoughby with 25 points. Steve Larkin and Ryan Celeskey had 15 each, while Clark had 11 to go with 10 rebounds. Andrae Martin led the River Rats with 15 points and





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Thanks to the diligent work of my compadre, Paul Beaudry, we have received an abundance of Christmas wishes from those in the Observerland sports world.

Now I have a few of

First, I want all the votes to count. Okay, I admit it - I am a Democrat. But I will grudgingly accept that, for now, Republicans rule.

In paying them the tribute they richly (as if they don't have enough money) deserve, I will allow a Republican-style recount of votes in my ensuing column on who deserves what for Christmas.

Of course, since Christmas is tomorrow, they'll be no time for a recount. Besides, if I'm to further follow the

Republican mantra, only one vote matters anyway — mine.

· Bernie Holowicki, Madonna men's basketball ceach: A 6-foot-9 freshman rich in basketball talent, carrying a 3.0 grade-point average, to walk in the gym and say, "I wanna play ball."

Just like it used to be at CC. · Tom Moshimer, Plymouth Salem football coach: One more shot at the playoffs. It's been too long for a guy who can still coach.

• Livonia public high schools: One

really-good boys basketball team. Just John Herrington, Farmington

Harrison football coach: This school rode on his back to national fame. How many public high schools have been as dominant in a major sport in this state? Coach Herrington, a Michigan Hall of Fame inductee, recently underwent

knee replacement surgery (the weight of fame can be burdensome), so all he needs is some legs to walk on. Best

• Mike Sparks, Garden City foot-ball/basketball/baseball player: A pro career as good as or better than Steve Sparks, Detroit Tigers' pitcher. At least a better knucklehall.

· Melissa Hopson, Plymouth Salem gymnastics coach: No repeat. In other words, no injury-plagued season like last year. If that happens, the Rocks should be among the state's 10-

 Anne Morrell, Plymouth Canton soccer player: A state title for her team to take with her to North Carolina. She's already recognized as the state's best player.

• Carlos Briggs, Schoolcraft Col-lege men's basketball coach: A trip to the NJCAA finals. He has the talent to do it — just needs a few breaks.

• Karen Lafata, Schoolcraft Colloge women's basketball coach:

Same as above. · Stevenson's hockey team: A wi over Catholic Central.

· Canton's hockey team: A win

· Salem's hockey team: You get the Pete DeBoer, Plymouth Whalers' coach: Just one more win

(the Whalers lost in the seventh game of the OHL Finals last year). • Brian Tinnion, Detroit Rocks

coach: Just one win — please.

• Joe Ruggiero, Livenia Franklin football/basketball/baseball player: A college interested in a strong-armed

• Redford Union: A winter semester team as good as last fall's boys soccer squad (8-4-3 record).

very own fields to play on . . .

Last and certainly least:

• Paul Beaudry, Redford/Garden
City sports editor: Coaches calling in
promptly. Or at least calling in, period.

• Dan O'Meara, Farmington

sports editor: Ditto • Brad Emons, Livenia/Wes sports editor: You get the idea.

Merry Christmas, one and all!

(Risak is the Plymouth/Canton sports editor for the Observer and can be reached at (734) 953-2108 or by e-mail at cirisal@oe.homecomm.net.)

from page B1

Nothing like that (winning league championships). That stuff will take care of

I want a car. A Camaro. I'm paying for it myself, I just need to go get it. And I want a cell phone.

Bob Brodle, Plymouth Salem backethall easeh: How about some shooters? No, wait - I've got enough shooters. They're taking pienty of shots. I need some makers.

Courtney Draughn, Livenia Churchill cheerleader: What I want most is for my car to be repainted. The paint on my '92 Colt is a little rough. And I want cologne. Armani. Imported. You know, the little things.

Chuck Oleon, Plymouth Salem swim ceach: A few more state qualiflers would be nice. And maybe a fingernail. Or how about a manicure? (Morbidly put. Chuck - he lost the upper part of his ring finger in a car accident in Octo-

Taryn McCloud, Gardon City volleyball/basketball/softball: I want a puppy. I want a husky with blue eyes, because they look cuter with blue eyes,

th 25

Ryan while h 10

d the

s and

Andy Thompson, Livenia Churchill secor: A stereo. You know, your basic 200-watt Sony or Alwa. Either one, I'm not picky.

Chris Rigley, Redford Union footbell/ M/baseball: Other than clothes or stuff, I want next year's football team to make the playoffs.

Jackie Carson, Garden City seccer: I want a cell phone so I can talk to my friends. All of my other friends have one and I want one.

Bill McDween, Redford Thurston hockey/eress country: I want to spend more time with my family and maybe get a state title. That would be nice.

Mile King, Catholic Central golf (Livenia): I want a new set of irons to hit the ball a little further and play a little better. Yes. I'm sure it's the clubs and not the player.

Jeremy Rheault, Plymouth Centon backetball ceach: Before (Thursday's) win at Brighton, I wanted a rebounder and a defender. Well, Christmas came early - I got what I wanted. Now I'm wishing for even more rebounding. I'm getting greedy.

Bred Birkett, Harrison wrestling ceach: I'd like to have uniforms for these kids, because the uniforms weren't collected after last season. Hopefully, the new ones will be in soon, so I can hand them out. And I'd love not to worry about these problems I'm dealing with.

Shella Taormina, triathlete: The entire family is treating itself to a trip to Flori-

ball ceach: I want a .400 hitter and someone who throws in the high 80s for strikes. And that parents will finally respect officials or if they don't, their punishment is to have to referee 10 basketball games to see what it's like.

Tem Wakefield, Wayne baseball ceach: New furnishings for my new home. I'm in transition.

Colloon Donakowski, Rodford Thurston girls swimming coach: A Speedo swim bag. And so I'm all set for the pool, got to have a new warmup. The old ones are getting tattered. And to go on with that, after a hard day of coaching, you need a massage to be fresh for the next day.

Patricle Rich, St. Agethe girls besketball esash: Furniture for my new house and someone to make the payments. And to have 10 girls on my team next

Derrick Strd, Schoolcraft backetball: I need some boots, the weather has been

Booky Brooks, Redford Thurston tracks it's going to sound really bad, but went clothes and CD's and stuff.

My teem win clase to 20 gai

games and a kid who hits .450.

Jim Blanchard, Catholic Control ho ey (Redford): To 3-peat in hockey with state championships and hopefully be ranked No. 1 in the state. Yes, I know I haven't been there for the first two, but hopefully this year, I can get my chance.

Mark Hage, Livenia Churchili athletic director: An improved level of sportsmanship by and for everyone. We're good here and we work like crazy at it, but we can be better.

Amanda Lippo, Redford Union volleyball/track/cross country: Besides clothes and money, I would like for our volleyball team to be league champions. And I would love for people to see our team and be scared to play us.

Mallary Boson, Gardon City chaes ader/figure elector: I want a ticket to Kansas to visit my skating coach.

Al Chambo, Redford Thurston ath director: Not having to experience another snow day or rain delay for the rest of the school year.

Gary Johnson, Wayne basketball: A new pair of gym shoes and a four-year ride to a Division I school.

Mike Lynch, St. loothall/baseball: A car. Why not? A Ford Mustang is a dream, I probably won't get it and I think I'll get something like money or clothes or something like that. But the car? That would

Salem scores well in loss to Brighton

This was a loss that was, well,

acceptable. That's because it came against one of the state's top teams, Brighton. And Plymouth Salem's gymnasts didn't lose by much. falling by a 138.1-137.3 margin Wednesday at Canton's Phase III gym.

"The girls were really excited to come that close to a team like Brighton," said Salem coach Melissa Hopson. "It was a good day. The thing is, we can still see room for improvement."

Considering the point total amassed by the Rocks was better than any score they had in all of last year's injury-plagued season adds to the optimism as the new

year approaches.

April Aquinto led the Salem assault, compiling the best allaround score of the meet - a 35.15 — with winning marks of 9.2 in the floor exercise and 9.15 in the balance beam. She also had an 8.6 on vault and an 8.2 on uneven parallel bars.

Bethany Bartlett was third in the all-around with a 34.9. She tied for first in the bars with a 9.0, finished second in vault with an 8.9, had an 8.7 in floor and an 8.3 in beam.

Melissa Drake was fourth in

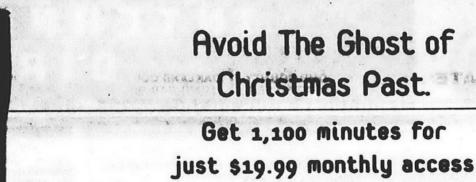
the all-around with a 34.85, scoring an 8.95 in bars, 8.7 in both vault and floor, and an 8.5 in

Other top scores for Salem came from Kara Dendrinos, 8.3 in floor, 8.0 in vault and 7.25 in bars; Ashley Heard, 8.4 in bars and 8.2 in vault; Staci Schmedding, 8.3 in vault and 8.2 in floor; Kelsey Encor, 6.3 in floor and 7.4 in beam; and Stefanie Olli, 7.3 in beam and 7.0 in bars.

Valeri Quigley also had a qual-ifying score of 7.9 in floor, and Cammi Carnes had an 8.0 in

Salem is idle until it hosts the 3. Salem Invitational Jan. 6.

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Lynn a double-qualifier for Rocks

Led by two state-qualifying swims by Eric Lynn, Plymouth Salem splashed past Dearborn 135-51 in a non-league dual meet Thursday at Salem.

It was the Rocks first meet of the season. Lynn bettered the state cut in winning the 100-yard butterfly (54.01) and in the 50 freestyle (22.54), when he led off the 200 free relay. That team, which also consisted of Dave Carson, Hugo Alvarez and Jim Ross, was first in 1:37.64.

Lynn was also a winner in the 200 free (1:50.21). Salem was first in every event in

Other individual-event winners for the Rocks were Ben Dzialo in the 200 individual medley (2:07.46); Aaron Shelton in the 50 free (22.92); Greg Kubitski in diving (200.40 points); Mike Johnson in the 100 free

(51.71); Brian Mertens in the 500 free (5:11.06); Kevin Schopieray in the 100 back-stroke (1:05.97); and Matt Showalter in the 100 breaststroke (1:10.74).

Shelton, Showalter, Dzialo and Johnson combined to win the 200 medley relay (1:46.47), and Johnson, Shelton, Dziale and Lynn teammed for a first in the 400 free relay (3:24.86).

Salem is now idle until its Jan. 4 nenleague dual meet at Novi.

Hockey clinic

StickMaster Hockey is staging its clinics at the Garden City Ice Arena March 19-21 and July 17-

The March sessions are split from 5:40-7:20 p.m. and 7:20-9 p.m. at a cost of \$150 while the July camp costs \$140 for sessions at similar times.

The clinics will also be held at the Farmington Hills Ice Arena

The Farmington clinics, featuring the StickMaster stickhandling training device developed by John Murphy, will take place April 10-12 and July 30-

Aug. 3.

The April camps run from 6:50-8:30 p.m. and cost \$150 while the July-Aug. camp goes from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. and costs

The clinics will also take place in East Lansing, Brighton and Ann Arbor's Ice Cube.

More details can be obtained by calling toll-free 877-442-9006 or visiting the website www.stickmasterhockey.com.

Skating lessons

Redford Township Ice Arena will be the site of a basic skating skills and figure skating class beginning Jan. 9, 2001. The classes are 30 minutes long and will be held once a week for

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seven weeks. Lessons, for ages three and older, cost \$45 and skate rental is available. Registration begins today and runs through Jan. 9,

daily from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. For more information, call (313) 387-2660.

PREP BOYS BASKETBALL Wednesday, Dec. 27 Canton vs. Det. Rogers

at U-D Jesuit, 7:15 p.m. (Grosse lie Tournament) Salem vs. Gib. Carlson, 5:30 p.m. Grosse lie vs. Allen Park, 7:30 p.m. (Riv. Gabriel Richard Tourney) Farmington vs. E. Catholic, 6 p.m. Tay. Kennedy vs. Riv. Richard, 8 p.m. (Grand Rapids Press Tourney) G.R. Central vs. Walkerville, 6 p.m. N. Farmington vs. Mackenzie, 8 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 28 Grosse lie Tourney, 5:30 & 7:30 p.m. G.R. Press Tourney, 6 & 8 p.m. (Adrian-Madison Tournament) Lenawee Christ, vs. Summerfield, 5 p.m. Madison vs. Ply. Christian, 7 p.m. (Roundball Classic at U-D Jesuit)

Femdale vs. Pershing, noon. Borgess vs. Kettering, 1:45 p.m. Cooley vs. Pocock (Ont.) Catholic, 3:30 p.m.

Redford CC vs. Country Day, 5:30 p.m. Henry Ford vs. Marquette (Wis.), 7:15 p.m. King vs. Cincinnati Withrow, 9 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 29 Adrian Madison Tourney, 5 & 7 p.m. Riv. Richard Tourney, 6 & 8 p.m. G.R. Press Tourney, 6 & 8 p.m. (Roundball Classic at U-D Jesuit) Losers bracket, noon & 1:45 p.m. Winners bracket, 3:30 & 5:30 p.m. A.A. Pioneer vs. Henry Ford, 7:15 p.m. Flint Northern vs. Central, 9 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 30 (Roundball Classic at U-D Jesuit) Losers bracket, noon & 1:45 p.m. Consolation final, 3:30 p.m. Championship game, 5:30 p.m. GIRLS VOLLEYBALL Wednesday, Dec. 27

UM-Dearborn Invitational, 9 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 28 W. Bloomfield Invitational, 8 a.m. U-M Dearborn Tournament, 8 a.m. Portage No. Tourney, 8:30 a.m. PREP WRESTLING Thursday, Dec. 28

Trenton Dual Meet Tourney, 9 a.m. Clarenceville at Oxford, 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 30 Salem Invitational, 9 a.m. MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL Friday, Dec. 29

(Almo-St. Louis Rotary Classic) Taylor vs. Thomas More, 6 p.m. Alma vs. Madonna, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 30 Alma College Tourney, 6 & 8 p.m. WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Thursday, Dec. 28 (Madenna Hoops Tournament) Madonna vs. Marion (Ind.), 6 p.m. Cedarville vs. IU-South Bend, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 29 MU Hoops Tourney, 1 & 3 p.m.

Schoolcraft vs. Columbia State

at Panama City Beach (Fla.), 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 30 Schoolcraft vs. Gulf Coast (Fla.) at Panama City Beach (Fla.), 4 p.m. PREP HOCKEY Wednesday, Dec. 27

(Novi Invitational) Northville vs. Woodhaven, 6 p.m. Red. Unified vs. Novi, 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 28 Novi Invitational, 6 & 8 p.m. ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE Wednesday, Dec. 27 Whaters vs. Owen Sound at Compuware Arena, 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 29

Whalers vs. Windsor Spitfires at Compuware Arena, 7:30 p.m. NATIONAL PRO SOCCER LEAGUE Friday, Dec. 29 Rockers at Kansas City, 8:35 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 30

Rockers at Wichita, 8:35 p.m.

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TIM Nowicki

Animals fight to survive in heavy snow

fter several years of minimal snow, compared to 25 years ago, we are experiencing a snow cover that we haven't seen in a long time. It gives us an opportunity to discover how it affects wildlife, both good and bad.

I walked the trail at Independence Oaks County Park the other day and came upon a hermit thrush perched in the open on a branch. It was squatting low on the branch so its feet were covered in fluffed breast feathers. In addition, its head was pushed down onto its "shoulders."

This species of bird normally migrates to the southern states or Central America. No one knows what makes individuals stay this far north. Maybe it was injured and could not fly. Maybe it is sick and disoriented. It's difficult to know for

During warmer winters that we experienced the past several years, a hermit thrush may have been able to find adequate shelter and food.

Snow covering fallen logs, tangles of brush, vine clusters and other ground shelters reduces the number of places for survival.

Exposure on the end of a branch isn't good for a weak individual. I was able to approach within five feet of this bird and it didn't fly away. This bind will be an easy target for a Cooper's or sharp-shinned

However, the Detroit Audubon Society Christmas Bird Count held on Dec. 17 suggests that even the hawks have left the area. Last year at the same time, counters recorded 77 red-tailed hawks in a 15 mile diameter area in northwest Oakland County. This year, fewer than 20 red-tails were observed.

The deep snow makes it hard for birds of prey to capture their prey. Small rodents like mice and voles stay beneath the snow and tunnel to find seeds on the ground. Seldom do they need to rise to the surface and expose themselves to danger. Hawks like the red-tail will move south if they cannot find food.

Not only does the snow allow small rodents to hide from danger, the deep snow also serves as an insulation from the cold temperatures. One of the big challenges to an animal's survival is staying warm in cold temperatures. The hermit thrush was fluffing its feathers to trap warm air next to its body. Deep snow insulates mice from cold air and wind. Under 20 inches of snow the temperature does not fluctuate at all. Mice do not have to expend much energy to keep warm like animals above the

Wild turkey have to work hard to find nuts on the ground when snow is as deep as it is this month. Though they are big birds, it takes a lot of energy to scratch through 20 inches of snow. Even after all that scratching, they do not know if they will find food. After a hard day of searching for food, the 10 wild turkey I saw in the trees at 3 p.m. were resting and reducing their threats of danger by getting off the

ground. This is indeed the kind of weather when birds will beseffs from full bird feeders. Keep seed, suct and water available whenever, yet and Deep snow and cold temperatures over long periods of time

very hard for wildlift to married Livonia resident 2 in Name 1 a naturalist with I

There's snow tomorrow for these flag footballers

BY ED WRIGHT

Green Bay's "frozen tundra" must have seemed like Daytona Beach com-pared to conditions that greeted nine men who converged on Canton Town-ship's Flodin Park the morning of Dec. 16 for a game of flag football.

Gusting winds blew a sleet and freez-

ing rain across an orange cone-marked field that had been blanketed by 2 feet of heavy, wet snow.

But the game went on - just like it had since the group of Canton-area residents started gathering at Flodin Park every autumn and early-winter Saturday morning in 1995.

The more adverse the weather conditions, the more enjoyable the game is," insisted Jeff Marcero, who wore a Detroit Lions No. 10 jersey over three layers of sweat shirts and thermals. When we first start playing in September every year, it's usually 70 degrees and sunny. The last few weeks it's usually cold and snowy like this — but it doesn't cut down on the number of guys who come out and play. If anything, we get more players when the weather is bad."

What is it that attracts these mostly 30-something flag football junkies to arctic-like Flodin Park on a frigid Saturday morning in December when they could be playing pickup basketball or racquetball in a toasty recreation center gym? It's a passion for a game that offers spirited competition, camaraderie and cardiovascular exercise, while taking them back to their childhood days of touch football in the

back yard. There are fewer opportunities to go out and play flag football and other team sports as you get older," said 38-year-old Canton resident Mike McDonald, a flag-football regular for three years. "A lot of recreational athletes like myself gravitate to golf and tennis when they get into their 30s, but flag football is a fun sport that offers great exercise. You do a lot of sprinting, as most people are going deep on just about every play. After a week of work, it's a great way to unwind and have some fun at the same time."

Canton resident Rod Dunlap agreed. "I like it because of the camaraderic that develops between the different play-ers," the 38-year-old lawyer said. "When you show up to play, you may only know one or two guys, but by the time the morning is over, you feel you've been friends with every-one there for years."

The turnout at Flodin Paril each week varies from eight to 16 players, depending on several variables including whether the U-M formal term has a torus game, the little league schedules of the participants some and daughters, and the weather. More than if different players less a town up at one time or another this year, but never more than 14 or any given. on any given Saturday.

"Our goal every week is to get 16 players so that we can have two games of four-on-four going on at the same time, then have the winners of the two games meet in a mini-tournament," Marcero said. "Last year, we actually had 16 players show up one week. Unfortunately, about 10 minutes after we set up the fields and started playing, one player broke his collarbone and two or three others had to quit because they pulled their hamstrings. We ended up playing one big game of five-on-five anyway."

Because it is flag football and not tackle, serious injuries have been few. One player broke his wrist this year, only to show up the following week ready to play - armed with a



Snow Bowl players: Back row, from left, Mike McDonald, Steve Marcero, Bill Smith, Jim Marcero and Jeff Marcero. Front row, from left, Pete Lorelli, Ed Wright, Paul Ellinger and Andrew

soft cast that stretched from the palm of his right hand to

"He played with the cast for two or three weeks," Marcero said, "but, unfortunately, he blew out his knee the following week and had to quit for the season. There are always pulled muscles and sprained fingers, but other than that, it's

There's usually more pain for players the Monday following the games than on game days - especially for first-time

players, Marcero said.
"Early in the season, you're using muscles you usually don't use because you're sprinting, cutting and making a lot of sharp starting and stopping moves," he said. "I usually don't feel it until Monday morning when I get up for work and I can barely walk. It's at that moment that you realize what a good workout flag football can be."

"It's fun because, unlike regular football, you're either quarterback, or you're going out for a pass," Marcero said. "No one has to stay back and block. Plus, there are usually only four players on a team, so the odds are you're going to touch the ball at least one every four plays."

The ages, skill levels and sizes of regular participants are The ages, skill levels and sizes of regular participants are as varied as their 40-yard-dash times. Some players are in their mid-20s, but most are in their mid- to late-30s. Some played college sports, while others never earned a varsity letter in high school.

A few can run a 40 in less than five seconds, but the majority are happy to be able to run 40 yards without pulling something.

The games are much like the annual Army-Navy game—the skill level may not always be first class, but the games are generally close and hard fought.

are generally close and hard fought. "It's nice because we always divide it up so that both

teams have at least one really fast guy, two medium-speed guys and a slower guy," Dunlap said. "Blowouts are rare."

If you're interested in playing flag football (the group

plays every weekend from the weekend after Labor Day through Super Bowl weekend), show up at Flodin Park on Saturday mornings. For more details, e-mail your name and phone number to lwright237@aol.com.

We would eventually like to start up an informal league beginning next year," Marcero said. "If you want to play, show up on Saturdays at Flodin Park."

Schoolcraft College's Sunday Health. Club lets members can work out 1-5 p.m. Sundays Jan. 7 through April 1 Membership fees are \$34 for individu als and \$72 for families. Members have access to two gyms for basket-ball and volleyball; six handball, pad dieball and racketball courts; wallyball courts; weightlifting machine treadmills, exercise bikes and other aerobic equipment in the fitness room; the swimming pool with 1-meter and 3-meter diving beards; as saunas in the locker rooms. Membe must furnish their locks and towels. Members up to age 15 must be accompanied by an adult. Call (734)

The Maplewood Squares, a square dance group, meets at 12:30 p.m. Wednesdays at the Maplewood Com-munity Center, Maplewood west of Merriman, in Garden City. Call (734)

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 Lipareto at

(248) 476-5027. 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 (248) 478-

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. Call Jim Kudej at (734) 591 0843 for information.

ION VALLEY STEELINGA The Huron Valley Steelheaders me the third Thursday of each month at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 27600 Hall Road, Flat Rock. Call Carroll White at (734) 285-0843.

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.

The School for Outdoor Leadership. Adventure and Recreation, a nonprofit organization interested in promoting the appreciation of outdoor activities, meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Colony Hall in Southfield. Call (248)

Sill offers window of opportunity



Merry Christmas! PBI stands for Professional Bowling Instruction, sponsored by

Bowlers Aid Pro Shop, opening soon at Westland Bowl. One way to improve your game

is to get quality

instruction. Aleta Sill has joined with fellow PWBA champion Michelle Mullin for a two-day clinic at Westland Bowl (on Wayne Road between Ford and Warren). Michelle is a gold level coach with Team USA, and Aleta is the first female bowler to earn \$1 million in bowling. They will feature video analysis and an en-lane coaching clinic Saturday and Sun-

day, Jan. 20-21. It will be limited to the first 16 bowlers to register. The cost is \$229 per person, or \$190 each for two at The PBI will also teach how to adian is various lane conditions and is just a letter supplement choices There are also step up deal is which

game blocks of 992 and 944, a total of 1.936 pins and that is only behind the 1,964 by Cleveland Bassett of Chicago.

Joe Kassab of Garden City maintains the lead in handicap singles at 1,038. William Cleaves of Southfield is in third place in the Sponsors High Series category.

There is still plenty of time to get in on this event, which pays out lots of money to amateur bowlers in several categories. The Handicap Singles category pays \$25,000 for first place, \$12,500 for second and \$5,000 for third. Competitors placing fourth through 20th get \$2,000. Bowlers placing 21st through 50th get \$1,000.

Other categories include Eight Game Singles, Scratch Singles, Ladies Singles, Senior Singles (55 and up), Sponsor's High Series and doubles. Prize money in these cateries depends on the number of bowlers who enter.

For more information, call Joann Taylor or Cindy Loersch at (248) 546-0070 or (248) 543-7303. Their Web site is www.hamtram.com.

The Great Lakes Senior Bowling

Association's third annual championship tournament took place Dec. 9 at Sunnybrook Lanes. Scotty Laughland of Windsor came here by the tunnel and went home by the Ambassador Bridge \$2,500 richer by taking first place. Scotty defeated Bob Arnold 443-441. Arnold led all qualifiers with 1,454, and Ken O'Brien of Troy had 1,385 in the preliminary rounds. Dan Mytty of Livonia was high game qualifier with 280 followed by Arnold with 279 and Livonia's Ed Malinowski with 278.

Upcoming GLSBA tournaments take place Jan. 13 at Vision Lanes in Westland and Feb. 10 at Shorecrest Lanes in St. Clair Shores. For more information on the GLSBA, call (734) 522-9315, or e-mail GLSBA@aol.com.

CLASSES/ CLINICS YOU MAVE MUCH TO LEARN

Henry Ford Community College offers a class in Soo Kung Fu 10 a.m. to noon on Saturdays, Jan. 13 through April 7. Class meets at the Dearborn Heights Center on Ann Arbor between Warren and Outer. The cost is \$89. Call (313) 317-1500.

LEARN TO SKATE Suburban Training Center in Farmington Hills will hold Learn to Skate classes on Tuesdays from Jan. 16 through March 13. Snowplow Sam classes 1, 2 and 3 for skaters 6 and younger, as well as adult beginner classes will also be available. Call

(248) 888-1400. YRICA CLASSES The Farmington Family YMCA offers a variety of classes such as Rollerblade hockey, lacrosse, flag football and swimming lessons. Call (248) 553-4020.

Parks

Most Metropark programs are free while some require a nominal fee. Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all programs. Call the respective parks toll free at the following numbers: Stony Creek, (800) 477-7756; Indian Springs, (800) 477-3192; Kensington, (800) 477-3178; Hudson Mills, (800) 477-3191.

OAKLAND COUNTY REQUIREMENTS Advanced registration and a motor

vehicle permit are required for all nature programs at Oakland County Parks. Call (810) 625-6473 to register or for more information.

WAYNE COUNTY REQUIRES Wayne County Parks offers nature interpretive programs throughout the year. Registration is requested. Call-

id information to Outdoors, 805 🖁 Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009; fax

The Redford American Little Liague has set dates to register for the 2001 season. The league

is for boys and girls 6-12.
Registration will take place from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sat., Jan. 20, and Feb. 3, at the Redford Ice Arena. Birth certificates are

required.
Fees are \$60 for the first child ip either major or minor division and \$35 for the second child.

T-ball fee is \$50 for the first child and \$35 for the second. Oldest child is used for the initial charge.

For more information call Tim Smith at (313) 255-9408 or Christine Morris at (313) 592-

Persons wishing to umpire in the leagues should call Amy Osborn at (313) 937-0621.

CRUISERS REGISTRATION Registration for the Plymouth-Canton Cruisers Swim Team's winter season will be from 6-8 p.m. Monday, Jan. 8 at the Salem HS pool. Limited enrollment is available.

For more information, leave a message at (734) 332-9378 or visit the team's web site at www.cruiserswimming.com.

GIRLS HOOP LEAGUES

The Michigan office of Youth Basketball of America is accepting teams for its three girls' leagues, which begin in January and run through March.

The divisions are high school, 12 and under and 14 and under. The league fee is \$65 and each team is guaranteed eight games.

The fee is \$10 per player and \$30 for coach. The deadline is Dec. 29. For more information, call (517) 484-0333.

NOVICE WRESTLING

Garden City high school is hosting its 35th annual Novice Wrestling Tournament at 9:30 a.m. on Jan. 13 of next year.

Entry fee is \$130 for ninth- or 10th-grade teams or a combination of both.

Coaches need to fax lineups to (734) 762-8531, indicating freshmen and sophomores, by 7 p.m. Jan. 12 with their phone numbers on the lineup sheet. Seeding will be done Jan. 12.

Coaches need to show up an hour before start time for a meeting.

Admission is \$4 for all day. There will be a concession stand

Arthritis Today

18829 Farmington Road

Livonia. Michigan 48152 Phone: (248) 478-7860 **HOW LONG WILL THE INJECTION LAST** The question is a good one. When a physician recommends a joint njection, patients often respond by asking: "How long will the injection

5-6 days relief not 4-6 weeks because the arthritis is in so great a flare.

The success of an injection depends on what you do, what the doctor does, and where the condition that underlies the need for an injection, is going For example, if you have a swollen knee, and your doctor injects the knee with a steroid an unexpected blow or wrenching of the knee can undo what good came from the injection. Success of the injection also depends on the doctor getting the steroid in the proper place. That can be difficult as in a swollen joint the landmarks used to ensure accuracy are

obscured by the swollen tissues. Withdrawing joint fluid confirms the placement of the injection, but joints, even when inflamed, may contain too little fluid to withdraw. Thus, at

nes, the physician may have no way to confirm his accuracy.

Then there is the underlying condition. It happens that the inflammation associated with

gout can be so intense, that one injection though properly done, is not sufficient to resolve the pain and inflammation. In rheumatoid arthritis, injection into a wrist or knee may give only

However, as a procedure for immediate relief of pain, with the possibility of a long-term

Shuttle Service to MotorCity Casino

December & January Special! \$1.00 Off! Now, \$4.00 per person includes:

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Buses run Mondays through Fridays, departing from: Ann Arbor • Brighton • Canton • Clinton Twp

Dearborn • Flint • Livonia • Pontiac • Roseville Southfield • Southgate • St. Clair Shores Sterling Heights/Warren • Taylor • Westland Detroit Metro Area pickups: State Fair Grounds . Greenfield and 8 Mile Gratiot and 8 Mile

The doctor cannot give an equally good answer.

effect, joint injection is an excellent choice

and tournament T-shirts for

Trophies will be awarded to the top three teams in both divisions and medals given to the top five finishers in each class. Each division will have an Outstanding Wrestler Award.

For more information call Garden City athletic director Bob Dropp at (734) 762-8363.

RCY SOFTBALL CAMP

The Farmington Hills Mercy softball program will have its Fifth Annual Winter Softball Camp on the following Saturdays: Jan. 6, 18, 20 and 27, as well as Feb. 3 and 10.

The camp is open to all players in fifth through 12th grades. The cost is \$5 per session. The camp will cover throwing, hitting and fielding.

For more information, call Mercy varsity softball coach Jack Falvo at (248) 471-1748.

SKATING CLASSES

The Suburban Training Center will hold Learn to Skate classes Tuesdays from Jan. 16 to March 13 next year. Each class is 30 minutes long once a week.

There will be Snowplow Sam classes 1, 2 and 3 for skaters ages six and under as well as Adult Beginner classes. Skate rental in all sizes is available.

For registration information, call the center at (248) 888-1400. Enrollment is limited.

SOCCER CAMP

Total Soccer in Wixom will hold soccer clinics starting Jan. 8, 2001 for children of all ages.

The classes, held Mondays through Saturdays, will teach kids on soccer fundamentals through drills and games and feature experienced soccer

Camps run seven weeks and include a T-shirt. The fee is \$79 per player. Classes are: Parent/Tot, ages 2-3, Wee Kickers, ages 3-4, Kindersoccer, ages 4-5, Train and Play, ages 3-10.

For registration or information, call (248) 669-9817 or register on line at www.totalsoccer.com.

YOUTH HOOP TOURNEYS

Tournaments USA will hold two youth basketball tournaments in the next two months at Allen Park High School and Middle School.

The YBOA Christmas Classic will take place Dec. 28-30 for

boys ages 10 and 11 and for girls ages 12-14.

The YBOA Billy Joe Young Classic will take place Jan. 27-28, 2001 for girls 12-14.

Both tourneys cost \$275 per team and are round-robin formats with a three-game guaran-

For information, call (734) 522-8872, e-mail basketball@tournamentsusa.com or check out the websites at www.tournamentsusa.com or www.yboa.org.

The Garden City Soccer Club is looking for a qualified individ-ual to train coaches and players for its in-house program for the spring season.

Applicants must possess an E" license or be attending an "E" clinic at the time of hire. The position will run approximately 10-12 hours per week, Monday through Thursday, and a couple hours on Saturday.

Resumes can be sent to the Garden City Soccer Club, P.O.

Box 544, Garden City, MI, 48136. For more information, please call Todd Simms at (734)

The 18th annual Michigan Boat, Sport and Fishing show at the Pontiac Silverdome is schooluled for Jan. 31-Feb. 4. Show hours are 3-9:30 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Saturday, and 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Admission is \$7 for adults and \$3.50 for children 6-14. Kids

under-6 get in free.
Included will be a helium balloon ride to the top of the dome.

Registration is underway for the 12th Day of Christmas '12 Drummers Running' races Jan. 6 at Domino's Farms in Ann

Arbor. There will be free day care for pre-registrants only.

The Kid's Kilometer begins at 4:30 p.m., the 5K run starts at 5 p.m. and the Leisure (untimed)

walk opens at 5:46 p.m. Cost is \$16 for the run or walk, which includes a T-shirt, and \$6

for the Kid's Kilometer (add \$5 for a T-shirt). The top three in each of 17

ages groups will win a sterling silver necklase or key chain. The top 50 walkers take home etched goblets. A printable entry form or

online registration is available at www.AthleticVentures.com.

The city of Plymouth Recreation Department will take spring youth soccer registrations for the entire month of January from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at the recreation office, located in the Plymouth Cultural Center at

525 Farmer. Cost for 6-and-under, 7-andunder and 8-and-under players is \$45 for city of Plymouth residents and \$65 for non-residents. For 9-and-under and above players the cost is \$50 for residents and \$80 for non-residents.

For further information, call

There will be two different sessions beginning Dec. 26 and Jan. 2 at six locations. Cost is \$136 per player with pre-registration required due to limited class

There is a power skating and puckhandling clinic for Mites and Squirts plus a checking and scoring clinic for Pee Wees and Bantama.

The Dec. 26-29 clinics will be at the Rochester Ice Arena, Suburban Training Center (Farmington Hills), Devon-Aire Area (Livonia) and McCann Arena (Grosse Pointe Woods).

The Jan. 2-5 clinics will be at the Ice Box Arena (Trenton). Dearborn Ice Skating Center and the Plymouth Cultural Cen-

For more information, call (248) 478-1600.

VARSITY

3480 Jackson Rd. 1-800-875-FORD **ANN ARBOR**

BRIARWOOD

7070 Michigan Ave. 734-429-5478 SALINE

ATCHINSON 9800 Belleville Rd. 734-697-9161

BELLEVILLE

HINES PARK I-96 at Milford Rd. 248-684-1715

MILFORD

GENE BUTMAN 2105 Washtenaw 734-482-8581 **YPSILANTI**

FRIENDLY

1011 S. Monroe 734-243-6000 MONROE

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Includes security deposit; excludes tax, title and license fee Customer cash due at signing is net of all rebates. Payment includes \$500 renewal cash, plus \$750 RCL cash.

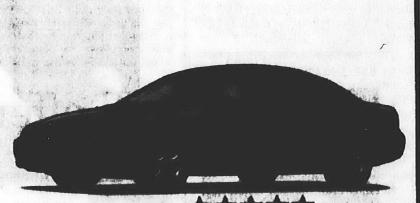
2001 Ranger RC 4x2

Current lessees can Re-Lease a 2001 Taurus SE

For as

With \$2,447 customer cash due at signing.

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2001 Taurus SE

Current lessees can Re-Lease a 2001 Windstar LX

SAFETY RATING'



includes security deposit; excludes tax, title and license fee Customer cash due at signing is not of all rebates. Payment includes \$500 renewal cash, plus \$1000 RCL cash.

2001 Windstar LX



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(1) Some payments higher, some lower. Not all Leacess will qualify on 2001 Wridster, take new retail delivery from dealer stack by 1/16/2001. RCL Cash of Division Red Carpet Lease and re-lease for 24 months by 1/16/2001. Lease represent

ARTS & LEISURE Plymouth District Library 223 S. Main Street Plymouth, Mich. 48170 ARTS & LEISURE

Noteworthy



2001 calendar

celebrates Detroit's history

nnette McConnell felt the memories rushing back as she looked through the boxes of photographs Tony Spina left to Wayne State University. The task seemed almost overwhelming as McConnell, a Livonia resident, searched through more than 23,000 prints and negatives to find a dozen of Spina's images for the 2001 Days of Detroit Calendar.

The Detroit Historical Society project is something close to her heart and that of her husband Jim. Both have volunteered hundreds of hours over the last few years to develop a 5,000 item database for the calendar. which lists a historical fact about Detroit for every day of the year.

The decision to use Spina's photographs to accent the cover and individual months was a natural. The longtime Bloomfield Hills resident spent more than 40 years photographing people and events for the Detroit Free Press before retiring in 1989 as chief photographer. He remained chief photographer emeritus until his death in 1995.

"Having grown up in this area I really enjoyed looking at the different prints," said McConnell. "Tony Spina was a photojournalist. These are stories that would stand out in your mind.

Once McConnell sifted through all of the prints and negatives Spina donated to the Walter T. Reuther Library, she realized Douglas Haller needed all the help he could get to catalog the mountain of images. Haller is coordinator of audio visual collections at the Walter T. Reuther

Library at Wayne State University.

"We divided the photographs into categories," said McConnell who volunteered three days a week from April to November to sort through the impressed with Tony's images of the Papacy. He photographed all of the popes from the '40s on. His presidential collection includes all of the presidents from Truman on as well as letters from the presidents. There's also a Detroit section along with pho-



Days of Detroit: Tony Spina used multiple exposures to capture the fireworks above the Isamu Noguchi fountain in Hart Plaza during the 1985 International Freedom Festival.

tographs of Jimmy Durante, Lauren Bacall and Elvis. The collection has all of these special portraits."

Jim McConnell's favorite image is the one chosen for the cover because it celebrates the 300th birthday of Detroit in 2001 with a bang. Spina used multiple exposures to capture
the colorful fireworks above the
Isamu Noguchi fountain in Hart
Plaze during the 1985 International
Freedom Festival. December's Ambas-

sador Bridge shot is a favorite as well. "It's really difficult to choose just "It's really difficult to choose just one," said Jim McConnell. "September is special because it shows John F. Kennedy standing in front of a crowd on Labor Day in 1960 and Robert Kennedy who visited Detroit in 1968, a month before he was assessmated. Tony combined the images. He know he could use the two separate negatives and bland them into one shot."

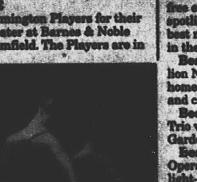
Lifetime of memories

It's still difficult for Frances from to look at the calendar but the father have been November.
"He loved the Theorem to Day parade," said France France, The State of State



t's that time of year again. The Observer arts and entertainment staff has chosen the best our area offers in music demos thester and the visual arts. The deem and glour, prog-nostications the YEE bug brought at nostications the Y2K bug brought at the first of the year were soon ishind them as arts organizations roated into the 21st century. Over the last 10 years we've watched the arts go from a glim-mer of light to a dazzling burst of fire-works.

The list below barely hints at the undreds of arts events that graced the tages and gallery-like spaces in our



From the heart: Mark Chatterley created this bronze sculpture in honor of his mother, Doris, a long-time volunteer for the Plymouth Community Arts Council.

> the process of building a new barn theater for

Best family activity: Detroit Zoo's new \$6 mil-lion National Amphibian Conservation Center, home to more than 500 frogs, salamanders, newts

Bost Wednesday night jazz: Matt Michaels Trie with guest artists at Ron's Pireside Inn in

Garden City

Best new opera company: Great Lakes Lyric
Opera brought the art to the masses with two
light-hearted productions in English
Best/most active youth theater: Tinderbox
Productions run by Redford educator Nancy

ricoveki

Lose high school theater programs Creative

I Performing Arts Program directed by Geil

let at Churchill in Livenia not only trains future

are but invites them back as professionals to

are their knowledge with students

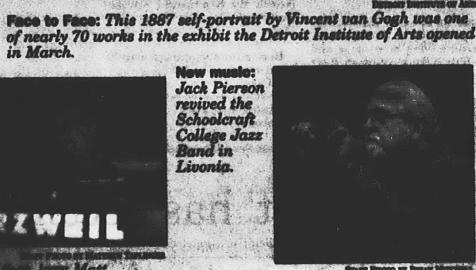
less denote expectances for youths Martha

than Danes Company's visit to North Perming
High School

and characted musts youth programs Detect

approxy Orchestra's Civic, Statenia and Jen
memble under the direction of Contem conductors

Jack Pierson revived the Schoolcraft College Jazz Band in Livonia.



in the arts: Livonia Sym-

Best glass exhibits Internationally recognized artist Richard Ritter's retrospective at the Alfred Berkowitz Gallery at the University of Michigan-

Dearborn

Best/most adventuresome theater: Trinity

House Theatre for bringing audiences plays such as

Elie Wiesel's The Trial of God

Best new jazz ensemble: Schoolcraft College

Best new jazz ensemble: Schoolcraft Colleg Jazz Band under the direction of Jack Pierson Best art fairs: Ann Arbor Art Fairs and Ply-mouth's Art in the Park

mouth's Art in the Park

Best art created on-site: The 18th annual Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular which never fails to dazzle visitors year after year. The family-style event returns Jan. 17-22

Best overall local band: The Waxwings, at the helm of the rising pop rock scene with a stellar Behaled records release. Low to the Ground.

Best areas repper to count on for a good secondal: Eminem

MUSEUM

New Detroit Science Center exterior nears completion

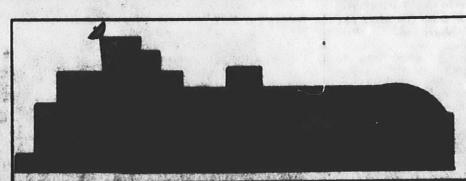
BY ALICE REED STAFF WRITER

With less than a week of holiday shopping left, are you still looking for the perfect "money-ne-option" gift for that person who has overything? How about buying something that

How about buying something that can spin, swing, vibrate, undulate, reverberate, motivate and capture a child's imagination like nothing else?

The New Detroit Science Center, scheduled to reopen this summer after an extensive expansion and renovation, is looking for a few good corporate and individual sponsors.

Perhaps you'd like to name a star on the "Stairway of the Stare" or name a sea in the new 160-cent States Stage. Theater. Or maybe these interest in approximation in the stare of the s



The plan: The generous use of glass and multi-levels will give the New Detroit Science Center an open, airy appeal. A view from the west elevation shows the IMAX on the left and the new Digital Dome Theatre on the right.

millions of dollars here - but then, tion this week, and concrete exterior walls ming up by the end of January, the New Detroit Science Center is assuming quite nicity outside.

"The idea was to respect the original architecture, which is the silver box and the red brick IMAX, because it is an icon in Detroit, and then add a new building to surround it," said Drumm, a

Bloomfield Hills resident. Designing a very transparent, multilevel building with lots of natural light and exposed steel, helped keep the construction cost to \$16 million, so that \$9 million could be spent on exhibit space that will be 10 times that of the original 45,000 square-foot building built in

"Would you want it any other way?" asks Francois Castaing, chairman of the board of trustees for the Detroit Science Center and a retired vice president of engineering for Daimler-

Chrysler.

With his European charm and warm smile, Castaing has been the steady fure behind the Science Center project. In 1996, the Bloomfield Hills resident launched the capital campaign to renevate, enhance and expand what had become an alling building on the corner.

from page C1

Best musical event of the year: The first-ever, 3-day-long Detroit Electronic Music Festival, held Memorial Day weekend in Hart Plaza, Detroit.

Best Hip Hop artist on the rise: Livonia's Paradime, aka Freddie Beauregard
Most promising local song-

writer: Christopher Plum, The **Mood Elevator**

Best theatrical experience in Detroit: Cabaret at the Fisher Theatre

Best cross-over talent: Joshua Funk for his comedic contributions at Second City, Planet Ant Productions for his film Garage: A Rock Saga and his music with Park: A Rock Band.

Best event to promote local women in rock: Go Girls Music Fest, which sold out Ferndale's Magic Bag in December and featured Blush, deathgirl.com, Broadzilla and Mod Ev.

Best overall rock show involving giant bears and hundreds of pounds of confetti: The Flaming Lips at the Majestic Theatre.

Most energetic local rock show: The Atomic Numbers Best local punk pop act of

the year: Rev Best surprise performance featuring Kid Rock: Onstage with Run DMC at Detroit's State Theatre, our own Bob Ritchie chimed in on Walk This Way.

Best local band that defies categorization: The Brothers Groove, mixing blues, jazz and rock into a funky stew on their recent release Clamp It Down.

Best break into radio for a local band: 19 Wheel's cover of You Ain't Seen Nothing Yet on

Best performers at the

Surprise: Kid Rock joined Run DMC at the State Theater.



Famous.

Best sentimental look at Palace's Opening Act Conrock and roll at the movies: test: Three-way winners Rooster, Knee Deep Shag and Domes-Cameron Crowe's somewhat autobiographical feature, Almost tic Problems.

Best find at Toronto's North By Northeast Music Festival (international): Star-

Best find at Toronto's North By Northeast Music Festival (local): American

Best summer spot to catch local music: The Whitney Gar-

Best up-and-coming band to take bowling: Ultimate Fakebook

Best Scottish import: Travis

Science from page C1

of Warren and John R.

"When Mel and I met in May or June of 1998, he took me on a tour of this building that was in poor shape, it was too small, and it was literally raining inside," said Castaing. "Still the school busses were lined up outside and the children were inside getting involved. That's why I got involved."

The Detroit Science Center has actually seen darker days than that. In 1991-92, the center was forced to close for 10 months due to a sudden and unexpected loss of state funding.

But under Drumm's leadership, which began in 1995, the Center nearly doubled its annual attendance to nearly 200,000 visitors.

Still, the exhibit space was limited to one floor and often, displays were in disrepair. Many families abandoned the Detroit institution in favor of Toledo's COSI.

"They won't have to go that far anymore," said Lisa Schallich, director of marketing and communications. "This is a museum for children with educational components, a teacher's resource room and hands-on interactive

Schallich, a Birmingham resident engaged to Detroit Symphony Orchestra President Emil Kang, moved from Seattle, where she was the director of marketing for the Seattle Symphony. Now she, Drumm and Castaing spend much of their days in a wood-paneled yellow trailer that's never quite warm enough despite a near-constant clanking of the radiator. It also lacks the basic luxury of a sink, but they improvise with a water cooler for the essential pot of cof-

If it bothers them, the trio certainly don't let it show. Instead, they prefer to don the hard hats and show visitors what will be.

On the horizon What is currently on the drawAt a Glance

The New Detroit Science Center total renovation and expansion includes the follow-

ing:

A ten-fold expansion of exhibit space

More than double the size of the existing structure New hands-on permanent

exhibit laboratories Aligns with the major themes developed by the Michigan Curriculum Frame-

work for science education Expanded school partnerships in the city, metropolitan region and statewide

Internet linkages and web-casting capabilities to reach students in their class-

rooms and at home Creation of a new traveling exhibit space

Addition of a Digital Dome Theater for multimedia programs, including astronomy and space exploration programs

To discuss a gift towards the Detroit Science Center's building expansion campaign, call the Development Office at (313) 577-8400, ext. 432 or write:

Detroit Science Center Attn: Capital Campaign 5020 John R Street Detroit, MI 48202 campaign@sciencedetroit.

ing board is scheduled to become reality this summer when the New Detroit Science Center will open for visitors. It will feature five exhibit areas highlighting and linking to the state-wide science education curriculum.

The Science of Motion Lab will feature hands-on and large-scale interactive exhibits. In a twostory windowed area, the Life Lab will feature an exploration of DNA, highlight life in a rain

forest and explore the microsco

The Sparks Theatre will be the focal point of the Matter and Energy Lab, and will demonstrate the interaction between

electricity and magnetism.

The Waves Lab will relate specifically to light, sound and the transfer of energy through wave motion. And finally, a Children's Lab will allow pre-school through second-grade visitors to explore science with pint-size experiments.

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CREAT

In addition, the existing IMAX Theatre and a new Digital Dome Theater and Planetarium will give spectators plenty to view. The addition of the Ford Learning Resource Center will allow for class field trips, summer programs and camp-ins. And the creation of a traveling exhibit space will ensure an ongoing schedule of new attractions. When the facility opens, Beakman's World, based upon the children's television program, will be the first special exhibit featured.

"Too few young people are locked out of careers in engineering or research because they don't understand science," said Castaing. "One avenue that is recognized as efficient and effective at getting young people to realize that science is of great interest is science centers.'

Castaing said that with \$17.5 million raised so far, the Center still has a ways to go before it reaches its goal of \$30 million. But he has no doubts that he'll continue to play an active role in the Center long after the ribboncutting ceremony is over. "I may not be down here every-

day, but I will recruit more trustees and work to ensure the stability of the Center," he said. Once we were the crumbling building on the corner, and now we can stand up with Orchestra Hall and the Detroit Institute of Arts. I guess you can say we've grown up now."

'First Night' has become Birmingham tradition

Best art film of the year by

a first-time director: The Vir-

gin Suicides, Sophia Coppola,

Public Service Awards: To

all the arts organizations, espe-

cially Artserve, who worked to

pass Proposal A to help fund the

arts. Even though it failed with

voters, the initiative brought us

all together and made us

stronger. Here's to a bright 2001

filled with music, dance, theater,

and the performing arts.

BY STEVE KOWALSKI

skowalski@oe.homecomm.net

It's billed as a "dry" event and no matter how much snow gathers before New Year's Eve, it appears nothing can dampen the spirits of those attending the 10th annual First Night Birmingham.

Those who have made it tradition to ring in the New Year sober rather than toasting with a bottle of bubbly find many entertainers feel the same way. It's a return engagement for

many. Nearly 20 entertainers, including singers and musicians, magi-

cians, storytellers and puppeteers, are scheduled to perform at 11 venues in and around downtown Birmingham, according to First Night director Cindy Cheaves.

Pianist David Syme has performed at each First Night Birmingham and wouldn't think

What: First Night Birmingham, the 10th annual New Year's Eve party in downtown Birmingham4hat offers families an alternative to alcohol related activities When: Sunday, Dec. 31

Where: In and around downtown Birmingham on: \$8 per person in advance, \$10 on day of event

Entertainment: MB2, Kooky Karla, Bernie Stevens Magic, Beverly Meyer the Music Lady, storyteller Carri Wilson, Kimmy Horne Jazz, Trinidad Tripoli Steel Band, 5th Michigan Regiment Band, Vocal Arts Ensemble, Royal American Folklore puppets, classical guitarist Paul Vondiziano, pianist David Syme, bonnier & Keller Jazz Duo, dynaMike Magic, Golden Griffon contra dancing and BBSO String Quintet

ty House, First Baptist Church, First Church of Christ Scientist, First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham, First United Methodist Church, St. James Episcopal Church, Shain Park and Village Players Theatre

Note: The Birmingham Bloomfield Cultural Council is teaming up with the Birmingham Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra this year as co-chairs of the event. Birmingham activities with a concert at 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 30 at Temple Beth El. Cost is \$20 per person.

about missing the 10th anniversary event.

Syme will play three sessions

of his classical and popular piano

Venues: Baldwin Library, Birmingham Historical Museum, City Hall, Communi-

The Birmingham Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra is kicking off the First Night

mixes at St. John's Episcopal Church on Maple Road.

The Detroit native spent most of the fall season touring in Europe as a soloist with the Czechoslovakian National Symphony, and he looks forward to

being home for the start of said. another year.

"Throughout my travels I have eagerly anticipated returning to my hometown to once again perham." Syme said. "I enjoy playing for a receptive audience and First Night audiences have been uniformly enthusiastic. Every time I play it's special for me."

And he should know. The 51year-old pianist has been playing since he was 3. His parents were both musicians so he didn't need to leave the house for beginner's

"I didn't take lessons until I was almost 13," he said. "I just instinctively had talent for that

In fact, his talents have taken him to 13 European countries, plus Canada and Mexico and all over the United States.

Syme said his music ranges from Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue to the Phantom of the Opera and lots of popular music

in between "I just play what I do best," he

Cheaves, who is also president of the Cultural Council of Birmingham-Bloomfield, between 6,000 and 7,000 attendform at First Night Birming- ed last year's event when the world reveled in a new century, not just a new year.

On a smaller scale, First Night attendees have been circling this New Year's Eve on their calendar, commemorating the 10th anniversary of the event.

Most of the venues are within walking distance of the Community House and Shain Park. Those not will provide free shuttle service for First Night participants.

Cheaves doesn't expect all the snow that's fallen around metro Detroit to hurt the turnout. In fact, it may help.

"Unless it was an absolute huge blizzard and the city was totally shut down, First Night is weatherproof," Cheaves said. "The snow gets everybody in the

(1/4 mile E. of Middlebelt)

and DJ entertainment

• Black Tie Optional

All Reserved Seating

\$170 per couple

Expressions

from page C1

married to Tony for 49 years. "It was his favorite time of the year. He never missed a parade - not in 46 years. And even though he was too sick to photograph it in 1994, he wanted to photograph the clowns. It was his assignment before he died the following January.

Frances Spina thinks her husband would have liked the fact that the money raised from the calendar will go to the Detroit Historical Society. Thanks to R. L. Polk & Co. of Southfield, who underwrote the calendar for the last three years, the project has raised more than \$100,000 for the society, the major source of private funding for the Detroit Historical Museum, Dossin Great Lakes Museum, Historic Fort Wayne, and the Historic Moross House.

For more information or to order with a credit card, call (313) 833-7937.

Call arts reporter Linda Ann Chomin at (734) 953-2145 or send e-mail to lchomin@ oe. homecomm. net

ROMA

BANQUETS

32550 Cherry Hill . Garden City

(1 block E. of Venoy)

Continuous Entertainment

with: The Classics

and DJ entertainment

Black Tie Optional

 All Reserved Seating *140 per couple



a "Cruisin' with Crazy Al" jacket and be the envy of the neighborhood!

If you can answer the three questions listed below, call Crazy Al's Radio Party (1460 AM) on a Monday at one of the following times: 7 a.m., 8 a.m., 2 p.m. or 3 p.m.

and answer two more questions on

You could win the georgeous cruisin' with Crazy Al jacket offered!

Call 248-332-1460

1. The Shirelle's sang,"Will you love me

2. Who was Paul Simons singing partner? 3. Steppenwolf was born to be what?

Crazy Al's Radio Party
Truly the greatest rock and roll show you've ever heard! LISTENTO RARE ROCK AND ROLL ON

Oldies 1460 AM WPON Radio Oldies You Just Don't Hear Any Place Else! Crazy Al's Radio Party Mon.-Fri.6-9 a.m., afternoons 2-4 p.m. LISTEN ON THE WEB www.wpon.com

LA LUNA WORLD TOUR

IN CONCERT

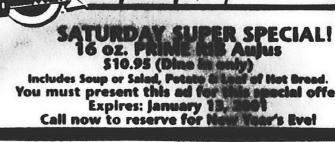
www.sarah-brightman.com

Saturday, March 17, 8 PM The Masonic Temple

> Tickets available now at all ticketmaster outlets. or charge at (248) 645-6666

27777 Schoolcraft • Livonia PRIME RIB in Herb Blanket, Premium Bar Package Continuous Entertainment Steve King and the Dittilles

(734) 427-9110 (734) 425-1430 Steak House If it ain't fun, we just don't do it! \$10.95 (Din



NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION at

Lavish Gourmet Buffet at Both Locations Featuring:

32350 W. 8 MILE . FARMINGTON (Between Merriman & Farmin Call 248-436

HOURS: MON. - SAT. 10:30 am - 2 am - 5UN. NOON - 2 am

\$50 200 mo **QUILT**

VOCA

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Gallery exhibits, art shows, classical concerts

MAKING CONTACT: Please submit items for publication, at least two weeks in advance of the event, to Noteworthy, The Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009 or fax (248) 644-1314

CALL FOR ARTISTS

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BLUE LAKES FINE ARTS CAMP Howmet Playhouse, a summer stock theater in western Michigan, is recruiting actors. teachers, directors and technical personnel for its 2001 season. Interested individuals should send a resume to: Kevin Wurz, Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp, 3000 East Crystal Lake, Twin Lake, Mi. 49457. The camp also has openings for counselors who live in cabins with students. For information, call (800) 221-3796 or write the Personnel Office, Blue Lakes fine Arts Camp, 300 E. Crystal Lake, Twin Lake, Mi. 49457. **CREATIVE ARTS CENTER**

Exhibit dates for the Journey into Jazz show are Feb. 16-March 31. Deadline for submission is Jan 11. Call the CAC at (248) 333-7849.

Chicago had cows, Cincinnati had pigs, and in 2001, Rochester will have sheep. The Downtown **Rochester Development Authority** is currently seeking sponors and artists for decorating lifesize fiberglass sheep. To request a sponsorship package or artist's application, contact the Rochester DDA or request online at www.theewerevue.com For information, call (248) 656-0060.

GROSSE POINTE THEATRE Auditions for You Can't Take it With You are 6:30-10:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 5 and 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 7 at Grosse Pointe Theatre Building, 315 Fisher, Grosse Pointe. Performances are March 7-11, 15-18 and 22-25. (810) 775-5329.

LAWRENCE STREET GALLERY Accepting proposals for exhibi-

tions in 2001. Mail proposals. slides, resumes to Lawrence Street Gallery, 6 N. Saginaw. Pontiac, 48232. Call Kris at (248) 360-2381 or the Gallery at (248) 334-6716.

LIVONIA YOUTH PHILHARMONIC Auditions for the 2000-2001 season are being held. Call Wendy Bernard at (734) 591-7649 for an appointment.

MICHIGAN FINE

ARTS COMPETITION The Rirmingham Bloomfield Art Center's competition will be juried by Detroit artist Brenda Goodman. Artists are invited to submit their fine art for the competition by Jan. 2, 2001. The exhibition date is March 9-31. For information call the BBAC at (248) 644-0866.

PAINT CREEK CENTER

(248) 651-4110.

FOR THE ARTS Seeks applications from artists interested in exhibiting fine arts or fine crafts at the juried Art & Apples Festival Sept. 8-9, 2001 in Rochester Municipal Park. The booth fee is \$325/\$375. Applications must be received by March 1, 2001. Entry fee is \$25. To obtain an application form, send a selfaddressed stamped envelope to Art & Apples Festival, 407 Pine Street, Rochester, Mi. 48307.

474-3174.

EISENHOWER

4030.

7444.

METRO DANCE

DANCE ENSEMBLE

D & M STUDIOS

Taking registration for holiday

workshops. Classes available at

three locations in Plymouth and

Canton. (734) 453-3710.

All levels of classes for recre-

ational and professional students,

including modern, ballet, pointe,

tap and jazz for children ages 3

between Crooks and Livernois,

Rochester Hills. (248) 852-5850.

Adult art classes 9 a.m. to noon

every Monday, Wednesday and

a.m. Monday-Friday. 15110 W.

Ten Mile, Oak Park. (248) 967-

KAMMUELLER DANCE CLASSES

Adult daytime summer ballet

classes Sundays through Fridays,

ages 16-60 years. Call Chris at

(248) 932-8699 or Mo at (248)

960-0778. Keego Harbor area.

Auditions are at 7:35 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 9 at Wilkinson

Middle School, 26524 John R.

Madison Heights. (248) 879-

Teen/adult hip-hop for ages 16

and up. Also, boys-only of

offered in hip-hop and ballet.

MADISON CHORALE

Friday. Woodcarving classes at 9

and older. 1541 W. Hamlin,

JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

PLYMOUTH SYMPHONY The Youth Artist Competition will be held on Sunday, Feb. 4 at Evola Music, 7170 N. Kaggerty, Canton. The competition is composed of three divisions: senior instrumental (grades 10-12), senior piano (grades 10-12) and junior division (combined instrumental and piano grades 7-9). Applicants must be music students in the school districts of Livonia, Northville, Novi. Plymouth-Canton, Van Buren or Wayne-Westlands, or be students at Evola music. Prizes from \$350-\$500. Applications due Jan. 15, 2001. For an application call (734) 451-2112 or e-mail ply-

QUILT PROJECT The Maniscalco Gallery calls for contributions to raise money for Karmanos Cancer Institute by contributing a square or sponsoring one. Quilt squares due by Dec. 20. For information, call Amanda Poland at (313) 886-

mouthsymp iony@sol.com.

VOCAL ARTS ENSEMBLE

Auditions for the a capella vocal group that performs at Renaissance feasts, concerts,

weddings, workshops and fundraisers are now taking place. For details, contact Cindy Keleman, business manager, at (313) 299-0451 or (734) 941-5955.

CLASSES

ART GALLERY STUDIO Classes by Lin Baum are available at 29948 Ford, Garden City. (734) 261-0379.

CENTER FOR CREATIVE STUDIES Fall continuing and community education classes are at the CCS campus in Detroit and at the Civic Center in Novi. For a schedule of classes or more information, call (313) 664-7456.

DETROIT BALLET Classes in child and adult classical ballet, tap and jazz. Adult beginners welcomed. Classes offered at the Betty Johnston **Dance Studio in Farmington Hills** at Folsom and Nine Mile. (248)

Fitness, strengthening and conditioning for skaters, gymnasts and dancers. Ballet and tap classes for adults. 541 S. Mill, Plymouth. (734) 207-8970. PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY

ARTS COUNCIL

Fall classes and workshops for all ages are available at the Joanne Winkleman Huice Center for the Arts, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth. For a brochure and list of events call (734) 416-4ART.

TOUCH OF LIGHT Taking applications for fall glassblowing classes. 23426 Woodward, Ferndale, (248) 543-1868

VISUAL ART

ASSOCIATION OF LIVONIA

Classes in watercolor, figurative drawing and painting; workshops in batik and watercolor monotypes at the Jefferson Center, Room 16, 9501 Henry Ruff, Livonia. (734) 455-9517.

Gallery exhibit

The center will be offering new youth courses for its winter session which begins Jan. 16. The new courses include My First Art Calss. Cretaceous Creations, **Potential Potters and Cartooning** 117 W. Liberty, Ann Arbor. (734) 994-8004, ext. 101.

EVOLA MUSIC Register for summer classes in Kindermusik (birth to 7 years old), piano (ages 6-12), percussion (ages 6-12), guitar (6-12) and violin (ages 7-14) at Evola Music, 7170 N. Haggerty, Canton. (734) 455-4677.

Enroll anytime for classes for newborns to age 7. Parents participate in classes for children under 3. Classes are held at the First Baptist Church of Plymouth, 45000 N. Territorial, Plymouth. Call Lori at (734) 354-9109. **VILLAGE MUSIC**

Registering children for

Glenn Barr and David Sandlin 4160 Woodward, Detroit. (313) 833-9901.

UNITY ARTS GALLERY Through Jan. 26 - Graduate works in progress. 150 Community Arts Building, Detroit. (313) 577-2423. JANICE CHARACH EPSTEIN GALLERY

Through Jan. 31 - Quilt and fiber exhibition. 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield. (248) 661-7641. **QALERIE BLU/UZELAC GALLERY**

Through Dec. 30 - Stephen Hansen. 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. (248) 332-5257. GALLERY 212

Through Dec. 27 — Chris Mars: Fairly Recent Work. 212 S. Main, Ann Arbor. (734) 665-8224. **HABATAT GALLERIES** Through Jan. 31 - Dale Chihuly.

7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. (248) 333-2060. HERMITAGE GALLERY

Through Dec. 31 - Paintings by S. Lee and Caballero and acrylic sculpture by Qama. 235 Main, Rochester. (248) 656-8559. SUSANNE HILBERRY GALLERY The gallery has relocated to a temporary storage and office space. Hours by appointment only until the new gallery space is ready. Our new phone number is (248) 541-4700.

ROBERT KIDD GALLERY Through Jan. 20 - Fritz Mayhew: New Paintings. 107 Townsend, Birmingham. (248) 642-3909. DAVID KLEIN GALLERY

Through Dec. 30 - A group show featuring William Glen Crooks, Brad Durham, Bart Elsbach, Rafael Perez, James Del Grosso, Roy Lichtenstein and Hans Hofmann, 163 Townsend. Birmingham. (248) 433-3700.

ARNOLD KLEIN GALLERY Through Jan 31 - Women in the foreground. The gallery will be closed Dec. 8- Jan. 2. 32782 Woodward, Royal Oak. (248) 647-7709.

LIVONIA CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY GALLERY

Through Dec. 28 - Spaces and Places by Sharon Weisswasser. Five Mile Road, east of Farmington.

OAKLAND COUNTY GALLERIA Friends of the Arts. Oakland County Executive Building, Pontiac. (248) 858-0415. **PEWABIC POTTERY**

Through Dec. 31 - Earthly Treasures annual holiday show. 10125 East Jefferson, Detroit. (313) 822-0954.

PIERCE STREET GALLERY Through Dec. 31 - Mary Keithan: Michigan Heritage Barns. 217 Pierce Street. Birmingham. (248) 646-6950. **PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY**

ARTS COLINCIL Through Dec. 30 - Dennis Jones stone sculpture and Marge Pacer photographs. 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth. (734) 416-4ART. POSTER GALLERY

Features theater posters and showcards at the Fisher Bldg., Detroit. (313) 875-5211.

Through Dec. 31 - June Lark Owen is the featured artist of the month. Summit Mail, Waterford. (248) 683-8779.

REVOLUTION GALLERY Through Jan. 6 - Ron Nagle: Recent Works. Also through Jan. 6 is One Paper III: Heathe McGill, Scott Richter and Amy Vogel. 23257 Woodward. Ferndale. (248) 541-3444

Through Dec. 31 - 87th annual gold medal exhibition. 217 Farnsworth, Detroit. (313) 831-

SOUTHFIELD CENTER FOR THE

Hatian art by Emily C. Hall. 24350 Southfield, Southfield (248) 424-9022.

Through Jan. 6 - Postcards from Home, photographs from Joe Crachiola and George Waldman 33 E. Adams, Detroit. (313) 963-

Through Jan. 13 — Figurative Suggestions: Woven, Knitted and Constructed Forms. 202 E. Third

Mrough Jan. 27 — Cli

754-1466.

S GALLERY Through Dec. 31 — Re-collect: Cranbrook Academy of Art. An exhibit highlighting the talents of three Cranbrook students, Perri Lynch, Emily Kennerk and Deborah Fisher. Huntington Woods Library, 26415 Scotia, Huntington Woods. (248) 543-

MARO GALLERY Through Jan. 12 - Mark Yamin Art Exhibit. 1357 Davis. Birmingham. (248) 642-1357.

MUSEUMS

NUBBURN TRA NOOS Through Feb. 4 - Double Flame: New work by Steve Murakishi. Through Jan. 7 - The Portrait in: Contemporary Photography. 39221 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. 1-877-GO-CRANBrook. (1) CRANBROOK INSTITUTE OF SCI. 1918.

9720.

Opens Dec. 26 - Museum South Mystery, Become a science wolfsleuth as you solve a mock crime - ... with experiments, evidence gath: ering and forensic science through Dec. 31. Through April 29 - Electric Space: Bolts, Jolts: and Volts from the Sun. 39221 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. 1-877-GO-CRANBrook.

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS 25.15. Through March 11 - Little Tressures: Northern and Italian Paintings of the 16th and 17th Centuries. Through Dec. 31 — Punch's Progress: A Century of American Puppetry.

Through Merch 4 — A Decade of itions 1900-2000: Photographs. Through Jan. 7 — Bill Dec. 31 - Pop Art: Prints and les from the DIA Collection. Through Dec. 30 - Small Wonder. The Fine Art of Woodworking: The * 3 Bohlen Collection. 5200 Woodward. Detroit. (313) 833-7900.

CHARLES H. WRIGHT MUSEJIM OF CHARLES H. WHIGHT HISTORY Through Jan. 21 - For Honor

and Valor: African Americans in 1 -2 the United States Military, 1775-1953. Through March 30 -Historical Themes, Tales and Legends: The Art of Jerry Pinkni 315 E. Warren, Detroit. (313) 494-5800.

MUSEUM OF NEW ART Stuff: An installation by lain Baxter and Very Similar a series' of nudes by Frank Horvath through Jan. 27. 19 N. Saginaw, ... Pontiac. (248) 210-7560. ADDIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN MUSEUM OF ART

Through Jan. 28 - Casting Shadows: Photographs by Edward West. Through Jan. 7 - William Kentridge: Weighing...and Wanting. Through Jan. 21 -Plant Life: Works from the Permanent Collection. Through Feb. 25 - Mark Rothko and the Lure of the Figure: Paintings 1933-1946.

THEATER

DETROIT REPERTORY THEATRE This Blood's For You through Dec. 31. 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. (313) 868-1347. GEM THEATRE

Late Night Catechism is through Feb. 11 Wednesday through Sunday nights. Escanaba in da"-Moonlight closes Dec. 31. The final two performances are at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Dec. 31. The Tropical Pickle will be opening Feb. 21 in the Gem. 333 Madison, Detroit. (313) 963-9800.

JEWISH ENSEMBLE THEATRE Twilight of the Golds by Jonathan Tolins runs through Dec. 31 at the Aron DeRoy Theatre, lower level of the JCC, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield. (248) 788-2900.

MEADOW BROOK THEATRE The annual tradition, A Christmas Carol, is through Dec. 24 at Oakland University, Rochester. (248) 377-3300.

ONY N' TINA'S WED

The comedy is at Harmonie Club Thursday-Sunday nights. No show Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. Two special shows are on New Year's Eve. Each features an expanded Italian supper and gne. Early show is at 5 p.m. for \$80. Later show is at 10 p.m. and is \$125. It also features appetizers, supper, a five band until 3 a.m. followed by a hot st. 311 E. Grand River, Detroit. (313) 961-5211.

years. Registration is also open for piano lab. 130 E. Liberty, Plymouth's Old Village. (734) 354-9825 SCARAR CLUB WEST BLOOMFIELD MUNITY EDUCATION Rita's music classes for parents and children ages 2 months to 4 years. For location and registra-1250. tion call (248) 539-2290. Through Jan. 3 -- An exhibition of GALLERY EXHIBITS (ON-GOING DS INTO PLOWS HAM SOCIETY Through Jan. 30 - The Oakland County's Office of Arts, Culture & ire the event at on House, 3741 S. A THE SYDARIS GALLERY treet, Royal Oak. (248) 544-

CONCERTS BIRMINGHAM BLOOMFIELD

Working tolks: Galerie Blu / Uzelac Gallery exhibits the paper mache

tled "Work, Work, Work." 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. (248) 332-5257.

sculptures of Stephen Hansen through Dec. 30. The piece shown is enti-

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Present Jazz up Your Holidays at 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 30 at Temple Beth El, 14 Mile and Telegraph Roads, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 645-BBSO.

Kristin Plater, a Boston-based singer/songwriter originally from Troy, performs 7:30-9:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 29. Borders, Oakland Mall, Troy.

Features live music, dancing and a late-night menu on Friday and Saturday evenings. A rotating rester of musicians, including vocalists Misty Love, Jennifer George-Consiglio and Johnnie Bassett. 333 Medison, Detroit. (313) 963-

CHRIST CHUNCH CHOOSE PORTE Recital before Midnight Mass it turing Bach's Christmas Oreton is at 10:30 p.m., \$ 24. 61 Grosse Pointe

BORDERS BOOKS

CENTURY CLUB

9800.

Kindermusik classes beginning

available for newborns through 8

the week of Jan. 22. Classes

BCCBNTRIC

Bagain Matinees Daily. All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Fri. Sat. THRU THURSDAY

IN DENOTES NO PASS INP ALL THE PRETTY HORSES (PG13) MON-THÜRS.11:40,2:10,4:50,7:30, NP CASTANNAY (PG13) 1200, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00;

IP PRACULA 2000 (II) 20 1:45, 4:20, 7:20, 9:45 SAMEY MAN (PG13) Se1:15, 4:00, 7:10, 9:55 CONCERNALITY (PG13) 1:40, 4:15, 7:15, 9:40 10:40 11:10, 1:20, 1:50, 4:00, 4:30 6-(1),7-25 9-40, 10:05; NP CRESSOR'S NEW GROOVE (G) 11:04-(50, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00; NP DUBL-WIERE'S NY CAR (PG13) 11:10, 1:10, 3:10, 5:15, 7:30, 9:30 ROOF OF LIFE (R)

VERTICAL LIMIT (PG13) 11:05,1:55,4:40, 7:15, 9:50 DUNCEONS & DRAGONS (PG13) 102 DALMATIONS (G) SUN. 10:30, 12:40, 2:50,5:00; MON-THURS.11:20, 1:40, 4:00 BUGBATS IN PARIS (G) 11:00,12:50, 2:40, 4:30 DR. SEUSS' HOW THE GRENCH STOLE

CHRISTINAS (PG) 11:15, 1:35, 4:10, 6:55, 9:25 CHARLE'S ANGELS (PG13) SUN. 7:05, 9:10

Michigan & Telegraph 313-561-3469 All Shows until 6 pm

Continuous Shows Dail Late Shows Fri. & Sat. THRU THURSDAY HP DENOTES NO PASS IP CASTAWAY (PC13) 12:00, 3:45, 6:45, 9:45 NP DRACULA 2000 (R) NP FAMILY MAN (PG13) 10:30, 1:15, 4:00, 7:10, 9:55 IP MISS CONCENIALITY (PC13) 11:15, 1:45, 4:15, 7:15, 9:40 MP EMPEROR'S NEW GROOVE (C 0:40, 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 7:00, 9:0 NP WHAT WOMEN WANT (PG13) 11:00, 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15 VERTICAL LIMIT (PG13) 10:45, 1:25, 4:20, 7:05, 10:05 STOLE CHRISTMAS (PC)

Showcase Pontiac 1-5 elegraph-Sq. Lake Rd. W Side of Telegraph 248-332-0241 Bargain Matinees Daily · All Shows Until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Thurs, Fn. & Sat. NP DENOTES NO PASS

NP CASTAWAY (PG13) 12:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00 NP WHAT WOMEN WANT (PG13 RUGRATS IN PARIS (G) PROOF OF LIFE (R) 102 DAI MATTANS (C) NP DR. SEUSS' HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS (PG)

11:40, 2:10, 4:40, 7:20, 9:40

Showcase Pontiac 6-12 2405 Telegraph Rd. East side o 810-334-6777 Bargain Matinees Daily

All Shows Until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Fn. & Sat NP DENOTES NO PASS NP ALL THE PRETTY HORSES (PG13

MON-THURS, 11:40, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30 10:00 NP DRACULA 2000 (R) 1:50, 4:20, 7:30, 10:00 HP FAMILY MAN (PG13) NP MISS CONGENIALITY (PG13) BULBATS IN PARIS (G) NP EMPEROR'S NEW GROOVE (G) NP DUDE, WHERE'S MY CAR (PG13)

SUN 11:20,1:10,3:10,5:10,7:15. VERTICAL LIMIT (PG13) UNBREAKABLE (PG13)

SUN 450, 7.40, 9.55 Quo Vadis Warren & Wayne Rds 313-425-7700 Bargain Matinees Daily

All Shows Until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Wed Thurs Fri. Sa NP DENOTES NO PASS NP ALL THE PRETTY HORSES (PG13) NP DRACULA 2000 (R)

HP DUDE, WHERE'S MY CAR (PG13) **DUNGEONS & DRAGONS (PG13)**

MON-THURS.3:50 SUN. 11:20, 1:40, 4:00 MON-THURS 11:20, 1:40, 4:00

BUGBATS IN PARIS (G) SUN. 11:25, 1:20, 3:05, 4:55; MON-THURS, 11:45, 1:45 MEET THE PARENTS (PG13) SUN. 6:55, 9:20 PROOF OF LIFE (II) MON-THURS 7:00, 9:45 VERTICAL LIMIT (PG13) 11:05, 1:35, 4:20, 6:50, 9:25 EAKABLE (PG13) 6:40, 9:10

> Showcase Westland 1-8 6800 Wayne Rd., One blk 5. of Warren Rd. 313-729-1060 Bargain Matinees Daily All Shows Until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily

Late Shows Wed. Thurs. Fri. & Sat. NP DENOTES NO PASS NP CASTAWAY (PG13) SUN. 10:30,12:30,1:25,3:30,4:20, 1:25,3:30,4:20,7:00,7:25,9:50,10:20 NP FAMILY MAIN (PG13) SUN. 10:30,1:15,4:00,6:40,9:15;

MON-THURS. 10:30, 1:15, 4:00, 7:20, NP NISS CONCENNALTY (PG13) SUN. 11:15, 1:45, 4:15, 6:30, 9:00; MON-THURS.11:15,1:45,4:15,7:15,

NP WHAT WOMEN WANT (PG13) SUN . 10:45, 11:15, 1:30, 2:00, 4:15 4:45, 6:45, 8:00, 9:15 MON-THURS, 10:45, 11:15, 1:30, 2:0 4:15 4:45, 7:10, 7:35, 9:55, 10:15 NP EMPEROR'S NEW GROOVE (G) SUN. 10:30, 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:45 9:00; MON-THURS.10:30, 12:30, 2:3

4:30,6:45, 9:00 DR. SEUSS' HOW THE CRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS (PG) SUN. 11:30,2:15, 4:40, 6:55, 9:10; MON-THURS.11:30,2:15,4:40,6:55, 9:15

Star Theatres The World's Best Theatres Bargain Matinees Daily \$5.00 All Shows Starting before 6:00 pm Now accepting Visa & MasterCard "NP" Denotes No Pass Engagement

Star Great Lakes Crossing Creat Lakes Shopping Center NP FINDING FORMESTER (PG13) MON-THURS. 12:05, 1:15, 3:05, 4:1 NP ALL THE PRETTY HORSES (PC13 MON-THURS.11:15, 1:45, 4:30, 7:10,

NP CASTANIAY (PC13) SUN: 11:00,12:00,1:00,2:00,3:00, 4:00; MON-THURS: 11:00, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 4:00, 5:00, 6:20, 7:15, 8:15, 9:20, 10:15 NO YIP TICKETS NP FAMILY MAN (PG13)

7:30, 9:00, 10:40 NO VIP TICKETS

NP MISS CONGEMALTY (PC13) SUN. 12:10 M 2:50, 5:20, MON-THURS. 12:10, 2:50 5:20, 7:40, 10:00 NO VIP TICKETS NP WHAT WOMEN WANT (PG13) SUN. 11:05, 11:50, 12:40, 1:40, 2:3 3:20, 4:20, 5:10; MON-THURS, 11:0

11:50, 12:40, 1:40, 2:30, 3:20, 4:20, 5:10, 6:00, 7:00, 7:50,8:40, 9:40, 10:30- NO VIP TICKETS NP DRACULA (R) SUN. 11:20, 12:30, 1:30, 2:40, 3:50 4:50; MON-THURS. 11:20, 12:30,

8:30, 9:30 NO VIP TICKETS NP EMPEROR'S NEW GROOVE (G) SUN. 11:35, 12:35, 1:35, 2:45, 3:45 4:45; MON-THURS. 11:35, 12:35, 1:35, 2:45, 3:45, 4:45, 5:50,6:50, 8:05, 9:10

NO VIP TICKETS NP DUDE WHERE'S MY CAR (PG13) SUN 12:25, 2:25, 4:25; MON-THUR 12:25, 2;L25, 4:25, 6:25, 7:25, 8:20

9.25, 10:20- NO VIP TICKETS **NP DUNGEONS & DRAGONS (PG13** UNDREAKABLE (PC13) SUN. 11:40, 2:20, 5:35, MON-THURS. 11:40, 2:20 5:35 7:55, 10:25 102 DALMATIONS (G)

THE GRINCH (PG) SUN. 11.45, 1.15, 2.10, 4.10, 4.55, MON-THURS. 11.45, 2.10, 4.55, 7.35 BILLY ELLIOT (R)

BOUNCE (PG13) MON-THURS 6:30 8:50 VERTICAL LIMIT (PG13) RUGRATS IN PARIS (G)

PROOF OF LIFE (R) SUN. 12:55, 3:55, MGN-THURS 12.55, 3:55, 6:55, 9:55

Star John-R at 14 Mile 248-585-2070 ALL FOR SATURDAY SHOWTIMES No one under age 6 admitted for C13 & A rated films after 6 p

NP ALL THE PRETTY HORSES (PG13 10 45-NO VIP TICKETS NP CASTAWAY (PG13) 1215 215, 340, 600, 7:20, 30, 10:30, NO VIPTICKETS NP FAMILY MAN (PG13)

NP MISS CONGENIALITY (PG13) 30, 200, 430, 700, 920 NO VIPTICKETS NP CHOCOLAT (PG13)

IP THE EMPEROR'S HERY CROOVE

11:35 1:45, 3:50,6:10,8:30,10:20 -NO VP TICKETS NO VP TC.RES IP DUDE VINITE'S INT CAN (PG13) 12:40, 255, 5:40, 7:40, 9:50; VIERTCAL LIMIT (PG13) 12:30 3:15, 6:15, 9:10; DUNCEROUS AUD DRACONS (PG13) SIAL 11:50, 2:40, 5:10, 7:35, 10:10; ALON TAUS CAPE, 10:10;

MON-THURS.4:00, 9:15 PROOF OF LIFE (II) 11:40,3:00,6:20,9:40 EALABLE (PG13) 5:30, 8:00, 11:00 THE GRINCH (PG) SUN. 12:20, 1:30, 2:50, 4:00, 5:20, MON-THURS. 12:20, 1:30,2:50,5:20,6:30,7:50,10:20

11:45, 1:35, 3:25 Star Bochester Hills 200 Barclay Circle 240-853-2260

SUNDAY THRU THURSDAY No one under age 6 admitted for PG 13 & R rated films after 6 pm NP CASTAWAY (PG13) SUN. 12:40, 3:50; MON-THURS 12:40,3:50, 7:00, 10:05 NO VIP TICKETS

NO VP TICKETS

NP FAMILY MAN (PG123)

SUN. 11:00, 1:40, 4:30, MONTHURS 11:00, 1:40, 4:30, 7:10,
10:15-NO VP TICKETS

NP MESS CONCERNALITY (PG13)
SUN. 11:40, 2:15, 5:05, MONTHURS 11:40, 2:15, 5:05, 7:40,
10:10-NO VI P TICKETS

NP DRACULA (R) SUN. 11:40, 2:15, 5:05; MON-THURS. 11:05, 1:20, 3:40, 6:00, 8:15 10:30 - NO VIP TICKETS NP WHAT WOMEN WANT (PG13) SUN. 11:05,2:00,4:40;MON-THURS 11:15, 2:00, 4:40, 7:30, 10:25 EMPEROR'S NEW GROOVE (C)

SUN: 10:55, 12:55, 2;55, 4:55;MON-THURS 10:55, 12:55, 2:55, 4:55, 6:50, 9:00 DUDE WHERE'S MY CAR? (PG13) SUN.11:30,1:30,4:00;MON-THURS. 11:30, 1;30, 4:00, 6:15 8:30, 10:55 VENTICAL LIMIT (PG13) SUN.11-50, 2-30, 5-10-MON-THURS 11-50,2-30,5-15,7-50,10-35

PROOF OF LIFE (II) SUN.2:40;MON-THURS 2:40, 7:50 UNDREAKABLE (PG13) SUN. 12:00; MON-THURS 12:00,5:25,10:40 THE GROCH (PG) SUN.11:10, 1:50, 4:20;MON-THURS11:10,1;50,4:20,7:10,9;50 WOENT DISCOUNT NOW AWAILABLE WITH

Star Southfield
12 Mile between Telegraph and 244-353-5TAR No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm

FOR SHOWTIMES AND TO CALL 248-372-2222 www.STAR-SOUTHFIELD.com NP FEATURES - SORRY NO VI DISCOUNTTICKETS ACCEPTED

NP FINDING FORRESTER (PG13) MON-THURS. 11:00, 11:45, 2:00, 2:45, 5:00, 6:00, 8:15, 9:00 NP ALL THE PRETTY HORSES (PG13) MON-THURS, 11:00, 1:30, 4:15,

7:00, 10:00 NP CASTAWAY (PG13) SUN.11:00.12:00,12:40,1:20,2:15 3:15,4:00,4:45,5:30;MON-THURS 11:00,12:00,12:40,1:20,2:15,3:15 4:00,4:45,5;30,6:30,7:15,8:00,

NP FAMILY MAIN (PG13) SUN. 12:15, 1:00 3:00, 4:00; MON THURS. 12:15, 1:00, 3:00, 4:00, 6:15, 7:15, 9:15, 10:15 NP MISS CONCEMALITY (PG13) SUN. 11:45, 2:30, 5:15; MON-THURS.11:45,2;30,3:15,7:50,10:30 NP WHAT WOMEN WANT (PG13) SUN: 11:00,12:45,1:45,3:45,4:45; 3:45 4:45 6:45 7:30 9:30 10:30

NP EMPEROR'S NEW GROOVE (G) SUN. 11:00,12:00,1:00,2:00,3:10, 4:10,5:10; MON-THURS 11:00, NP DUDE WHERE'S MY CAR (PG13 SUN. 11:30, 12:20, 2:00, 2:45, 4:15, 5:15; MON-THURS. 11:30 2:00. 4:15. 6:45. 9:00

102 DALMATIONS (G) 12:00, 2:30, 5:00

UNBREAKABLE (PG13) MON-THURS 7:30, 10:30

THE GRINCH (PG)

VERTICAL LIMIT (PG13) SUN 11:00, 12:30, 1:40, 3:30, 4:40, MON-THURS, 11:00, 1:40, PROOF OF LIFE (R) DUNCEONS AND DRAGONS MON-THURS, 9:50 PM ONLY

CHARLE'S ANGELS (PG13) 11:15, 1:45, 4:30; MON-THURS 1:55, 2:35, 5:25, MON-THU 55, 2:35, 5:25, 8:00, 10:45

111 15,12 15,1 45,2 45,4 30, 5 30, MON-THURS.11 15, 12:15,1 45,245 4 30,5 30,7 00, RUGRATS IN PARIS (C) CHARLIE'S ANGELS (PG13) SUN. 12:30,3:00, 5:30; MON THURS 10:30 PM ONLY

> United Artists Theatres argain Matinees Daily, for all show starting before 6 00 PM Same day advance tickets available NV - No V.I.P. tickets accepted **United Artists** West River

One Block West of Middlebelt 248-788-6572 ALL TIMES SUN-THUR FAMILY MAN (PG13) NV SUN 11 30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, MON 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:15, TUES-THURS, 11:30, 2:10, 4:50,

CASTAWAY (PG13) NV SUN 1230, 340, 650, MON. 340, 650, 10:00, TUES-THURS MISS CONGENIALITY (PG13) NV

SUN 1210240510740 MON 220440710540 TUSSTHUB 12102405107401010

VISI CRANEN PRESENTS BRACKA 2000 (SUN. 12-10,2-01,5-10,7-40; MON 2-20,4-40,7-10 9-40; TUES-THURS. 11-50, 2-20,4-40,7-10,9-40 CRETINGE'S IRRIV GROOVE (G) INV SUN. 11-40,1-30,3-30,5-30,7-25; MON. 3-30,5-30,7-25,9-20,TUES-THURS.11-40,1-30,3-30,5-30,7-25, 9-20

WHAT WOMEN WANT (PG13) NV SUN-12-20, 3-10, 7-00-MCN, 3-10, 7-00, 9-45; TUES-THURS, 12-20, 3-10, 7-00, 9400 - WHINEP'S INT CAR (PG13) IN SUN. 12-50, 300, 5:15, 7:15; MON 3:00 5:15, 7:15, 9:25; TUES-THURS. 12-50, 3:00, 5:15, 7:15, 9:25

VERTICAL LIMIT (PG13) SUN. 1:00, 4:00, 6:45; MON. 4:00, 6:45, 9:30; TUES-THURS 1:00, 4:00,6:45, 9:30 THE CHRICH WHO STOLE CHRISTIANS (PG13) SUN. 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:20; MON. 2:30, 5:00, 7:20, 9:50; TUES-THURS. 12:00, 2:30, 5:00,7:20, 9:50

3330 Springvale Drive Adjacent to Home Depot North of the intersection of 14 Mile &

Haggerty 246-968-5801 Bargain Matinees Daily for all Shows starting before 6 pm Same Day Advance Tickets Available NV-No VP Tickets Accepted ALL THE PRETTY HORSES (PG13) NV MON-THURS 10:50,1:30,4:20,7:30,

CASTANNAY (PG13) NV SUN. 10:30, 12:30, 1:40, 3:40, 4:55, 7:00, 8:10, 10:20; MON. -THURS. 10:30, 12:30,

MISS CONCENALTY (PG13) NV SUN. 11:25,2:05,4:50,7:35,10:05;MON.-THURS.11:25,2:05,4:50,7:35, 10:05 WES CRAVEN PRESENTS DRACULA 2000

(R) NV SUN. 11:00, 1:20, 3:45, 6:05 8:20, 10:45; MON. -THURS. 11:00, 1:20, 3:45, 6:05, 8:20, 10:45 DUDE, WHERE'S MY CAR (PG13) NV SUN. 11:55, 2:00, 4:10, 6:10, 8:15, 10:30; MON.-THURS. 11:55, 2:00, 4:10

6:10, 8:15, 10:30 BAPEROR'S NEW CROOVE (G) NV SUN. 10:45, 12:45, 2:45, 4:45, 6:55, 8:50; MON.-THURS. 10:45, 12:45, 2:45, 4:45, 6:55, 8:50 WHAT WOMEN WANT (PG13) NV 10:40, 11:40, 1:25, 2:30, 4:15, 5:30, 7:10, 8:30, 10:00

PROOF OF LIFE (II) SUN. 10:50, 1:30, 4:20, 7:30, 10:25; MON.-THURS 5:00,7:25, 10:45 VERTICAL LIMIT (PG13) JN. 10:30 1:05 3:50,6:45, 9:25; MON. THURS. 10:30,1:05,3:50,6:45, 9:25 102 DALMATIONS (C) SUN. 10:35, 12:40, 3:05, 5:10; MON. THURS 10:35, 12:40, 3:05, 5:10

HOW THE CARNCH STOLE CHRISTMAS 4:30 7:00, 9:30

9:30, 10:40; MON. -THURS 11:20, 1:50, BUGRATS IN PARIS (G) 1:10, 1:35, 3:35; MON-THURS . 10:55, 1:00, 3:00

Birmingham Theatre 211 S. Woodward Downtown Birmingham 644-FILM

NP Denotes No Pass Engagement PURCHASE TICKETS BY PHONE! CALL (248) 644-FILM AND HAVE YOUR VISA MASTERCARD OR AMERICAN EXPRESS READY. A 51¢ SURCHARGE PER TICKET WILL APPLY TO ALL TELEPHONE SALES MATINEE MOVIES \$5.25

NP THE FAMILY MAN (PG13) SUN. 12:30, 3:35; MON-THURS 12:30 IN CASTAWAY (PG13) 1:00, 4:00; MON-THURS. 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50

NP WHAT WOMEN WANT (PG13) SUN. 12:45, 3:50; MON-THURS. 12:45 MP ALL THE PRETTY HORSES (PG13) MON-THURS 12:00:2:25.4:50,7:30 9:5 NP MISS CONCEMALITY (PG13) SUN. 12:05, 2:20, 4:35; MON-THURS 12:05, 2:20, 4:45 7:20, 9:35

NP STATE AND MAIN (PG13) 12:00, 2:10, 4:30, 6:50, 9:05 NP THE EMPEROR'S NEW GROOVE (C) SUN. 12:10, 2:15, 4:15; MON-THURS

VERTICAL LIMIT (PG13) SUN. 1:10, 3:45, MON-THURS 1:10, 3 40, 6 30, 9 05 DR. SEUSS' HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTINAS (PG) BUGRATS IN PARIS: THE MOVIE (C)

> 11:35 AM MJR Theatres Brighton - Cinemas 9 96 Exit, Grand River 810-227-4700 Call 77-Film Est. 548 NP CASTAWAY (PG13)

SUN 12:00, 1:00, 3:00, (4:00 @ \$4:00) MON-THURS 12:00, 1:00, 3:00 (4:00 @ NP DRACULA 2000 (R) SUN 1:10 (4:45 @\$4.00) MON THURS 1:10(4:45@\$4:00)7:20 NP MISS CONCENALITY (PC13) SUN. 11:40,2:00, (4:30 @ \$4.00) MON-THURS 11:40, 2:00 (4:30 @ \$4:00

HP FAMILY MAN (PG13) SUN 12 40, (4 10 @ \$4,00); MON-THURS, 12:40 (4 10 @ \$4,00) 6:50, 9:40 NP THE EMPEROR'S NEW CACOVE (G) SUN. 11-30, 1-30, 3-30, (5-30 @ \$4-00) MON-THURS 11-30, 1-30, 3-30 (5-30 @ \$4 00)7 30, 9:30 NP WHAT WOMEN WANT (PG13)

SUN: 12 50 (4 00 @ \$4 00); MON-THURS 12 50 (4 00 @ \$4 00) 7 00, 9 55 VERTICAL LIMIT (PG13) SUN. 1:15 (4:15 @ \$4.00) MON-THURS 1:15, (4:15 @ \$4.00 DR. SEUSS: HOW THE GRINCH STOLE

CHRISTIANS (8) SUN. 11:45, 2:20 (5:00 @ \$4.00); MON-THURS. 11:45, 2:20 (5:00 @

Waterfeel Chema 16 7501 Highland Rd. S.E. comer M-59 & Williams Lake Rd. 24 Hour Movie Line 240-466-7900

CALL 77 PLMS #551 We've tripled our lobby and added five new screens. The only theatre in Ouldand County with the new Dolby digital EX sound system and more...Check us Out! Our expanded parking lot is now open Free Refill on Popcom and Pop NP ALL THE PRETTY HORSES (PG13), MON-THURS. 1:15 (4:20 @ 54.00)

MORE-TROUS, 1:15 (4:20 @ 94:00)
7:00, 9:50
10 (ASTAINMY (PG13)
12:00, 1:00, 3:00 (4:00 @ 54:00) 6:30,
7:00, 9:30, 10:00
10 FARMY MAIN (PG13)
11:10, 1:10, 2:00 (4:00, 4:40 @
54:00) 6:40, 7:20, 9:30, 10:00
100 MRS COMCENNALTRY (PG13)

NP MESS CONCERNALITY (PG13) 11:10.1:45, (4:20 @ \$4.00) 6:50, 9:20 NP DRACULA 2000 (R) 12:10, 3:00 (5:30 @ \$4:00) 7:45, 9:55 NP WHAT WOMEN WANT (PC13) SUN. 11:15, 1:00, 2:00 (4:00, 4:40 @ \$4.00) 6:40,7:20, 9:20, 10:00 NP THE EMPEROR'S NEW GROOVE (C 11:20, 1:20, 3:20, (5:20 @ \$4.00)

NP DUDE, WHERE'S MY CAR (PG13) SUN. 12:15, 2:20 (4:50 @ \$4.00) 7:15

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS (PC13) SUN. 9:00 MON-THURS. 10:00 PROOF OF LIFE (R) VERTICAL LIMIT (PG13) 12:50 (4:10 @ \$4.00) 6:45,9:20,

102 BALMATIONS (G) SUN. 11:40,1:50, (4:15, @ \$4:00) 7:00 MON-THURS 11:40, 1:50 (4:15, @ \$4.00) UNGREAKABLE (G13) SUN. 1:20 (4:30 @ \$4.00); MON-

DR. SEUSS: HOW THE GRENCH STOLE CHIISTMAS (G) SUN. 11:30, 12:00, 1:50, 2:30 (4:15, 5:10 @ \$4.00) 6:45, 7:40, 9:15, 10:00 MON-THURS. 11:30, 12:00, 1:50, 2:30, 4:15, 5:15 @ \$4.00) 6:45,7:40, THE BUGBATS IN PARIS: THE MOVE

11:15,1:15,3:15 (5:15 @ \$4.00) Visa & Mastercard Accepted

Main Art Theatre III 118 Main at 11 Mile Royal Oak 248-542-0180 call 77-FILMS ext 542 (DISCOUNTED SHOWS!!!)
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE BOX

OFFICE OR PHONE 248-542-0180 VISA AND MASTERCARD ACCEPTED QUILLS (R) MON-THURS. (1:00 4:00) 7:00, 10:00 YOU CAN COUNT ON ME (R)

A HARD DAY'S NIGHT (G) SUN. (1:45 4:00) 6:45 MON-THURS (1:15 3:45) 6:45, 9:30 Maple Art Theatre III

4135 W. Maple, West of Telegraph 248-855-9090 CHOCOLAT (PG13) SUN (1:30 4:15) 7:00 MON-THURS. (1:30 4:15) 7:00, 9:30 BILLY ELLIOTT (R) SUN.(1:45 4:30) 7:15 MON-THURS (1:45 4:30) 7:15, 9450 STATE AND MAIN (R) SUN. (2:00 4:45) 7:30

MON-THURS (2:00 4:45) 7:30, 10:00 Oxford 7 Cinemas, LLC. Downtown Oxford Lapeer Rd. (M-24) (248) 628-7101 Fax (248) 628-1300

AMC Livonia 20 Haggerty & 7 Mile 734-542-9909 Call theatre for Features and Times.

\$1.00 Ford Tel \$1.50 313-561-7200 AFFORDABLE FAMILY PRICES \$1.00 Til 6 pm After 6 pm \$1.50 Ample Parking - Telford Center Free Refill on Drinks & Popcom SUN. No children under 6 after 6 pr except on G or PG rate films)
MATINEES DAILY YOUR BEST \$1.00 AND \$1.50 MOVIE BUY HAPPY HOLIDAYS

NO SHOWS MONDAY. MATINEES BEGIN MONDAY 12/25 EMEMBER THE TITANS (PG13) SPACE COWBOYS (PG13) MON 5:00 7:00 9:30 TUES-THURS 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:30

(313) 846-6910

TOGETHER

CASTAWAY (PG13)

BEDAZZLED (G13)

Ford Wyoming Drive in Theatre Children under 12 are Free Electric In-Car Heaters ALWAYS TWO BIG PICTURES DRACULA 2000 (R) LEGEND OF DRUNKEN MASTER (8)

THE CRINCH (PC UNDREARABLE (PG13 DUDE, WHERE'S MY CAR (PG13) MEN OF HONOR (R) MOVIES START AT DUSA

Residency at a prison infirmary inspires doctor's medical thriller

Sterile Justice By Gene Rontal Sterlinghouse, \$11.95

BY HUGH GALLAGHER

When Gene Rontal was a young resident doctor, he performed surgery at a state prison in Minnesota. It was there that a frightening discovery became the inspiration for Rontal's medical thriller, "Sterile Justice."

The infirmary at the prison was operated by inmates, working with a couple nurses and the

visiting doctors. "I noted the high number of infections with patients," Rontal said. "It turned out that if the inmates didn't like the guy on the table, they didn't sterilize the instruments.

The original paperback thriller is a swift moving, intriguing cross-country chase involving a doctor trying to keep one step ahead of the law to save his already damaged reputation and find out who has been spreading a deadly bacteria.

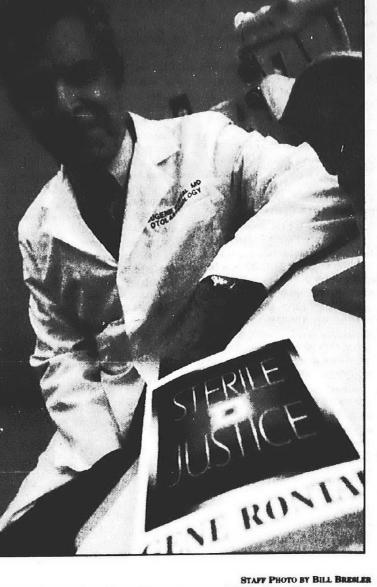
Though the first published, "Sterile Justice" is actually Rontal's second book featuring Dr. Ben Dailey, with a third already finished. Dailey shares a specialty in otolarnygology (head and neck surgery) with Rontal and is Rontal's age. But Dailey leads a more troubled life than Rontal, who has operated a clinic with his brother, Dr. Michael Rontal, in Farmington Hills for the past 28 years.

"I wrote another book, 'Deathwire.' In the first book Ben Dailey is accused of killing a patient and there's a malpractice suit, Rontal said. "His practice went to nothing, his marriage failed. He was reduced to giving physicals for an insurance company and living in sailboat in St. Clair

In the new book, Dailey is still living in his sailboat, even as winter weather is coming. He's doing malpractice investigations for an insurance company. An old nemesis is accused of killing a young boy by not properly keeping the operating environment sterile. But soon the suspicion shifts to Dailey and someone ends up dead, setting the doctor on a search for the mur-

derer. Dailey is different than your standard thriller hero, who is usually a lawyer in his early to mid-30s. Dailey is a doctor in his early 50s, who shares some qualities with his creator.

"It is written in the first person, the points of view are ideas of mine," Rontal said. "But I den't have the strength or energy to chase after criminals. I wanted a guy who had fallen from grace. I wanted a guy with foibles, flaws. A guy gets flaws by living, 45, 50, 55, you realize



Doctor turned author: Farmington Hills Dr. Gene Rontal is the author of "Sterile Justice," the first published in a series of books about a doctor who gets himself in and out of trouble.

some things about life." Other characters are not biographical, though the characters in the Minnesota prison are based on those Rontal knew. Dailey's girlfriend and his pursuer Lt. Sennett are fictional. The city of Detroit is real, but some of the suburbs are given

aliases as well. Doctors aren't usually involved in the kind of adventure that Dailey encounters.

"The difficult part was putting a doctor in a mystery situation, Rontal said. "Doctors aren't usually in a mystery situation. Doctors aren't usually detectives. But by having him handle malpractice suits, that's an area where the legal and medical come together. He sees things

Rontal has done his share of investigating, but the medical kind. He obtained his medical degree from the University of Michigan and did his residency

that are just and unjust."

at the University of Minnesota. He has written more than 50 scientific articles and teaches at the University of Michigan Medical school. His specialty is the throat and he works with a number of professional singers. His interest in singing was one reason for choosing his unusual specialty.

"It's a small area of medicine. but very important," Rontal said. The doctor is looking to have

the first and third books in the Dailey series published. The third book, "Blood Games," concerns the use of a paralyzing

Rontal and his wife, Ellen, live in Bloomfield Hills. His daughter, Sara, works for an Internet company is New York. His son, David, is a sophomore at the University of Michigan majoring in political science.

Though he doesn't want to rush things, Rontal admits he has the perfect candidate to play Dailey in a movie version - the gracefully aging Harrison Ford.

ART BEAT

Art Beat features various happenings in the suburban art world. Send Wayne County arts news leads to Art Beat, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia MI 48150, or fax them to (734) 591-7279.

CALL FOR MUSICIANS The Plymouth Symphony Orchestra, in collaboration with Evola Music, is looking for middle and high school students to enter its Youth Artist Competition. Each year the Plymouth Symphony recognizes young orchestral talent from the greater Plymouth-Canton and surrounding communities with scholarship awards.

This year's competition will be held Sunday, Feb. 4, at Evola Music in Canton. Comprised of three divisions: senior instrumental (grades (10-12), senior piano (grades 10-12), and junior division (combined instrumental and piano grades 7-9), the competition awards \$1,350 and possibly an opportunity to perform

with the Plymouth Symphony. Applicants must be piano, band or orchestra students in the school districts of Livonia, Northville, Novi, Plymouth-Canton, Van Buren (Belleville), Wayne-Westland, or be students at Evola Music.

Deadline for applications. which are available through the Plymouth Symphony, are due Jan. 15. Past participants are encouraged to reapply, however, musicians are eligible to win only one first prize award in each division.

For an application or more information, contact Darlene Dreyer at (734) 451-2112 or by email

plymouthsymphony@aol.com. Applications are also available by visiting the Web site www.plymouthsymphony.org.

PUPPET SHOWS The Detroit Institute of Arts is hosting the final shows in the Puppet Festival which is being held in conjunction with the exhibit Punch's Progress: A Century of American Puppetry. The exhibit, continuing through Sunday, Dec. 31, brings to life 100 marionettes, rod, shadow and hand puppets from 1850 to 1950.

museum admission of \$4 adults. \$1 children, call (313) 833-7900 for information Puppet shows are 3 p.m. Saturday-Sunday until Dec. 31, and Tuesday-Sunday, Dec. 26-31. The cost is \$4, \$2 for children

No charge with suggested

age 12 and under, discounts for Founders Society members. Evening performances (recommended for children age 13 and up) conclude with Redmoon Theatre presenting The Hunchback of Notre Dame 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 29-30. Tickets \$18, \$15 members. Call (313)

Drop-in puppet workshops noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 24 and 31, and noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, Dec. 26-30.

The Detroit Institute of Arts is located at 5200 Woodward Avenue.

NEW YEAR JUBILEE

annual New Year Jubilee 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 31. The drug- and alcohol-free family event will be held in a dozen different venues throughout historic Ypsilanti. Entertainers will perform blues, jazz, big band, country, calypso, reggae, folk, comedy, and storytelling. There will also be clowns and

dancing. Food and beverages will

Ypsilanti will host its ninth

be available at many of the sites. Performers include Plymouth musician Matt Watroba, comedian O.J. Anderson, jazz artists Mr. B and Sheila Landis, children's music by Gemini and Julie Austin, storytelling by Barbara Shutz-Gruber, and the comedic a cappella quartet Three Men and a Tenor

Admission is \$15 in advance, \$20 after Dec. 25, \$5 for children ages 6-12, children under five free. For tickets, call (734) 483-4444 or (734) 995-7281. For information on the program visit Web the site

www.ypsilanti.org.

FUND-RAISER The Plymouth Community Chorus is raising funds by selling the Entertainment Ultimate Book. Each book contains hundreds of two-for-one and 50 percent discounts on dining, travel, shopping, movies, special events, sports and more

The cost is \$40. Call Stan Kovacheff at (734) 459-6829.

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BOX 2





Call 1-900-454-5566 \$2.19 per min. \$2.19/call connection fee

YOUNG AT HEART Divorced, honest, sincere, attractive, white female in my 80's with a great sense of humor. I enjoy slow dancing, movies, and sharing time with family and friends. Looking for a single male, 59 to 65, who is healthy, attractive, with a big heart.

A SENTIMENTAL PERSON Old fashioned divorced white female, sentimental person, 53, 5'6", 140 lbs, shy, non-emoker, care about my health and exercise regularly. Enjoys walks in the park, quiet special times, outdoors, boating, camping, travel and more. Family oriented. Easygoing, caring, giving person. No games please BOX 10748

TRUST IS THE KEY Divorced white female, 40, medium build, sandy blond hair, green eyes, nurse with day shift, 3 chil-dren, enjoys walks, the beach, the country, and more. Seeking 5'10" life, is family oriented, to build of strong friendship and possible long term. BOX 10755

OPEN YOUR HEARTI Single white female, 46, petite, honest and sincere, enjoys dancing, sports, travel, working out, and friendship, possible long term rela-tionship. BOX 13749

BASIC INFORMATION 43 yr old, 5'8", full figured, blonds hair, brown eyes, mother of 14 yr son, homeowner, nurse. Seelding someone who is tall, who enjoys going to concerts wings BOX 14026 concerts and the red-

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ARE YOU OUT THERE? Single white female, 42, blond hair, green eyes, 110 lbs, attractive, with grown children, smoker, social grown children, smoker, social drinker, enjoys going north, water, relaxing at home, dining out, seekenjoy quality time with, possible long term relationship. BOX 14041

COMPANION WANTED for a single male, 38 to 44, fo companionship. BOX 32476

YOU MIGHT BE THE ONE 25 yr old, single white female with hazel eyes and brown hair. Looking good times, conversations, and maybe more, BOX 32575

LIGHTEN UP MY LIFE Single white Christian female, 39, 58°, full figured, long brown hair, and blue eyes Interests are jazz. Christian music, old cars, long walks, and more Looking for a sindle white Christian male common service. gle white Christian male, easygo-ing, 5'9" to 6'4", who knows how to treat a lady. BOX 10709

DREAMS 51 yr old, single female, believes in romance, enjoys simple pleasures Seeking a kind, sincere, single of divorced male, 46 to 60, non-smok-er, with similar interests, for a long Down River area. BOX 14471

DOCTOR WANTED

Christina Aguilera look alire, masters degree. Seeking a single
MD/PHD, 25 to 39, no drugs,
healthy, modest, fit, positive attitude, romantic, loves animals,
intellectual, who would make me
their world, for quiet times, wanting
marriage. You will not be disappointed BOX 10872 DOCTOR WANTED

QUALITY, QUALITY Seeking a sincere, honest, no games played, non-smoking, social drinking, single white male by a divorced white female, 54, who likes to do almost everything Looking for friendship, companionship or something long term side. Wayne County. BOX 25333

NEW BEGINNINGS NEW BEGINNINGS
Divorced white mother of three, 35
brown hair and eyes, 5°T, average
build Enjoys camping, outdoor
activities, movies and dinners
Looking for a white male, 40 to 45,
who is carring, loves children, outgoing, good sense of humor and
similar interests. Friendship and
openible, relationship. possible relationship. Wayne

County BOX 33625 FIRST TIME AD

Divorced Native American female, 38 yr old, 5'10", 150 lbs, long brown hair, brown eyes. Seeking white male, 6' plus, 38 plus, honest, who loves the outdoors, smoker and social dinnker olday, for long term relationship. erm relationship. Wayne county BOX 25335 LET'S TALK

Divorced, white female, 5', 40 yr, mother of three children, social drinker, smoker, Enjoys the outdoors, camping, hiking, fishing, sit-ting in front of the fireplace with a good movie. If interested please respond BOX 32632

SPICE OF LIFE

5'6". 140 lbs, long brownish red hair, independent, romantic, who enjoys dancing, shooting pool, bowling, race cars, outdoors, or a quiet evening at home watching movies Looking for a man, 35 to 45, who's romantic and enjoys some of the same interests, Down River Area BOX 33514 TALL ORDER

Attractive, 5'10", redhead, Catholic, hir loving adventurous romantic. Comfortable in jeans to evening gown Loves sports, travel, theatre, gournet cooking, (for that special man) Seeks tall white gentleman, financially/emotionally secure, 49 to 60, who is romantic, kind, has a good cense of humor, with similar interests. Oakland County. BOX 25353

Single white female, 82, 5'3", medium build, enjoys casinos, denoing, fine dining in outdling. Seeking a white gentlemen. how to treat a lady. BOX

READY FOR ROMANCE Attractive, single black female, 40 plus, light smoker social drinker. Serlously thinking of warm kisses on cool nights. Loves movies, din ing in or out, and long massages. In search of a sweet loving, single white male, 5'10" or over. Fo friendship and more, age open

A LADY OF CLASS Vivacious, upbeat, very attractive, blonde female, a professional, 5°7°, 115 lbs, upper 80's, seeking soul mate counter part, 60's, a professional, for dating, possible long term relationship. Call me and see

GEMINE GEM

52 yr old, white female, non-smok-er, giving, loving, and lots of fun, loves life. Looking for a sincere, successful, secure, stable, loving. Caucasian gentleman, non-smok-er, 45 to 60, who's positive and loves life as much as I do. Go for the genuine gem, your life will be worth living, answer my ad today. BOX 25326

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL... ...with a friend. 35 yr old, black, beautiful female, 5'9", 140 lbs, seeking White/Italian professional, ne male, 30 to 35, for

NEVER TOO LATE Falls here, let's go for it. Divorced white female, 66, 5'4", 140 lbs. and outgoing, enjoys the outdoors, travel, music, dancing and more. Seeking a single gentleman with a good sense of humor and similar erests. BOX 25991

SOMEONE TO SPOIL ME Seeking someone to have fun with, must love animals. Single white female, mother, 40, 5'5', 150 lbs., blonde, smoker, occasional drinker, no drugs. Enjoys the outdoors, rid-

Attractive, trim, optimistic, blue eyed, blende divorced white female, 88, 5'6", affectionate, seeks possible long term relationship with non-smoking, degreed honest outgoing white gentleman, 48-62, who enjoys travel, golf, romantic times, and the Arts. Oakland County, BOX 25321

IT'S TIME Not perfect, single white mom, 48, sweet, funny, attractive enough, seeking genuine, sincere, white male, single perent, 50 to 56, hardworking, non-smoker, for friendly dating. Oakland County area, pre-

terred BOX 25323 SOUL MATE Cute, divorced white female, 55, blond hair, blue eyes, good build, who likes dancing, travel, tneaters,

long walks and even quiet times. Seeking white male, 50 to 62, financially and emotionally secure, with similar interest. Give me a call, you won't be sorry. Macomb County BOX 25327 LOOKING FOR A FRIEND Giving, loving, compassionate, petite, attractive lady, 63, 5'2".

Likes to dance, travel and have 70. Wayne County. BOX 25331 PRETTY ENTREPRENEUR Giving, loving, compassionate, curvy, lots of fun, great conversa-

tionalist. looking for sincere, suc-cessful Caucasian gentleman, 45-late 70's, to be my soul mate. Float your boat, make your day, answer my ad today BOX 25322 JUST LET ME LOVE YOU Single black female, 5'10", 136 lbs., professional, seeks professional gentleman, over 45, non-smoker, no kids, for a romantic relationship. Interested in the arts, travel, theater, dancing and romancing BOX 25996

SEEKING A PARTNER Single female, who is physically, emotionally, financially fit, who is ready for friendship, and possible long term relationship. Who can enjoy fine dining, home cooking, likes goff, the outdoors, dancing, and a warm fire. Must be a nonsmoker Social drinker okay 52 to 62. North Oakland area BOX

25070 NEW TO THE AREA mEW 10 THE AREA
Single black female, 40, 513*,
brown eyes, reddish brown hair
Interest in meeting somsone who is
honest, not a game player, carng,
likes to laugh, knows how to treat a
lady, 36 to 52. BOX 25073.

NORTH WEST SUBURBS Fit, younger looking 30's, romantic Christian lady model, tall, thin pretty, optimistic, loves laughter, financially secure. Enjoys the good iffe, boating, water activities, travel and dining. Seeking the right one, tall, thin, attractive, honest, affectionate, happy, positive attitude, successful with values BOX 25075

NICE GIRL Seeks single white male, 27 to 45, tall, teddy bear type, with values and morals, enjoys going to movies, dining out, hanging out and is a romantic. For friendship first and possible rolationship. BOX

HONESTY IS THE KEY Divorced black female, 5'9", 185lbs, coffee with cream com-plexion, non-smoker. Enjoys pleason, non-shores Chlys-movies, wallting, bowling, cooking, dining out, and quiet times. Seeting a male, 40-50, honest, kind, caring, and dependable for possible long term relationship. BOX 25096

Single white female, 28, medium to full figured. Littee misvies, bowling, cozy nights at home and much more. In search of honest, caring white male, for friendship and maybe more. If this sounds like you, call me. BOX 25311

HONEST & TRUE Polite, 5'1', 110 b, attractive, white professional divorced mom. Enjoys working out daily, good conversa-tion, music, sports, and is an opti-mist. Looking for a professional, divorced, white male, 40's, physi-cally fifactive, tall, no beard or moustache, intelligent, good sense of humor, non-smoker, South Oakland county area. BOX 38068

WANTED: NICE GUY 32 yr old, pette Asian female who enjoys reading, fishing, swirming and traveling looking for financially secure, loving, kind male, 31 to 50, who has a great sense of humor. BOX 25356 ONE IN A MILLION

Very attractive, single, white female, young looking 50, great shape/ligure, 5'4', brunette/brown. Seeking very nice looking, single white male, 45 to 55, honest, easy going, non-emoker, no depend-ents, emotionally and financially secure, for a sincere friendship and possible relationship. BOX 25388 INVITATION TO MEET

Single white female, 38, 57°, fit, beautiful blonde, green eyes, good hearted, ambitious, seeking a successful gentleman, over 45, who wants to team up and share a great tite together. BOX 25979 SIMPLY IRRESISTIBLE

Pretty, petite, passionate, divorced white female, 40ish. Seeks nonsmoking, single white male, over 35, for dating, mating, relating. Let's create sparks and watch them fly! BOX 25332 SEEKING COMPANION

Professional single white female, 36, attractive, non-emoker, singer, loves animals, significant weight loss, still losing. Seeking a single white male, for friendship, compan-ionship, and possible mature rela-tionship. BOX 25314 FIRST TIME AD Divorced white female, 44, looks 36, 5'4", 112 lbs, blonde hair, blue

30, 54, 112 to, bottoe rair, one eyes, very attractive, petite, mother of one high school senior, financially secure homeowner who enjoys life. Seeining a white male, 40-50, at least 6', non-smoker, social drinker olary, for friends first, commitments and the senior senior senior petition possibly more 80X ALL I WANT AND MORE Attractive black female, 82 yrs old, physically fit, 5'6", 155 lbs, employed, educated, enjoys fish-

ing, movies, museums and more. No dependents, Looking for a male, 45 to 57, non-smoker mandatory who enjoys life for an BOX 13932

COMEDIAN AT HEART Classy, elegant, + size, single white female, 36 yrs. Enjoys movies, walking, all activities, candies, and romance. Seeking professional male, 35 to 45, for a compatible, his esculptible relationship. patible, fun enjoyable relationship. BOX 25078

LOOKING FOR MY MATCH LOURING FUH BIT BIATCH
Single white female, 39, 5'5',
brown hair, medium built, independent, good sense of humor,
spontaneous, loving, caring, likes a
variety of activities and sports.
Seeking emotionally secure, honest, well mannered, confident, all
American and 2012 35 to 50 80'Y American guy, 35 to 50. BOX

OLD FASHIONED 5'10", white full figured gal. 45, looking for meaningful relationship that would lead to marriage. Nonmat would lead to marriage. Non-smoker, no drugs, light drinker, col-lege educated, employed, easy going with a variety of interests, including walking, swimming, play-ing cards, science fiction, bowling, etc. BOX 25354.

MESSAGE FROM VENUS MESSAGE FROM YENUS
Shapely, smart, good looking
brunette, divorced white female,
youthful over 40, non-smoler, no
dependents, with a multi faceted
personality. Likes star gazing, runring and living life to the billest.
Seeks divorced white male, over
40, who can exhibit intelligence
and passion. Biochester sens. BIOX

ADVENTUROUS LADY Single white female, 38, 5'6", 115 lbs, blonde hair and hazel eyes. Enjoys nding Harleys, camping, traveling, Seeking a man, 38 to 48, who knows how to treat a lady. BOX 25969

ATTENTION HARLEYS ATTENTION NAMELETS
Divorced white female, 41, no
dependents, height weight proportionate, caring, considerate, cute
and cuddly, enjoys just about anything with the right person. Seeking
warm hearted, romantic, nonsmoking, white male who is ready
for a relationship, BOX 35480 I'M SANE

22 yr. old, single white female, 51°, 125 lbs, loves horror flicks and cooking. Seeking muscular, single white male, 25 to 31, who is smart and strong willed. BOX 35485 GOLFERS WHERE ARE U

Single white female, 86, young looking, active, down river area, loves to golf, but not ready for the tour. Lots of interests, new adventures. Seeking fit single white male, 5'10" or taller, between, 50 and 60, for conversation, friendship and more BOX 32652. nore BOX 33652 CONSIDER THIS Attractive, slender, tall, intelligent lady of \$4 is also ledylike, amiable, warm hearted and a smolter, is seeking a man, 55 to 69, intelligent,

tall, gentlemanly and interested in getting to know each other over dinners, laced with conversation. BOX 36140 ARE YOU THE ONE? Young 57, down to earth, non-dinker, non-smoker, in search of grandpe or grandpa wannabe, non-dinker, with sense of humor, fami-ly values to share like with as we watch our grandchildren grow. BOX 25350

NEW BEGIN Treat estantantes

Divorced white female, red hair, blue eyec, weight preportionate to size, Seeking a single male, 40 to 55, who enjoys movies, dining, and having lun, for a possible long term relationship. MCV 2000. hip. BOX 33656

ATTRACTIVE BLONDE European born, refined, intelligent, romantic female, 5'5", height weight proportionate with many interests. Interested in meeting white gentleman, 67 to 74, intelli-gent, caring, emotionally and finan-cially secure, non-emoker with a ship. BOX 25360

SHOOTING STAR Divorced, white professional female, 5'5', 125 be, brown/black heir and eyes, dimples, looks minus 40 and stable. Seeking a divorced, white male, 55 to 63, attractive, 6', stable and a good se of humor BOX 31913

ATTENTION: CLARK You responded to my ad #25318, Sauerkraut, Anyone? You forgot to leave your phone number. respond egain. BOX 25973



\$2.19 per min. \$2.19/call connection fee

CALL ME 55 yr old gentleman, blue eyes light sandy hair, recently retired, non-smoker. Enjoys exercising animals and laughing. Call if interested, BOX 10664 ARE YOU OUT THERE?

Divorced white male, 82, employed, with variety of interests including the outdoors and all term relationship. BOX 10692

LET'S GET TOGETHER

LET'S GET TOGETHER
Single white male, 36, 59°, 165
Ibs. hazel eyes, smoker, social
drinker, hard worker and down to
earth Seeking a single female, 24
to 36, with similar qualities, for
good times and a possible relation—
ship that could prove to be warm
and wonderful for us both. BOX
10555

AVERAGE MALE

6'2', 250 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, glasses, with a lot of interests, looking for a female, 48 to 50, stractive, petite to plus size, with a sense of humor, for friendship first, maybe long term. BOX 10576

GET TO KNOW ME

GET TO KNOW ME

39 yr old, Hispanic male, 5'8', 185
b), with short black hair and brown
eyes I enjoy sports, festivals, comedy clubs, ice skating, and spending time with my family. Looking for
a down to earth, honest, sincere,

nele BOX 10620

CIRCLE THIS AD

CHRCLE THIS AD Attractive 26 yr, white male, 5'11', height/weight proportionate, short brown hair, couple tatoos. Loves animals, concerts, going out and movies. Seeking attractive aver-age/petite hemale 22 to 30, for pos-sible long term relationship. BOX 10854.

LET'S CHILL

Blonde hair, blue eye, 24 yr, male. Loves to have fun. Seeking a ternale that ian't shy and afraid to do things, yet loves to chill and ouddle. BOX 10704

HEAVEN BENT ME

MEAVEN SENT ME
30 yr old divorced male, 6', 165 lbs,
seeking physically fit female, 25 to
35, who enjoys motorcycles, outdoors, traveling and romantic
evenings. Must love children and
being spoled. I am a very certing
and faithful person, with good
sense of humor BOX 10728

For more ads visit

PERSONAL SCENE

http://livonia.webfriends.com

10555

IS THIS YOU? 19 yr old white male, 5'3', reddish blonde hair, hazel eyes, medium buld, likes bowling, go out with irends and quiet times. Looking for a white female, to spend the holi-days with, leading to a relationship. ROX 13785

GIVE ME A CALLI 37 yr old attractive black male, father of 1, seeking single black attractive female, 25 to 35, for a date and possibly more, someone down to earth. BOX 13998

PIT THE BILL? Divorced white male, 46, dark brown hair, grean eyes, large build. Works full-time, part-time musician. Enjoys music, leughing, reading, proud father of 12 yr old girl. Seeking a white female, 30 to 48, self supporting, long hair field finself supporting, long hair, full fig-ured, intelligent, articulate, and will-ing to communicate. BOX 14020 YOU SHOULD CALL

Black professional male, 6'1 1/2', 208 lbs. Enjoys outdoor sports, cars and antiques. Soeking a white Interests. BOX 14040 GIVE ME A CALL!

Single white male, 43, 61°, brown

hair, seeking someone to go to movies, dining out, for companionship. BOX 14063 CATCH OF THE DAY! Single white male, 6'4", brown/brown, attractive, homeowner, independent professional, car-ing seeking someone for good times, female who is caring and nice and shares similar into

INTERESTED? lbs, dark hair, eyes, musta lives down river, emoker, light drinker, easy going, cat owner. Enjoys dining, golf, movies and more. Seeking a single female heightweight proportionate. BOX

So your ideal Sift

doesn't come nicely wrapped Bow?

Call The Personals today to place your FREE ad.

toll free 1-888-829-6359

24/7 live and automated ad taking.

Designed for both Touchtone and Rotary Phones

STILL SEARCHING

Single divorced white male, 35, 6'. 190 lbs, brown hair, brown eyes, no

children. Looking for a attractive white female, 36 to 39, with a good sense of humor. BOX 10771

VERY GENTLE

If you are looking for a early 80's, 5'8", 175 lbs, caring, loving, light hearted, gentle, honest, good look-

ing man, who doesn't sit at the bar, call me. Looking for an attractive, light hearted, slim lady, 50 to 60, to

spend life with. Downsiver area. BOX 33429

CALL ME SOON

Hardworking, divorced, white male, 49 yr old, 5'8', 175 b is seeking a fun loving, easy going, intelligent, pretty, single white female, for com-partioushin and law-

nship and long ten

ship. Redford Area. BOX 36092

SPECIAL PERSON

Single black gentlemen, 48, 6', 225 bs., non-smoker, non-drinker, no children, rever merried, great listener. Looking for a young lady, of slender build, also a non-smoker.

JUST ME AND YOU

AUST SIZE AND YOU

24 yr. old Hispanic male, 5'10', 175
bs., brown eyes, brown hair, very
outgoing seeking temale, 18 to 28,
who lites movies, dining, shooting
pool, and having a good time. For
possible long term relationship.
BOX 33687

LET'S MEET

Affectionate, retired, single male, 89, 5'5", blonde heir, blue eyes, lites dining out, movies, walks in the park, watching to and travelling. Seeking a nice lady, to have some fun with. BOX 30081

BOX 10777

BOX 32630

SEEKS SPECIAL LADY

dining out, traveling. BOX 32590

Single male, \$7, dark heir, brown eyes, down to earth, non-empler. Looking for a lady who is down to earth, 37 to 49, for friendship. BOX

DOWN TO EARTH GUY! Fun loving, attractive, professional, single white male, 33, recently moved to the area, loves movies, theater, dining out, dancing, work-ing out and fun. Beels an attractive

LONELY MAN Single male, 42, 57°, humorous blue eyes, lonely, hard worker, non drinker, drug free. Looking for a non-drinker, drug free, single female, will reply to ali. BOX 32615 BIG HEARTED

Attractive, widowed, white single male, 5'9", 175 lbs, with good sense of humor, early 60's, enjoys all the good things in life, financi for a permanent relationship, no games. BOX 33486

LOOK NO FURTHER Single, classy, sharp black male, 37, seeking a single white female, full figured, 35 to 49. Who enjoys laughing, movies, sports, going to festivals. BOX 32621

PLEASE READ THIS If you are, 48 to 58, slim, white and attractive, call me. If you are looking for a non violent, loving, happy lucky, non-drinking guy, call me. go kucky, non-annising guy, cas me. I'm 5'9', 175 lbs, attractive, wid-owed and lonesome, looking for a life time relationship. I'll answer your call. Down River, no games. BOX 33419

WARNING: MAY CAUSE. Happiness. Answer this ad, you won't be sorry! Attractive, financially secure, professional, single white male, 40, 6', 170 lb, no white male, 40, 5; 170 to, no dependent. Seeks attractive, single white female, 25 to 45, weight proportionate to height, who's happy with who she is. BOX 35976

ROMEO IS ALIVE Very attractive, single black male, 49, 5°10°, 170 Bs, energetic, humorous, employed, no dependents. Beets very attractive, fit, white lensels, for diving, dancing and romanoing. Age open. Wayne County, BOK 33633

STARTING OVER STARTING OVER
Divorced white male, 83, 59°, 200
be, brown hair, green eyes, altractive, light smoker, tather of one 4 yr
old. Enjoys bowling, solling, wellsing, westend geteways, and family
times. Seeking a white female, 45
to 53, for dating, possible long term
relationship. Children okay. Wayne
Causals. BIV, 95917 County BOX 25317

STOP! READ THIS! If you are tired of these ads and meeting flaky men, then call me. I have both feet on the ground, big hearted, don't drink, am gentle, widowed, well built, early 60's and wucoweo, were sure, early ears and look much younger. You must be under 61, lean, attractive and seri-ous about your future. I will return your call. Down river area. BOX 36488

ATTRACTIVE & SMART Honest, affectionate, slim, degree, white, professional male, \$1, likes tennis, reading, bridge, piano, danoing, movies and moonlit walks. Desires white professional temate, 41 to 53. BOX 26082

FAMILY FUN AWAITS 97 yr. old, 61*, 190 lb., handsome, secure, single white male in bearborn with 8 yr. old daughter. Enjoys reading, bilding, boating, family activities and more! Seeking a fit, honest, loving female for a, great relationarily and enjoying life! BOX 55479 87 yr. old, 6'1", 190 lb., har great relation BOX 35479 DON'T BE ALONE!

Plat up the phone; meet single guy new. Good looking, white male, 47, cultured, enjoys nature, wining and dining, etc; seeking single white female, 37 to 51, for possible long DOWNRIVER AREA

Financially secure, retired, 65, white widower, 5'9", 185 lbs, brown white vidoues, 5°7, 185 bs. prown heir arid yes. Into bosting, bicy-cling, walking, movies, country music, dining, slow denoing and just quiet times. Seeks retired, financially secure white lady, 60 to 65, for a long term relationship. Who brows what it will lead too. (SQX 35466 52 FOR YOU?

Fashionable, sharp, single white male, \$2, 5'10', 190 lbs., broad interest, no couch potate. Locking estheone kind of serious, age tn, but leminintly is a must tland County. BOX 25212 GOOD CLEAN FUN? Go ahead and call this single white male. He is 45, charming, easy to talk to, active and adventurous.

ing nice single white female, omance and friendship. BOX YOUNG MAN SEEKING Older white female, 35 to 50, slim to medium, for friendship and comto medium, for triendatilp and com-panionship. I'm an attractive, healthy, fit, clean cut, single white-male, 30, very easy going, open minded, sincere and financially sta-ble, in the Westland area. Give me

ble, in the Westland area. Give me a call. Wayne county. BOX 25325 METRO AIRPORT AREA METRO AIRPORT AREA 47 yr old, single white parent, attractive, 6°1°, 200 bs, smoker, social drinner, hardworking, with a veriety of interests that include, golf, camping, fishing, etc. Seeks an attractive, caring, single white female, height, weight proportion-ate, with family values and similar interests, must like children and animats, BOX 35489

A PIREPLACE... My two loving arms, warm thoughts. If you are attractive. troughts. If you are attractive, weight proportionate, under 50 and ready for a real relationship, this tall, very caring, affectionate, non-smoking, sober white male awaits you. Let's make each other happy. Wayne County, BOX 25329

White male, 41, 6'1", never mar White male, 41, 611, never mar-ried, very long hair, told to be good looking, smoker, social drinker. Enjoys snowmobiling, bowling, boats, race cars, camping, and going up North. Seeking aftractive ternals, stender build, who is tired of games, 25 to 45, with similar interests. BOX 25993. ABOVE THE CROWD Stands a handsome, single white male, 44. With healthy active, fun tleastyle. Enjoys museums, volunteer work, anmals and travel, with time and energy for romance. Would love to meet that one special but who exemises the set 80.7. cial lady who answers this ad BOX

FUN TIMES DOWN RIVER 1ST TIME Single male, 45, looking to meet someone, who is outgoing and titles to cuddling, for friendship. DOWN RIVER 1ST TIME

85 yr old, single white male from
Down River area, dark brown hair,
hazel eyes, 5'Y' 190 lbs, work for
one of the big three auto compe-nies. Enjoys just about anything,
Looking for a women, 35 to 55, with
a toving heart. Because I have one.
Looks and risce, no problem. BOX
35493 A REAL GOOD CATCH Divorced white professional male, financially secure, self employed business owner, 5'10", 185 lbs.

business owner, 510°, 100 bit. Enjoys dring out, movies, quiet times and sports. Seeking a single white professional temate, 40 to 50 financially secure, non-emoler, social drinker, height and weight proportionate. Sumner County BOX 33630 CALL ME 41 yr old, single white father of two, from Novi, 59°, great shape, fun, caring, honest and aircores, home-owner, enjoys everything, cooling, carnellons, movies, romantic, evenings and camping. Seeks fit, possitive, caring, loving white tundle, for monogramous reasonable. Chaldren 2 0000 2 BE TRUE 48 yr. mais, 163 bs. 55°, brown hair, blue eyes, romantic, adventurous. Enjoys camping, outdoors, nature and long walls. Looking for someone who is happy with themselves, age/race, weightheight is unimportant. Will reply to all BOX 10865 ship. Children are welcome. BOX

UNCONDITIONAL LOVE
For Intelligent, liberal, humorous, white lemals. Divorced white mate, 49, kind, honest and sincere designer, 59°, 146 fine. Enjoys arts, hiting, denoing, shiring, sailing, trevel and good conversation. Leating for commons, with similar interests, for significant long term relationship. BOX 53885. Divorced black male, 68, 6"1", 2085s. very handome, molivered, protestand male. Enjoys outdoor aports, clease care and antiques. In search of professional lady, race open, 45 to 58, felt, height and weight propositionals, with similar interests, 46th welcome, for Mendellip and maybe more. Wayne county, BOX 25313 THE YOUR KINGSHT

rsi voint ideact?
and dayline friend, tool 47,
divisord, adventurous, fun toring,
easypoing sim, Catholo, honest,
college graduate, non-emaker,
social divider. Enjoys booting,
amateur treates, booting, stille,
mondes, desirion; and texast Buston. mouser theatre, bowling, make, movies, denoing and travel. Seels a tody close in age, with similar interests, for a long term relationarie, BOX 20002

FFS A NEW YEAR

49 yr dal white discrete fields, non-tensing, light dislate, origins varied activities, light dislate, origins varied lenning, 46 to 56, with pinning inter-eds. BOX 38801

Quality! A single white male, 48, children, college grad, rice tions, open to mariage or long term retistorship. Seeks to interact with 4 charming lody companion. SOX 24657

ALS

COOH BASY BASY Are you ready for love? Get to lenow this personable, energitic, well rounded, white male, 45, enjoys music, laughter, the arts, etc. Seeking remantic, thereby fermio, age 30 to 60. Missonib County BOX 33367

HANDSOME AND HOMEST Styr old, handsome, 6', thus eyes, nice smile, athletic, seeks an attractive women who has charte-ter, spiritually, honesty and also an adventurous side. BOX 24858

SEEKS TRUE LOVE If you feel that you are a very spe-cial tody, 40 to 55, height/weight proportionate and want an exciting tile call this very special white pro-fessional man, 68 going on 30, in good shape, looking for a true con-nection. Dearborn area. Wayne m area. Wayne County BOX 33397 GOOD GUY

Honest, romantic, retired, silver hair, fair looking, stootly build, seets stender tedy for bowling and golf, 55 to 63, fruit's caring, talke-tive and fun to be with Call met North Oakland area. BOX 24961 BLACKHISPANIC

Divorced white male, 48, tooks younger, 5'9", 175 bs., good look-ing, fit. Interests include, music, movies, therease, sports. Seeks black or Hispanic female, 25 to 35, very attractive, good shape, open minded, with a good sense of humor for dating, possible tong term relationship. Downriver area. BOX 33513

HOPEFUL BUY SHY? I'm your guy! Honest, handsome, white male, 48, with a good atti-tude. Seeks shy but molivated, sinale, for dating and herness. BOX 25062 MATT DAMICH

Cute, 5'8', 185 bs. over 37, young com, 90 , 100 tos, over 37, young tooling single male. Enjoys motest in or out, great cook. Seeking amart soly for partnership. Sense of humor, feeling slightly desertion-chised. Livonia, Farmington, Novi

Single white male, 38, '519', 198 bs., light brown hair, brown dyes. Enjoys the outdoors. music, quite nights in, dining out and simple things. Seeking single white termin. 14 to 25°. SEEKS COMPANION gs. Seeking single white ale, 16 to 30, for friendship and duting BOX 25082 52 POR YOU?

Fashionable, sharp, sexy, single white male, \$2, 5'10", 180 tos, broad interest, no couch potate. Looking for someone kind of seri-ous, age open, but femininity is a must Oakland County BOX \$3622 YOUNG SENIOR

Recently divorced, financially and emotionally socure mate, strawberry blonde hair, 6', 195 lbs. retired from the state of Michigan, one of the good guys, find out for yourself FIRST TIME AD

Divorced white male, 34, 6'2', 250 bs, non-emolar, father to a 3 yr did daughter. Interests include: bottless and second daugner interess incude over-ing, movies, shooting pool and quiet evenings at home. Seeking white lemals, 25 to 34, non-smok-er, with similar interests, for friend-ship and possible long term rela-tionship. BOX 25092 BRIGHT EYES

48 yr old, white male, 57°, 145 lbs, dark blue eyes, fun toving, non-smoker, who likes watking, swimning and camping Seeking a petite white lemals, for possible ong term relationship. BOX 36096 WHY BE ALONE?

Caring, affectionate, loving, hard working, divorced white male, 84, 57", silver fox hair, 176 lbs. Loves ocean beaches, spending quality time together. Seeking triendship for monogamous relationship, 40 to for monogamous rei 50 yr. BOX 35913 A DREAM

A DIREAMENT Single white male, 48, 57°, medium build, non-ember, social drinter, enjoys the ocean, beaches, the outdoors, concerts, classic cars and much more, Searching for single white ternate, 45 to 55, pottle to medium build, for serious retationship. BOX 24663 LOOKING AHEAD

LOCKING AVEAD
Divorced white male, 5"11", financially source, professional, 61, who
lives exercise, fine dining, fivester
and travel. Seels intelligent, attractive single or divorced white
temate, 40 to 58, who would be
good company in all tends of situations. BOX 38080 LONESOME

Attractive, widowed, white eingle male, 58°, 175 lbs. 62, acts younger, excellent physically condition, thue eyes, very easy going and light hearted. I like walling, traveling, garbes and conversations, Looking for a size, attractive land and the male of the tady under, 60, with a rice percon-alty for a serious relationship. BOX 33426

33428
BEST FINEND WANTED
Mig 69's, 59', financially secure,
Cascasion bachelor who lives the
their strings in title. Likes salling,
classical music and travelling. Been
to the Atlantic and Pacific recently
and in between. Life to take you
with me the nest time I go. Looding
for a decent toyal version and best
friend. BOX 5015
MEANIST HONEST

Tail, divorced white male, 6'4", good physical condition, 55, nan-emotics, cell employed, honest, elicosts, cente of husting; i swidd this to meet a stander lasty, 45 to 50, who is easy going selli good values, for comparisonally and possible long term relationally. BOX 35804

Scope the single life out me. Single white male, 45 yrs cel. 510°, 105 he, only denie field. Pages open, commonly delien, yet, adventures. Leading for depte, white formets, 30 to 50, pages by madium build, non-amotor, social dictor, with similar interests, 9800-daily secure. BCIX 20018

JUST THE TWO OF USE A JOH Trim, athletic, fun laving codes. 42, 672°, 100 fis, single white right is seeking a romantic, fit, slight white female, to develop a lookly

MARCE MY DAY Single professional male, 44, 5787, 56, 105 be, brown test, then eyes, honest with a good sones of humor, occasional division ded emoter. Enjoys dising out, meijing, country divise, playing ourds, country divise, playing ourds, comping, feating and between, Societing a single or divortise temals, 35 to 48, with elimiter interests. Profess Down River even. BOX 33305

GIVE SEE A CHANCE Divorced white male in easest of ideal mate, 30 plus, for fain and triendship, dating or possible term relationship. Non-em term relation BOX 26039

DEPENDABLE DAD

Discreed white male, 49, 59°, 175
be, three great children, Mr. Miles
type, humorous, pessionate,
responsible. Likes concern, gedering, estimating, existeer aptities. Seeling new adventures sith
someone special; singlet/tweed
white female, vocigit preparatellist
to height to share their replantable.
Wayne County area. BOX 3945.

Wayne County area. BOX 1945.

RUGGED JOCK TYPE 1999 W

Atteste, musecler, single white; main, 41, 672, 235 lbs, åreum just and blue open, chan del, deptell, to deposition, oughtsystems by. Enjoys outdoors, working fait. reading. Las Veges, qu'et rights. Seeks friendly single femals, agefocation open. BCIX 38134 WANTED: KIND SPIRIT

female, 21 to 35, non-emphar, non-drinker, great personality and sense of humar for dalling, possibly more. BOX 13850 FINANCIALLY SECURE Single black male, wealthy, esti-employed, 6'3', tall, dark and hapti-some exeting single white temple for fun, dating, traveling, divings, movies and concerts. If blancated please respond. BOX 28320

ONE OF A KIND Attractive single units male, 49 years old, 510°, 180 be, ameliar, fight direct, home and business suffer. Enjoys denoing, oddes and classic rock music and the outside of Looking for an attractive female for companionship, possibly mittre. BOX 32589

E-Z ON THE EVES White male, 40°s, long brown helr, 6°, 215 lbs. sooting femals, 35 to 55, blonde preferred. Looking for that special effective, passionals, romantic honest person to share in my enjoyment of candiss, moving, music and drivers. BOY 35500





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Don't get angry, get some help

Been duped or cheat-ed by a retailer?

You may want to talk it over with a local government representative. You may even get your money back.

Sounds like propaganda, huh?

Even in today's environment of strange government happenings that kind of cynicism may be off the mark.

I have yet to receive a refund check in the mail, but I the service given to me by the Michigan Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division felt like partial compensation. A department representative not only took the time to listen to my full story - a one-year saga of poor customer service - but also offered to help me get a refund, if I so desired. "Oh, that sounds terrible.' I think most

people would have given up by now," she said therapeutically, like a shrink extending empathy.

"So it's not unreasonable that I want a refund?" I asked.

"Oh, no. At this point I think you're entitled to a refund," she replied. "Really, you think so?" I asked. "And

you guys can help me?" "We can try. Just write in your complaint what you want us to do, that you want a refund."

At this point, you may be wondering exactly what my consumer complaint involves.

Just so you know you're not alone when and if a retailer doesn't hold up their end of a bargain, here's the story. I custom ordered a couch. It arrived at

my home with a small tear. I called the retailer the following day. They faxed me a diagram of the couch and told me to mark the location of the tear and fax back the information. I did.

Then, I waited. Months went by. But I remained patient. My new couch was still new; it was just slightly damaged, I told myself. I had paid for a new couch and a new

couch it would be soon. Finally tired of waiting, I called the retailer only to learn they had placed a fabric order but had no other information about my case. They told me to wait

- again - for a letter in the mail. To be fair, the letter arrived within a week or two and instructed me to call a service center to set up a repair appoint-

Okay, we're making progress, I thought. I'd only to have make a phone call and take off a half day of work to meet the service technician, and "Bam," I'd have a new couch. I called the service center the next day.

Naturally, though, I had to leave a voice mail; Nobody was there to pick up my call. No big deal, I thought and went about my day.

Silly me, what was I thinking? As it turned out, there was never anybody there to pick up my call. There were no return phone calls, either. Eventually, I took a break from calling and leaving messages and decided to wait.

And eventually, the service center returned my call.

They called me at home. And, since I was at work, they had to leave a message on my answering machine, which is exactly what they did every time they called back no matter how desperately I pleaded for a daytime call at the office. So began a long, long, this-feels-like-

I'm-being-put-off game of phone tag. Back to the drawing board, I thought, and called the store where I had ordered the couch, which worked. I received a call from the service center at my office

the next day. Unfortunately, I have to say it was downhill from here. The company's attempts to send out the appropriate replacement fabric or component failed three times. And, since I had no idea what to expect in the mail, I only became aware that the company had yet again - messed up when the service technician arrived for our scheduled appointment and unwrapped the package. The third shipment was a new set

of pillows. That's when I decided to turn to the Consumer Protection Division, which felt like a last resort but turned out to be a source of renewed hope.

Feeling, as they say, empowered again, I asked the representative, "Can I go to court, if they don't give me a refund?"

"Yes, you can," she replied. "You can go into small claims court," she said. "But give us a try first. We'll see what we can

Now, that's service.

The Consumer Protection Division of of Michigan's Attorney General Department can be contacted 8 a.m. 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday at (517) 373-1140.



SPECIAL EDITOR

ay you're a Saks Fifth Avenue junkie who's not too proud to ransack for bargains. Then, Saks' outlet store at Great Lakes Crossing in Auburn Hills probably gives you the shakes. Now, imagine learning a week in advance what's slated for deeper discounts at Saks' Off 5th or another of your favorite Great Lakes stores.

In the good old days, a store's most loyal customers enjoyed insider knowledge about sales. Today, very few retailers can afford to allow clerks to function as personal shoppers that call their customers at home about new merchandise and markdowns.

But Bloomfield Hills-based Taubman Centers Inc., which owns 16 malls in seven different states including Great Lakes Crossing, Twelve Oaks in Novi and Briarwood Mall in Ann Arbor, has harnessed the power of the Internet to provide such a ser-

On Thanksgiving week, Taubman

More on the web

Next week, look for the debut of Mails & Mainstreets new 'Cyber Shop' column and a story about how local downtown shopping districts are taking advantage of the Internet.

launched web sites for seven of its malls, including Great Lakes, Twelve Oaks and Briarwood. Then, on Nov. 30, the company added a free e-mail service for customers interested in receiving weekly sales bulletins from

their favorite mall stores. The e-mails, which issue every Thursday, contain a round-up of sales and new merchandise, as well as computer coupons from stores selected by the customer at registration. Taubman's web sites also have a pictorial gift guide, wish list registry, gift reminder service and the ability to search merchandise categories for current sales.

Unlike e-commerce sites where shoppers can make on-line purchases, Taubman's web pages target shopping, not buying.

'As malls, we have to be careful and ask ourselves what we want these sites to do," said Carol Geis, Taubman Centers vice president for center planning and marketing. "The purpose of our web page is to facilitate a visit.

True, consumers are buying an increasing amount of retail products on the Internet, but shopping centers know now one of the primary reasons people go on-line is to get product information and do comparison shop-

So Taubman set out to take advantage of that trend and surveyed mall shoppers for two years before developing their web sites. They talked to 18,000 shoppers and conducted 36 focus groups, both frequent and infrequent customers.

"And what we found out is that

what people want on a web site is quite different depending on the nature of the site," said Geis.

In the case of a mall web site, surveyed customers said they wanted quick access to information about items and sales at a handful of their Conceivably, that's because consumers are looking for ways to reduce shopping time, said Geis. "One of the

surprising things that we found in our research was a big misconception - that people come to the mall to walk around. More than 66 percent of Taubman's surveyed shoppers were doing what Geis called a "mission trip," going to the mall with a specific agenda both

for their purchases and store visits. We're also finding that overall shopping time in the mall is dropping." Given consumers' concerns about

time, shouldn't shopping malls still fear the Internet? Apparently not. Many other local

malls have web sites, including Lau rel Park Place and Wonderland Mall, both in Livonia, and Troy's Oakland

launches an upscale, magazine style web site in early January. Others are considering ways to benefit from the

"It's a marketing tool," said Angela Taylor of Gyro Design Group, the Detroit company in charge of Somerset's Internet site. "It will push Somerset as the authority on style and lifestyle," said Taylor. "One of the interesting things about the site is that it doesn't entirely focus on Somerset.'

In addition to basic general mall information, the site will contain seasonal narratives on fashion, home and lifestyle trends with photos

The hope is shoppers will turn to the web site for the same reason they peruse publications like Town and Country or HOUR Detroit, said Taylor. "(The site) sets Somerset apart from other malls, and not just malls, but other areas, too, other shopping districts. ... That makes Somerset something more than a mall. It's not necessarily a community, but maybe a

Mall web sites

- Great Lakes Crossing: www.shopgreatlakes.crossing.com ■ Twelve Oaks: www.shoptwelveoaks.com
- Briarwood: wwwshopbriarwood.com
- Laurel Park Place: www.laurelparkplace.net ■ Oakland Mall: www.oaklandmall.com
- Wonderland Mall: www.newwonderlandmall.com

■ Somerset Collection: www.thesomersetcollection.com (debuts in

Retail, style and special store events are listed in this calendar. Please send information to: Malls & Mainstreets, c/o Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. By fax, (248) 644-1314. E-mail, nstafford@oe.homecomm.net. Deadline for publication is two weeks in advance.
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

In partnership with Botsford Hospital, Livonia Mall, 29514 7 Mile Road, opens its door to walkers 7-9 a.m. Monday-Saturday. Blood pressure checks offered by Botsford Hospital on Wednesdays every three months (next check is slated for Jan. 17). For more information, call (248) 476-1160. WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27

SURPRISE SALE

Nicole's Revival in Westland hosts a surprise sale featuring special savings, many Christmas items, more Coach bags and bath and body items, through

Dec. 30. For more information, call (734) 326-0926. FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29

TOY & HOBBY SHOW

The Toy & Hobby Expo runs through Dec. 31 at the Novi Expo Center and features operating model train displays and vendors selling new, used and antique toys, trains, sports collectibles, stuffed animals and dolls. Show hours are: 5-9 p.m. Dec. 29, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Dec. 30 and 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Dec. 31. Admission is \$6 (children age 4-12 enter for \$3). Parking is \$5. For information, call (734) 455-2110 SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

HOW-TO CLINICS

Home Depot offers a series of free how-to clinics for

those who like to do it themselves. Clinics last approximately 30-45 minutes and cover step-by-step instructions for tackling a variety of home improvement projects. Topics explored include closet organization, floor and tile installment and audio/video hook-up. Sessions are primarily slated on Saturdays and Sundays. For details, call your local Home Depot.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

Downtown Birmingham hosts First Night with per-

formances and activities at several venues including the Baldwin Library, Birmingham City Hall, Birmingham Historical Museum, the Community House and the Village Players Theater. Dancing and midnight countdown take place at Shain Park with Q 95.5 FM radio. Admission buttons are \$8 in advance and \$10 on Dec. 31. For details and an activity and performance schedule, call (248) 258-9075.

WHERE CAN

This interactive feature is edicated to helping readers locate retail merchandise that's difficult to find through reader feedback.

reader feedback. If you have a request or information about where a product is sold or service is available, call (248) 901-2555 and leave a message with your name and phone num-

Please be patient about your requests and feedback; we receive an overwhelming number of phone calls. If you don't see information about your request, we couldn't find it: Requests are published

- An umbrella shaped like a bumble bee can be purchased at the Purple Bear on Maple Road in Birmingham, (248) 645-0400.

- Classic Gardenia perfume is sold at Mazel's in Wonderland Mall.

Old movie magazines can be purchased at John King Bookstore, (313) 961-0622, in downtown Detroit. Inquire about old song Nancy of Troy.

- For carpet stretching, call M.R., (248) 477-6824.

- For copper nails and ceramic caulking, try Northside Hardware on Wayne and Glenwood roads

in Wayne. - The following stores repair cane chairs: Guaranteed Furniture Services, Inc., 3380 West 11 Mile Road in Berkeley, (248) 545-1130; Furniture Medic,

(248) 684-5841 or (248) 889-9877; Furniture Refinishing Old World Finishing Ltd., 32726 West 8 Mile in Farmington, (248) 471-1017; and Plymouth Reed & Cane Supplies, 1200 West Ann Arbor Read in Plymouth, (313) 455-2150.

- English Gardens on Coolidge Road in Troy sells um Christmas trees with a revolving light

- For a 2001 Miss Bear and Santa Bear, try Dayton Hudson's on the Inter-

net at www.hudsons.com. - For discontinued china patterns, call Replaceents LTD in North Carolina, (800) 737-5223.

IRE CAN I FIND?: - A store that sells the doll Christmas Carol (sold in the 1940s-60s by Hudson's) for Elwood.

- A store where a used potter's wheel can be purchased for Jim, who lives in Livonia.

- A store that sells men's Arrow brand shirts for

- A store that sells bulgur by the pound in the Westland area for Mary. - A store or company that repairs the backs of

wooden chairs for Mar-- A store or company that repairs chair cush-

ions for Colleen. - A store that sells the dry shampoo "PSSSSSST" or any other dry shampoo for June

- A store that sells a col-

kide age 4-8 to play games with for Karen of Waterford.

- A store that sells woodon small novelty bats for Brenda.

- A store that sells a cover for a rear tire for a Jeep with a Detroit Red Wings logo for Sally.

- An Amish store that repairs pillare on Amish chairs for Mrs. R.

- A store that sells walnut oil for walnut furniture (House of Denmark formerly carried it) for Fran of Farmington.

- A store that sells customised dining table top covers for Lerita of South-

- A store that sells an adapter for cassette to 8track transfers for Bob of Detroit.

- A store that sells a real butter fruit cake (packaged in a red box, made in Texas and distributed by Twin Pines Dairy in the 1970s) for Barbara of Davisburg.

- A store that sells replacement gears for the **Tournament Hockey game** by Park & Sons Sports for Roy of Clarkston.

- A store that sells women's long khaki skirts for Kristie. - A store that sells but-

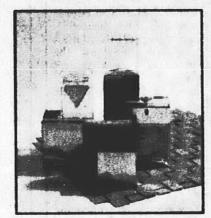
ter cream Lifesavers for

Kristie. - Compiled by Sandi Jarachas



Longing for leather: If you've yet to purchase a piece of leather apparel, there's no better time than the present. With so much leather in mainstream designers' collections for fall and winter, you're sure to find a leather coat, skirt or pants that fits you like a glove. You're also likely to find an abundance of leather clothing on sale after Christmas. Keep an eye out for basic leather pieces like Hudson's Field Gear black jacket with zip-out Thinsulate lining, regularly priced at \$199.99. But don't overlook more dramatic choices in bright red leather or leather in metallic gold.

If you hadn't heard: Clothing designer Michael Kors recently introduced a signature fragrance collection for women. The scent is described as a combination of florals and exotic spices. The collection includes body creme, \$75, perfume, \$300, body lotion, \$48, eau de parfum spray, \$78 and perfume purse spray with suede travel pouch, \$95, available at Jacobson's stores.



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Nationwide Windows & Doors (313) \$39-6822... R
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Legoland is a sunny spot in trip to San Diego

BY ALICE RHED STAFF WRITER

When searching the Internet for travel information about San Diego, I came across an amusement park called Legoland.

I must admit, I was mildly intrigued by a 128-acre park devoted to a rectangular toy. And when a friend of mine said it was a sure hit with the toddler set, my 2-year-old and I set out to explore this plasticized environment.

Better get Lego

Now San Diego is a fabulous city, and more about that later. but I have to say that Legoland is an absolute blast.

The admission price is a bit steep at \$34 for adults, but kids 2 and under are free, and discount coupons are aplenty.

Legoland is located in Carlsbad, an oceanside city about a half-hour north of San Diego. The heart of the park is Miniland. Miniature versions of American cities and worldwide landmarks abound. Washington, D.C., New Orleans, New York, San Francisco are just a few of the models in this, well, model world.

But miniature might not be such an accurate word. The Empire State Building is nearly 20 feet tall, and the Eiffel Tower is made with nearly 350,000

It's an engineering marvel unto itself, but Legoland also offers 40 rides, interactive attractions and several stage shows during the day. There's even a model factory that shows

If you go:

Legoland is accessible from San Diego by either I-5 or historic Highway 101. The scenic cruise will take you twice as long, but if it's a clear day, you'll have beautiful views of the ocean. Legoland is at One Lego Drive at Cannon Road. (760) 438-LEGO.

The San Diego Zoo is open daily and bus tours leave every half-hour. Ample parking is available, but the best time to get there is right when it opens. Many of the animals are at their liveliest in the morning. Park Blvd. at Zoo Place.

Bazaar del Mundo offers mariachis, margaritas and Mexican arts. Open daily. 2754 Calhoun at Wallace.

Catamaran Resort Hotel is also a botanical preserve with exotic birds and plants detting the sprawling landscape. Many of the 312 rooms have kitchens and balconies, but you'll want to take in the fine cuisine of the Atoll Restaurant in the hotel's lobby. 3999 Mission Blvd. (800) 288-0770.

how the little wonder blocks are

Kids three-feet tall can go on most of the rides, except for the roller coasters. But there are cars to drive, boats to navigate, trains to peddle and helicopters to propel, so there's plenty to keep an active tot happy.

Parents will appreciate that the park also offers juice, fruit

and yogurt, but there are still the requisite grilled and deep-fried offerings that are the mainstay of amusement parks.

Construction was heavy around the perimeter, so expect an expansion and a few new rides in the coming years.

The zoo of zoos

Most will say a trip to San Diego isn't complete until you visit the zoo.

That's probably true, but unless you're really into explor-ing, I'd suggest taking the bus tour and hopping off at points you really want to see. The 100acre zoo is a labyrinth of canyon paths, and no map can help you get easily from point A to point

But the bus tour covers 90 percent of the zoo, it makes frequent stops to allow for animal observation, and you get a driver well versed in the habits of the zoo's residents. The pandas are a very popular attraction, but my toddler and I enjoyed the playful antics of the koala bears and their babies.

Top off the visit with a ride on the Skyfari for a birds-eye view of the zoo.

Balboa Park

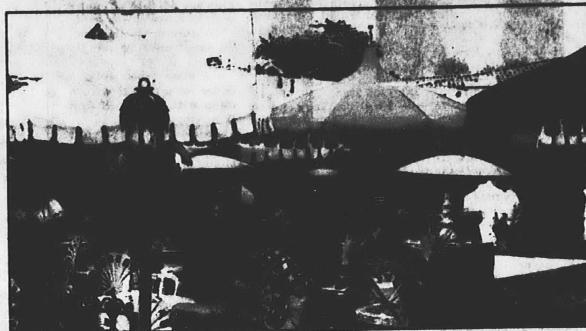
The San Diego Zoo is located in a 1,200 acre canyon, which is also home to many of the city's recreational and cultural institutions. The Natural History Museum, the Japanese Friendship Garden and the Simon Edison Center for the Performing Arts all share space along a long grass and fountain-lined plaza with the San Diego Museum of

I got to see the lobby of the museum, but was told I would have to check my son's stroller at the desk. I'm still not sure what the reasoning behind that policy is. Would you rather have kids running around the museum? Is that same hospitality extended to patrons in wheelchairs? I didn't feel like pursuing it, so we just left.

Explore downtown

We were welcome at the Children's Museum, which is still struggling to find its niche now that it has a permanent home in a revamped downtown warehouse.

It's described as an arts-based museum for children, and though there are many interactive art projects, the permanent exhibits have little appeal to very young children.



Mucho munchies: The Bazaar Del Mundo in San Diego's Old Town offers ethnic food, arts and entertainment in a colorful atmosphere.

Not far from the museum, but and local culture merge. certainly not within walking distance (San Diego has its share of grittier areas, too), is Horton Plaza. Picture the Somerset Col-

turquoise without a roof and you pretty much have it.

A few miles north of downtown is the oldest area of the city called Old Town, where San Diego's first fort was located in the 1700s. A pleasant afternoon can be found at the Bazaar Del Mundo, where shopping, dining

lection in shades of salmon and

Balmy beach

But who goes to San Diego without spending time at the heach? Bay and oceanside resorts abound, so you won't ever need to be too far from the water. Our family stayed at the Catamaran Resort Hotel on Mission Bay, which offered panoramic views of the bay and

In the summer, Mission Bay is resplendent with buff bodies and

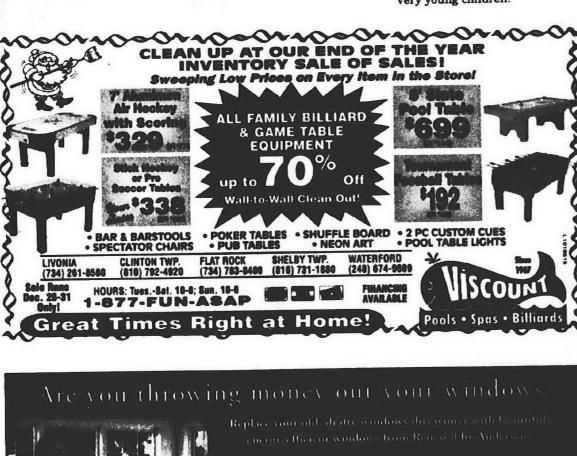
water sports fiends. But in the balmy 70-degree days of winter, joggers mainly occupy the beach, followed by dog walkers and an early morning crew team.

In early December, the lighting of the Christmas tree on the Prado in Balboa Park is one of the city's most beloved events. But try as they might, San Diegans just don't have the weather to make the holidays seem right. Perhaps, in this season of giving, we could ship them a little of our surplus snow.



Lawful Legos: The Capitol as viewed in Legoland. The Lego-made marching band moves along tracks. The Smithsonian Museum and the Jefferson Memorial are in the background.









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