—AP Laserphoto

ACCUSED OF MURDER — Gregg Francis Braun is escorted from Magistrate Court in Raton, N.M., after being arraigned on an open count of murder in connection with the shooting death of a Springer, N.M., mini-mart clerk. Investigators from Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas went to Raton to find out if the Springer murder was related to recent killings in their states. Results of ballistics tests on a gun found in the car Braun was driving when arrested are to be released during the Garden City, Kan., man's preliminary hearing on Thursday. Accompanying Braun are (left) Colfax County Sheriff's Deputy Andy Horner and Deputy Carlos Encinias.

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—AP Laserphoto

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BRIEFLY

Protests mark A-bomb event

By The Associated Press

Hundreds of anti-nuclear activists marched on the Tennessee plant where the atom bomb was born to mark the 44th anniversary of the Hiroshima bombing while thousands demonstrated at some of the nation's troubled nuclear weapons plants.

Recent disclosures about safety and environmental problems at many nuclear weapons facilities charged the atmosphere at many of Sunday's protests.

"I think it's great that people had the courage and conviction to come out to this contaminated site and say, 'No more,' " said Carter Ellison, a spokeswoman for Colorado Freeze Voters.

He was among about 4,500 people who gathered peacefully at Rocky Flats, the site 16 miles northwest of Denver where plutonium triggers for nuclear weapons are made. FBI and Environmental Protection Agency officials raided Rocky Flats on June 6 to investigate allegations of illegal dumping of hazardous materials, and a federal grand jury began probing the plant on Tuesday.

Organizers had hoped to circle the plant but they fell about 13,000 people short of the number needed to cover the 17-mile perimeter.

Deteriorating balloon blamed

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — A hot air balloon that collapsed and plunged 2,000 feet, killing its pilot, had one torn seam and others "virtually coming apart," a National Transportation Safety Board investigator said.

Robert Mock, 52, of Paonia, Colo., died shortly after Saturday night's competition began at the National Hot Air Balloon Championships. His wife said Mock would have wanted the matches to go on through Aug. 13 as scheduled at the State Fairgrounds in Baton Rouge.

Some of roughly 100 competing balloonists said they were eager to resume the matches, but not quite so venturesome.

On Sunday, NTSB investigator Armond Edwards displayed a rip in Mock's balloon.

He said the rip might have stemmed from the age of Mock's balloon and stress-producing maneuvering.

McAuliffe flag on tour

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) — A flag carried by teacher-astronaut Christa McAuliffe aboard the Challenger spacecraft will tour the United States in her memory.

It was one of 50 identical flags she carried aboard the space shuttle Challenger, which blew up after takeoff on Jan. 26, 1986, killing McAuliffe and the six other astronauts aboard.

None of the other flags were salvaged from the wreckage of the craft.

McAuliffe had planned to present the flags to the 50 states as symbols of learning and liberty, said Board of Education spokesman Carolyn Spangler. Instead, the display of the salvaged flag will later tour the other 49 states.

Divorce trial targets embryos

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — The judge who must settle an estranged couple's battle over the fate of seven fertilized human eggs says he is troubled by the lack of any precedent for deciding the case.

The divorce trial of Junior Lewis Davis and Mary Sue Davis, who are at odds over the disposition of the frozen eggs, was scheduled to begin this morning in Blount County Circuit Court.

Davis, 30, who sued for divorce in February, is seeking to prevent his wife from having any of the seven embryos implanted. Attorneys for both sides said the case is the first of its kind in the country.

Charles Clifford, Davis' attorney, argues that the embryos are joint property and can be disposed of like other assets in a divorce. Giving Mrs. Davis, 28, sole discretion over them would deprive Davis of the right to decide whether to sire offspring, the lawyer contends.

States trying to cool campaign spending wars

By The Associated Press

While President Bush talks about it and Congress fights over it, some state legislatures have actually begun to do something about the high cost of running for office.

Faced with a campaign spending "arms race" that has pushed the cost of elective office to heights that couldn't have been imagined a decade ago, legislators around the country are gingerly calling a truce.

At least a half-dozen states have passed some form of campaign finance reform so far this year, and reform proposals are alive in many others.

"I think there's more of a recognition, at least at the state level, that the problem of the cost of campaigns is a very serious one," said Ronald Michaelson, executive director of the Illinois State Board of Elections, who studies campaign finance developments nationally.

The problem varies widely from state to state, but is raising concern almost everywhere.

What seems expensive in Kansas, where the average campaign for the state House of Representatives cost $18,000 last year, may be pocket change in California, where legislative seats cost an average of $600,000. But the trend is similar: Campaign costs have doubled in Kansas and nearly tripled in California in the past 10 years.

Experts cite several reasons. Politicians have become more reliant on expensive forms of campaigning such as direct mail and television. Competition has escalated. And political action committees are pumping more money into the political process.

So long as the PAC money is available, politicians will take it. Listen to Ross Johnson, a Republican who is minority floor leader of the California Assembly and an advocate of contribution limits: "Why do you climb the mountain? Because it's there. Why do you spend the money? Because it's there."

And how do you keep the mountain from rising? The usual answers fall into three categories: disclosure, contribution limits and public financing.

So far this year, at least four states — Kansas, Maine, Montana and New Mexico — have strengthened their rules for campaign finance disclosure. Such rules presume that the public should at least know who foots the bills for their public servants.

This year's changes generally require more frequent reporting.

Contribution limits also are being tightened. Kansas lowered its ceiling for political contributions in statewide races from $3,000 to $2,000; and changed the rules so that a PAC or corporation with, say, three subsidiaries can only donate $2,000 once, not four times.

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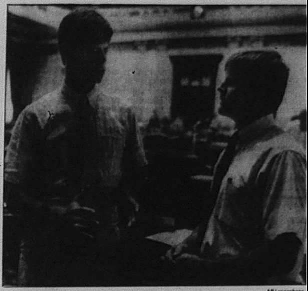
Legislative newcomers settling in



—AP Laserphoto

NEWCOMERS — State Rep. Bart Stupak (left), D-Menominee, and Rep. Kirk Profit, D-Ypsilanti, talk on the floor of the Michigan House. They are among eight freshmen lawmakers in Lansing.

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — It was so chaotic those first couple days, way back in February, that Rep. Dave Camp wasn't quite sure when it was okay to leave the House floor and return to his office.

"One of the things I think is difficult at first is the hectic nature and seeming chaos that reigns on the floor of the House," said Camp, R-Midland, one of a eight-member freshman class in the state House of Representatives.

"A couple of times my secretary called and said 'Dave, they have adjourned.' The clerk would go to 'motions and resolutions' and I thought I had to stay and listen to them."

Rep. Bart Stupak, D-Menominee, was a bit alarmed at the social functions — his more experienced colleagues suggest it's a good idea to attend them.

"What surprised me the most is all the legislative receptions you're supposed to be at every night," he said.

As they wade through their first two-year session, the four Democrats and four Republicans are learning to juggle legislative and constituent work with the added confusion of political deals and lobbyist influence. It takes some time for any newcomer to adjust to.

Perhaps the biggest task is needing to be versed on a wide array of topics that come before the Legislature, not just the committees on which they serve. There also is a lot of required reading, including bills, analyses, letters from lobbyists and constituent mail.

"As soon as I get it figured out, somebody pulls the rug out from under me," Stupak said.

Surprises even were in store for Rep. Kirk Profit, D-Ypsilanti, who had worked closely with key legislative figures as an aide to former House Speaker Gary Owen, who left his seat open when he decided not to run for re-election.

"I was surprised at how much legislative work there is. After five years of working here, I expected more of the job to be constituent relations, constituent advocacy work," he said. "I've had to use the staff a bit for demands on my time for legislative type stuff."

Rep. Jan Dolan, R-Farmington Hills, and others echoed his thoughts on the legislative workload.

"I know what's going on in my committees, but with other issues you have to take the recommendations of the staff because you physically could not have attended all those meetings," Dolan said. "The paperwork, I can't get over the amount. That's all I do is read.

"There's so much going on, you better know all the issues before you get on the floor. You have to do your homework."

"I was surprised at the deliberative nature of the legislative process," said Rep. Greg Pitoniak, D-Taylor. "I also was surprised at the external influences and the impact they have. You can have a consensus among legislators and then a lobbyist enters the picture and everything changes."

Though many of the issues are old ones with a new thrust, newcomers don't have the benefit of experience.

"Someone will get up and say, 'This is the same issue that's been before us for years,' so they don't bother to explain it, and we don't have all that information," said Rep. Nancy Crandall, R-Muskegon. "It's hard to explain to people back home that you don't know everything about the issues they're concerned with."

One of the more interesting descriptions of the Legislature by a new lawmaker came from Rep. Dave Jaye, D-Utica.

"It's like a big fraternity — no, it's more like a big sorority," Jaye said. "Everyone's concerned about each other's feelings, they're concerned about etiquette, there are rumors, trying to make deals. It's social — become a friend with someone and they'll give you the benefit of the doubt on some issues."

Come on, a sorority?

"It is like a sorority — this organization has a limited attention span. They have a tradition of hazing the freshmen, giving them only one staff member, although the social graces in some of those traditions are important to function."

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them near his home in Georgia. Weniger recently took his 9-year-old daughter to a county clinic to get vaccine with an injector.

"When she saw there was no needle, she relaxed. But there was a little disappointment afterward when she found the pain was not completely gone," he said.

Bioject Inc. has had a jet injector on the market since 1993. North Carolina is using it for public health injections, said Mary Gardner, product manager for the Portland, Ore., company.

The injections don't feel like a needle but are "a quick sting," said Bioject employee Vivian Segarra.

Jet injector technology is decades old.

mended for adults

g years of severe outbreaks. Most victims are
rly.

A vaccine is recommended for people over age
r those infected with the virus that causes AIDS
people with chronic diseases as heart disease,
disease, kidney diseases or diabetes.

cken Pox

A highly contagious virus, it typically causes a
l disease with symptoms including a rash, itch-
and fever. But it can cause pneumonia or brain
age and kills about 100 people a year. The disease
cts adults more seriously than children.

A vaccine is recommended for everyone who has
already had chicken pox: Once you have the dis-
, you are immune to it.

atitis B

A virus carried in the blood and body fluids of an
cted person. It can be spread by sexual contact or
haring personal items, such as a toothbrush.
ut 150,000 people contract it each year; between
0-5,000 people die.

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Mazda plans to consolidate operations

Mazda (North America) Inc. and **Mazda Systems Services of North America Inc.**, both based in **Flat Rock**, are part of a consolidation of Mazda companies in North America expected to be completed before the end of the year.

Richard N. Beattie, president and chief executive officer of Mazda's North American operations, said the two are among five companies being consolidated into two separate firms; one in the United States and one in Canada.

"This new streamlined organization represents the first step in major restructuring of the way Mazda does business in North America and will lead to improved customer service and a much more competitive position in the U.S. and Canada," Mr. Beattie said.

But in a letter to Mazda employees, Mr. Beattie said the consolidation of the five companies probably would mean combined work force reductions of approximately 25 percent.

"There's no way to sugarcoat this kind of news," he said. "These are difficult decisions that must be made if Mazda is to realize the potential it has to be a major player in North America."

He said he expects to reduce the work force through attrition, layoffs and the elimination of some open positions.

Besides the two Flat Rock-based companies, the other three involved in the consolidation are **Mazda Motor of America Inc.** and **Mazda Research and Development of North America Inc.**, both in Irvine, Calif., and **Mazda Canada Inc.** of Toronto, Ontario.

Mazda officials said the effect on the local work force cannot be determined immediately because the contemplated changes are occuring on a company basis rather than geographic basis. Though some of the companies are headquartered in California, they have employees in the Flat Rock area, according to **Tom McDonald**, a company spokesman.

Real estate office becomes independent

HAYNES, Real Estate, Inc. is the new name of the former Realty World Haynes & Associates real estate office in **Monroe**.

Alan Haynes, president, and co-owner **Jack Giarmo** are re-establishing their firm as an independent agency after being a Realty World franchisee for the past 10 years.

Mr. Haynes said he believes that new technology, combined with the growth and success of the company, warrants the change.

The firm, marking its 25th year in Monroe, has 21 Realtors, five associate brokers and three administrative assistants.

So far this year, the real estate office has sold and listed approximately 200 properties.

HAYNES is at **15649 S. Telegraph Rd.**

Agency appoints personnel director

Amie Richason-Bugg has been hired as personnel director at the **Monroe County Community Mental Health Authority**.

As such, she plans, develops and administers the agency's personnel and employee relations system and is involved with all union contract negotiations. She also interprets employee contracts for the agency and serves as adviser on personnel and employee relations matters.

She earned a bachelor of business administration degree from **Adrian College** in 1993 and a master's degree in human resources, labor and industrial relations from **Michigan State University** in 1995.

She and her husband, **Jeffery Richason-Bugg**, live in **Temperance**.

The mental health agency is a mental health provider in Monroe County.

Radiation therapist chosen for center

LOREE NISLEY

Loree Nisley of **Monroe** has been appointed a senior radiation therapist for the **Michigan Institute for Radiation Oncology (MIRO) Cancer Center** under construction at **1085 N. Macomb St.** in **Monroe**.

MIRO operates similar centers in Pontiac, Madison Heights, Farmington Hills and Clarkston.

Ms. Nisley has worked as a radiation therapist at the Farmington Hills center for a month and will transfer to Monroe when the center here opens in July.

Previously, she was a radiation therapist for the Hickman Cancer Center at the **Bixby Medical Center** in **Adrian** and an echocardiographer for Bixby.

"Loree brings a high level of technical skill as well as the caring and compassion that are so important to us at MIRO," said **Dr. Donald G. Bronn**, medical director and chairman of MIRO.

Ms. Nisley is one of the therapists who will operate a state of the art megavoltage multiple energy linear accelerator used to give radiation treatments to cancer patients.

A 1986 **Monroe High School** graduate, she holds an associate's degree in radiation therapy from **Owens Community College** in Toledo and a bachelor's degree in history from the **University of Michigan**. She also is a member of the American and Michigan Societies for Radiologic Technologists.

Insurer adds agent in Dundee area

JOHN STRAITS

DUNDEE — **John Straits** of **Dundee**, has joined **Farm Bureau Insurance** as a new agent serving this area.

Mr. Straits recently completed an extensive career development program for new agents which prepared him for state licensing and provided instruction in all areas of property/casualty and life insurance.

His training included the professional insurance program at Michigan State University and the agent career school at the Farm Bureau Insurance home office in Lansing.

Before joining the company as an agent, Mr. Straits was a tire service manager for Washtenaw Farmers Oil Co. in Ypsilanti.

He joins 400 Farm Bureau agents statewide and will work from the Farm Bureau Insurance office at **400 W. Monroe St.** in Dundee. His office number is 529-3939.

Business group recruiting members

Representatives of the **National Association for the Self-Employed** (NASE) have begun a recruiting effort in the area.

The small business advocacy group provides a variety of services and benefits to members, including providing discounts on business and personal services, health plans and a voice on their behalf in the legislative arena.

Begun in 1981, the non-profit group now has 320,000 members.

Information about the organization is available from **Dan Conrado**, a field service representative based in **South Rockwood**. He can be reached at 379-6273.

He said the organization has had members in Southeast Michigan for many years and now is emphasizing recruiting Downriver and in Monroe County.

The organization's address on the World Wide Web is www.nase.org.

Food Town acquires two area groceries

■ The Maumee, Ohio, grocery chain's purchase extends its reach into Michigan.

By CHARLES SLAT
Evening News staff writer

The Family Foodland store in Flat Rock and Family Market in Trenton will be converted to Food Town stores following their acquisition by Seaway Food Town Inc., the Maumee, Ohio grocery chain.

The purchase price was not disclosed.

"The purchase of the ... stores reflects our long-term strategy to develop new stores in new markets that are complimentary to our present geographic area of operation," said Rich Iott, Food Town president and chief executive officer.

He said "present plans call for some immediate decor changes to give the stores a look more consistent with our Food Town store format." He said "customers will receive the same high level of quality service they have come to expect."

But he said some of the changes won't occur for several weeks. "The first order of business is to get all of their systems matched up with ours and get all the items in the inventories in line."

"This acquisition is a natural extension of our market penetration in southeastern Michigan and we feel that the stores and customers will benefit from the synergy," he said.

No major employment changes are planned. Foodland and Family Market employees have been given the chance to continue working at their stores if they desire, Seaway Food Town officials said.

Negotiations have been completed with the corporation that owns the two stores and, barring unforeseen circumstances, Food Town will take possession of the stores on Tuesday.

Store hours will be 7 a.m. to midnight at the Trenton store, at 3000 Van Horn Rd., and 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. at the Flat Rock store, 27335 N. Telegraph Rd. Sunday hours for both stores will be 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Seaway Food Town Inc. operates 70 retail units — 45 Food Town supermarkets and 25 deep discount drugstores called The Pharm. All are in northwestern and central Ohio and southeastern Michigan, including several in Monroe County.

Home construction still vigorous, sales still lag

■ Builders have invested $11.7 million in new homes so far this year. Sales of existing homes were down from last year's pace for the second month in a row.

By Evening News staff

Home-building is healthy in Monroe County, but home-selling has been lagging this spring, according to statistics from industry groups.

Home construction in Monroe County continued at a vigorous pace in March, staying ahead of the last year's pace.

Fifty-one homes were started during the month, representing an investment of $5.2 million.

It brought the number of units started so far this year to 104, up 11.8 percent from the 93 started by this time a year ago, according to figures from the Michigan Association of Home Builders.

But fewer homes sold in Monroe County in April and they took longer to sell than a year ago, according to the latest figures from area Realtors.

Ninety-eight single-family homes were sold during the month, down from 109 in April, 1996, according to the Monroe County Association of Realtors (MCAR). It was the second month in a row that sales were down from the same month a year ago.

It brought sales so far this year to 307 dwellings or about 9.4 percent behind last year's pace. By the end of April, 1996, home sales were at the 336 mark.

Home construction and home sales are viewed widely as indicators of an area's economic health.

The homes that sold during April were on the market longer, an average of 114 days, compared to 97 days a year ago. But the average selling price rose from the average price of homes that sold in April, 1996.

The average selling price this April was $124,207, up from the average of $111,480 of a year ago.

Though buyers were in shorter supply, the warmer weather brought out more home sellers. Realtors had 177 new listings during the month, up from 126 a year ago. It brought the total number of homes listed with Realtors to 503, up from 438 at this time last year.

Among the 13 geographic sales areas in the county, the City of Monroe recorded the most sales during the month. Twenty-six homes sold in the city, up from 15 a year ago. Sales in Bedford fell to 21 dwellings, down from 28 a year Overall, sales were down in seven areas, up in four and unchanged in two.

So far this year, builders have invested $11.7 million in home construction in Monroe County, up about 12.5 percent from the $10.4 million invested in the first three months of 1996.

Monroe County single-family home sales

April 1 to 30, 1997

Area	Units sold	Year ago period
Monroe	26	15
Monroe Twp.	10	8
LaSalle	5	5
Erie	3	3
Bedford	21	28
Whiteford	3	6
Summerfield	2	3
Ida	2	7
Raisinville	3	1
Dundee	3	5
Milan, Exeter, London	5	3
Berlin-Ash	4	9
Frenchtown	11	16
Total	98	109
Average selling price	$124,207	$111,480
Average days on market	114	97
Number of new listings	177	126
Total present listings	503	438

Source: Monroe County Association of Realtors
Evening News chart by Jim Dombrowski

Pet food maker creates silk purse from sow's ear

■ Miles Handy discovered that dogs love to wolf his roasted pig ears.

By B.J. REYES
Associated Press writer

DETROIT — After six years as vice president of research and development for dog treat maker Oink-Oink Inc., Heidi Handy needs help.

She was instrumental in launching the company in 1991 and has been a valued executive ever since. But these days, arthritis usually prevents her from getting to the office. She's even pushing for early retirement — at age 13.

Heidi is a beagle who earned her title after helping her owner, Miles Handy, start Oink-Oink Inc., the maker of such dog treats as Oinkers roasted pig ears and Moo Ears roasted cow ears.

From a humble start with a $3,000 investment by Handy, the business reached $10 million in sales last year. Of course, the company's growth is a largely human achievement, but Handy gives his dog much of the credit.

Handy, now 32, was a pet food distributor when he returned from a trade show in Germany with a roasted pig ear. He thought it was an experiment, not a best-selling dog treat. Heidi thought otherwise.

"She went hog wild over the pig ear, and I knew it was going to be a hit," Handy said.

Instead of just distributing the treat, Handy decided to go into business for himself. He used Heidi, whose taste apparently runs to the the exotic, to develop the product line.

Since sampling her first pig ear, Heidi's taste buds have helped Oink-Oink introduce Oinkers and Moo Ears as well as OinkeRoll and LambRoll sausages, OinkerPucks pork and beef meat roll slices, Spare Ribs smoked pork treat, Moo Toes cow hoof chew treat, and Mammoth Bone chew treat.

"She's extremely finicky," Handy said. "If it passes her nose and she goes for it, chances are, we're going to have a winner."

Oinkers pig ears are the company's biggest seller. They come in singles, sacks of 10, buckets of 20 or "lunch boxes" of 100 or more, and all are labeled with bright, colorful cartoons of pigs playing with dogs.

The ears sell for about 79 cents each and come in flavors cool mint, nacho cheese, spicy pizza and French vanilla.

Mitchell Balicki, a dog owner and manager of a pet supply store in the Detroit suburb of Redford, said his store sells more than 4,000 Oinkers treats every month.

"Some people say, 'Eew, that's kind of gross,' but dogs eat them," Balicki said.

Balicki said his miniature dachshund, Trusty, typically takes a day or two to finish an ear, but a bigger dog easily "can make short work of a pig ear."

Heidi has been a valuable marketing tool for Oink-Oink. But at 13, elderly for a beagle, she won't be vice president forever.

So Handy's firm ran a nationwide contest to find dogs to serve on the Oink-Oink board of advisers. The winners included Mongo, a black labrador-pointer mixed breed from Delmont, Pa.; Sam, a boxer from Burbank, Ill.; Kodiac, a mastiff from Gloucester, Mass.; Ashley, an English cocker spaniel from Avon, Ohio; Gizmo, a Papillon from Lake Tapawingo, Mo., and Jake Peabody, a basset hound from Farmington, Mich.

The board's first test will be the Oinkeroni, pepperoni-flavored sausage for dogs.

Along with Heidi, Handy says ingenuity has been a key factor in Oink-Oink's success. And, "We try to have fun with our stuff."

Handy started his business with $3,000 and one small smokehouse in his hometown of Redford Township, a Detroit suburb. Since then the company has grown enough to need a 28,000-square-foot plant in Detroit with more than 100 workers.

With help from the Detroit Investment Fund, a group that finances businesses locating in the city, Handy has opened a second plant in the Eastern Market area of Detroit. There, he hopes to employ 75 people by the end of the year.

Besides ears, the company makes treats from pig liver, heart, snout, hooves — "everything but the oink," Handy says. Oink-Oink also has special holiday packages including pork hearts for Valentine's Day and turkey products for Thanksgiving.

The interest in pig ears has tapered slightly over the past few years, but many dog owners still buy the treats, said Jack Sweet, an editor at Los Angeles-based Fancy Publications, which publishes Dog Fancy magazine.

"The novelty of it and the fact that dogs love them is about the only way I can put it," Sweet said of the pig ear's popularity. "I don't know of a dog that would not enjoy one of those things."

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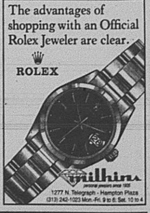

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BRIEFLY

Clinton back on the putting green

WASHINGTON (AP) — He walks (sort of), therefore he putts.

With an okay from his doctor after weeks of rehabilitation on his knee, President Clinton is back on the putting green like a pig in mud — to borrow his kind of down-home Arkansas colloquialism.

On the White House South Lawn on Tuesday, the military band was tuning up, guests were taking their seats and reporters headed for the press corral in anticipation of Clinton's belated Super Bowl celebration with the National Football League champion Green Bay Packers.

But yards away, none of the ruckus stirred Clinton's laser-like focus on the hard white ball and the elusive little cup.

The president, in shirt sleeves and dress slacks, was at play on his tiny circle of pristine, clipped green. The Packers and their fans were kept waiting.

Prosecution wrapping up McVeigh case

info NOW
For update 242-4636
Selection 2061

DENVER (AP) — Oklahoma City bombing prosecutors prepared to wrap up their case against Timothy McVeigh after the judge thwarted a defense plan to attack the FBI crime lab — a weak link for prosecutors.

Through Tuesday, the prosecution had called 134 witnesses in 18 days, using McVeigh's former friends and even his sister to try to tie him to the bombing, the worst act of domestic terrorism in U.S. history.

Prosecutors expected to rest their case today by calling at least one more bombing survivor and presenting stacks of death certificates from the 168 people killed in the blast.

"They've obviously worked hard and diligently," defense attorney Stephen Jones said outside court. "We will soon have our turn at bat."

Eight students injured in bus crash

REDFORD TOWNSHIP, Mich. (AP) — Eight children, their bus driver and a pregnant motorist suffered minor injuries after the bus and the woman's sport utility vehicle collided in this Detroit suburb, police said.

At least 40 students from Addams Elementary School and the South Redford School District's latchkey program were on the bus at the time of the Tuesday afternoon collision, Supt. Jan Jacobs said.

Five children, ages 8 to 11, were treated in Botsford General Hospital in Farmington Hills and released, The Detroit News reported today. Two 8-year-old girls, an 8-year-old boy and the 57-year-old bus driver were being treated late Tuesday in Garden City Hospital.

The sport utility's driver, identified only as a 32-year-old Plymouth woman in her eighth month of pregnancy, was in satisfactory condition but was being kept overnight for observation.

Parents rushed to Botsford after seeing television news coverage of the accident, hospital spokeswoman Bridget Gosine said. "When they saw the kids come out with only Band-Aids, they were relieved," she said.

Judge bans accused woman from malls

TROY, Mich. (AP) — A 6-year-old Detroit girl followed her mother around and even imitated her on a suburban shoplifting trip, authorities say.

Pat Lorraine Johnson, 35, is banned from the Somerset Collection and Oakland Mall while she faces charges of first-degree retail fraud and contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

District Judge Michael Martone described Ms. Johnson's alleged decision to take her daughter shoplifting with her as "reprehensible." But he allowed her to remain free Tuesday on $1,000 cash bond, provided she stays away from both Troy malls.

Ms. Johnson waived a preliminary examination Tuesday. She was bound over to Circuit Court for arraignment June 5. First-degree retail fraud is a felony punishable by up to two years in prison.

Pilot's court-martial put

■ The Pentagon ordered the delay until a decision is made on the pilot's request for an honorable discharge.

By The Associated Press

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE, N.D. — The nation's first female B-52 bomber pilot spent the night with family, waiting to see if she'll be honorably discharged or court-martialed on charges of adultery and lying.

"I don't like being in limbo like this," said her lawyer, Frank Spinner. "But ... we're prepared to go to trial whenever."

First Lt. Kelly Flinn was scheduled for a court-martial Tuesday morning. But the Pentagon ordered an indefinite delay, until Air Force Secretary Sheila Widnall makes up her mind on Flinn's request for an honorable discharge.

The 26-year-old pilot submitted the request for a "resignation in lieu of court-martial" Monday. By late Tuesday, it had sailed through several military channels and was one stop from the secretary's desk.

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Senate adopts abortion law change

WASHINGTON (AP) — In an atmosphere of unusual tension, the Senate approved legislation Tuesday to ban certain late-term abortions but fell three votes shy of the total needed to override President Clinton's threatened veto.

The Republican-crafted measure cleared on a vote of 64-36, with the current Democratic Leader, Sen. Tom Daschle of South Dakota, and a predecessor, Sen. Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia, reversing their earlier opposition and joining supporters.

The vote to ban so-called "partial birth" abortions sent the measure to the House, which is expected to give its final approval shortly after lawmakers return from a Memorial Day recess. Clinton vetoed a similar bill last year, saying it was unconstitutional because it did not provide for exemptions in the cases of harm to a woman's health.

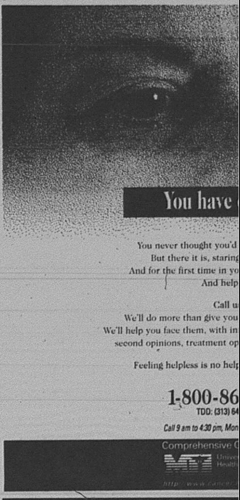
White House officials said he would veto the measure again. Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., said that despite Tuesday's vote, "I believe we have a chance to override."

In the final hours of Senate debate, lawmaker repeated oft-used lines.

"This is about infanticide," Sen. Rick Santorum, R-Pa., said of the procedure, which was described in gruesome detail repeatedly over several days on the Senate floor.

"We worry so much about the right to choose. What about the right to choose life, to give this baby a chance."

Countered Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., "This bill does harm." She added, "Please do not relegate women to the status that says their life and their health does not matter."



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— Evening News photo by DEAN COUSINO

of 42 concrete piers that will support new
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impressed. It's the wave of the future."

The old bleachers, which were about 25 years old, were removed.

A number of new roofs also have been completed or started in the district.

The new roof at Barrow School is already done while the roof at Shuman Middle School is 90 percent completed, Mr. Strzelecki said last week. Construction on new playgrounds at Chapman, Rockwood and Weiss elementary schools also has started, he said.

"Things are really progressing," Mr. Strzelecki said.

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ing a crisis. He credited the committee with working on the issue before a tragedy strikes so they'll be better prepared.

"I'm sick of witnessing that," he said. "It's broken my heart too many times."

He said public officials meeting in advance to hammer out jurisdictional lines and means of responding to disaster is the "silver lining" of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks that rocked the country in 2001.

"To have an effective local task force is very important to having a successful response to any disaster," Dr. Button said.

The panel will meet again at 11:30 a.m. July 21 at Mercy Memorial Hospital to continue planning for a countywide bio-terrorism preparedness drill tentatively scheduled for October.

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According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the average 170-pound man would need four drinks in an hour on an empty stomach to reach 0.08 BAC while a 137-pound woman would need three drinks in an hour to reach 0.08.

ethics policy

The council can't take action at work sessions. The next step would be for a policy to be drafted, and be reviewed by the council.

Mayor C.D. (Al) Cappuccilli wasn't committed one way or another to having a policy.

"If it's something council wants to have, we should look into it," he said.

Mr. Cappuccilli said he and former councilwoman Sue Gartz worked on an ethics pol[illegible] was never adopted.

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COMMENT

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OUR VIEW

New supermarket mix

Last week's announcement that the Kroger Co. has bought 13 area Food Town stores is welcome news. It means that Spartan Stores Inc.'s closure of several of its Food Town stores will not leave consumers in the lurch – at least, not for long.

The Food Town stores at S. Monroe St. and N. Dixie Hwy. and the ones in Milan and Dundee are to reopen under the Kroger banner by mid-July. Folks in Milan and Dundee no doubt are especially relieved, since, with no other supermarket around, they've been going to roadside produce stands and convenience stores and even trekking as far as Saline and Ypsilanti for their groceries.

Also, Spartan Stores last week said a yet-unnamed independent grocer has purchased four of its stores, including the one on N. Telegraph Rd. and the one in Rockwood.

Leonard Terranova, a spokesman for Kroger, says "the dynamics of the Monroe market have changed considerably" in the past few years. That's for sure.

Kroger closed its store in South Monroe Plaza in February, 2000, ending a 70-year presence in the Monroe area, but opened a new store in November, 2001, in Lambertville. Spartan Stores bought the Food Town chain in 2000 – only to find itself retrenching just a few years later; Spartan has reported $34 millions in losses for the past year. Yet Kroger evidently sees new opportunities in the Monroe area.

All these dealings are mysterious to most consumers, but the short of it is that the supermarket business is intensely competitive. Another sign of this is that other chain-owned stores in the area recently lowered many of their prices.

The closure of the Food Town store in Temperance without a new buyer and the still-uncertain future of the Food Town store in Lambertville – within hollering distance of a Kroger store – continue to mean inconvenience or apprehension for many shoppers and Food Town workers. Still, it is reassuring that a number of the stores are slated for quick reopenings and that Kroger is talking of hiring the former Food Town employees.

▶ To the point

Amid great changes in the area's supermarket business, the purchase of some Food Town stores is good news for shoppers and employees.

Hepburn: one of the best

Katharine Hepburn, who died Sunday at 96, truly was a giant in the world of acting. Not only was her stage and screen career long – lasting from 1928 into the 1990s – it also was one of the most distinguished.

The American Film Institute ranked her No. 1 among actresses. It is ironic that her death followed so closely after that of another legendary actor, Gregory Peck (with whom she starred in "Bringing Up Baby" in 1938).

Twelve times she was nominated for an Oscar (surpassed only by Meryl Streep), and four times she won, starting with "Morning Glory" in 1933 and ending with "On Golden Pond" in 1981. So it's hard to believe now that at one point in the 1930s many thought she was washed up in Hollywood, having appeared in a few flops and having paid $220,000 (in those days a lot of money) to be released from a contract when offered the lead in a B-film titled "Mother Carey's Chickens."

But she came back to do the "Philadelphia Story" and many other memorable films: "Woman of the Year," "The African Queen," "Adam's Rib," "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner," "The Lion in Winter," just to name a few. She made nine films with Spencer Tracy, who also was the love of her life.

She certainly was popular, but as Hollywood goes, she was different. The daughter of a physician and a suffragette, she had an independent streak that showed in her characters, her preference for pants over skirts, some bold career choices and in numerous other ways.

Plagued with illness, she probably was aware of death's approach. But as longtime friend Barbara Maynard put it, "Katharine was prepared for it and she wasn't afraid of it at all. I don't think Katharine was afraid of anything."

That bravery was evident in her successes; Hollywood will not soon see her likes again.

▶ To the point

Fearlessness and independence were hallmarks of the legendary actress' life and career.

GUEST EDITORIAL

Commentaries from other newspapers do not necessarily reflect the views of The Monroe Evening News' editorial board.

Give incentive for electronic filers

FROM THE REPOSITORY (CANTON, OHIO)

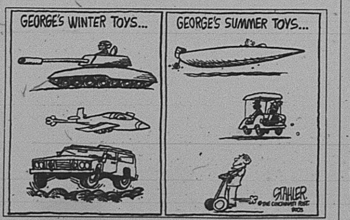
Taxpayers do not need two deadlines for filing returns. Yet the U.S. House of Representatives wants two: April 15, a date etched into the brains of taxpayers, and April 30, an extension for only those people who would file electronic tax returns.

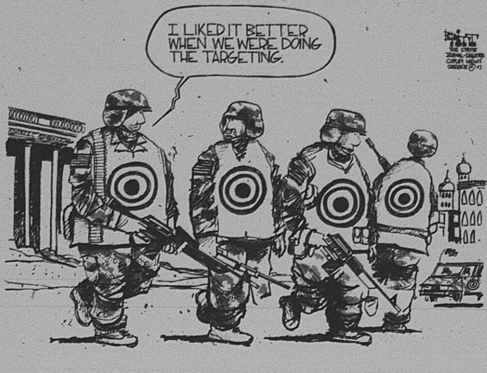
The House wants to provide an incentive for filing electronically. Unfortunately, accountants and tax preparers don't think the second deadline is a good idea.

... Here is a good idea, however. If the lawmakers want to provide an incentive for filing electronically, why not make it money instead of time?

A slight discount of the final tax bill, or a slight increase of the tax refund, could provide incentive that the federal government seeks.

For filing electronically, give taxpayers the money it would otherwise cost to handle the paperwork at the Internal Revenue Service.




I LIKED IT BETTER WHEN WE WERE DOING THE TARGETING.

OTHER VIEWPOINTS

One step closer to gay marriages – at last

Ellen Goodman
Washington Post Writers Group

And so we bid farewell to the Texas Taliban as they ride into the legal sunset. The Supreme Court has finally put an end to a long line of theocrats and theojudges who told consenting adults what they could do to whom and with which body parts.

The case began when police burst into a Houston apartment on a false report that two men were fighting. When they found the men making love instead, they arrested, fined and jailed the pair.

Thursday, a 6-3 majority ruled that the anti-sodomy law violated a homosexual's right to privacy. In an eloquent opinion that spoke of dignity and enduring personal bonds, Justice Anthony Kennedy said, "The state cannot demean their existence or control their destiny by making their private sexual conduct a crime. ...The liberty protected by the Constitution allows homosexual persons the right to make this choice."

The decision was duly declared a landmark with cheers on one side and outrage on the other. Justice Antonin Scalia, reading his dissent aloud, fumed that "The court ... has largely signed on to the so-called homosexual agenda."

But for all the hullabaloo, this case feels less like it's breaking new ground than mopping up some old and tired terrain.

Back in 1960, every state in the union had a law against sodomy, whether it was between man and man or man and woman. Today only 13 states call it a crime, and four of them are targeted solely to gays.

As recently as 1986, an earlier Supreme Court shamefully upheld anti-sodomy laws because, in Chief Justice Warren Burger's words, homosexuality was "morally reprehensible" conduct, and that was reason enough to make it illegal. Justice Byron White added that there was "no connection between family, marriage or procreation on the one hand and homosexual activity on the other. ..."

But over the last decade, the cutting edge of the gay rights movement has moved toward matters of family and marriage. While gay couples in Texas remained partners in crime, gay couples in Vermont became partners in almost-marriage.

The latest census report lists 600,000 same-sex couples. The "love that dare not speak its name" now announces commitment ceremonies on the pages of the newspaper.

So here we are. The Supreme Court has just declared that homosexuals aren't outlaws. But the New Jersey and Massachusetts courts are getting ready to decide if homosexuals can be husband and husband, wife and wife. Indeed, while our court has just decided gays shouldn't be locked up, a Canadian court has declared they can get hitched up. For Gay Pride weekend, they're planning to keep the Toronto City Hall open for business.

As gay rights lawyer Evan Wolfson put it, "The gay movement has moved from merely seeking to be left alone in our homes to wanting to participate fully in marriage and family under the protection of the law."

In short, and not without irony, a movement that began in search of sexual freedom is now in pursuit of the bonds of matrimony. Those who want to get the government out of relationships now want the government to formalize their relationships.

In Justice Scalia's scathing dissent, he says disapprovingly that the court's argument leaves no justification left "for denying the benefits of marriage to homosexual couples." I suspect he's right.

He and others clearly regard the gay rights movement as a threat to marriage, a fear that was behind the Defense of Marriage Act passed in 1996 to limit marriage to heterosexuals. Gays don't want to attack marriage; they want to join it. While many see this as radical, it is, at heart, profoundly socially conservative.

Same-sex couples now come to the courts and to the public eye largely as family members who want to adopt children or share pension benefits. The gay poster children aren't libertines. They're two Michaels who want to register at Crate and Barrel. They're two mommies with one Baby Bjorn.

This conservatism may well have changed public images as well as the courts' attitudes. Today, some 59 percent of college freshmen approve of gay marriage.

The way things are going, homosexuals will win the equal right to enter into those long discussions that heterosexuals have come to know and dread. Where is this relationship going? Is this the person I want to spend my life with? For better or for worse? They're going to enter the wonderful world of prenuptial agreements and nappies ... and divorce.

With this court decision, gays are escaping the reach of the Taliban. They are now one step closer to the liberated day when their moms too will be asking, "So when are you going to get married?"

> *"For all the hullabaloo, this (sodomy) case feels less like it's breaking new ground than mopping up some old and tired terrain."*

Ellen Goodman's e-mail address is ellengoodman@globe.com.

An ex-smoker looks at bans we really need

Jim Mullen
Newspaper Enterprise Association

I quit smoking 11 years ago. I quit again 10½ years ago. Then I quit once more about 10 years ago.

I didn't think it was possible, but I kicked the habit. It's been 9½ years since my last cigarette. If I can do it, anyone can do it. Part of the reason I quit was that there were very few places where I could smoke anymore.

Oh, sure, the heart disease, the coughing, the shortness of breath and the doctor's refusal to treat me unless I quit all helped, but when I tried to start my three-pack-a-day habit again 8½ years ago, I couldn't. There was no place to start.

It wasn't all that long ago that people smoked on elevators and in movie theaters. They smoked in restaurants, on buses, in doctor's waiting rooms. Unless you were actually under an oxygen tent, you could smoke in hospitals. Even then, people under the tents used to sneak them. That usually turned out messy.

Now you can't even smoke in the hospital parking lot, much less the hospital itself. I don't know if it's true, but I heard a story about one Texas prison that had banned smoking on Death Row ... because it was bad for the inmates' health.

They used to have smoking sections on airplanes. Now the entire terminal is smoke-free. Taking a vacation to a distant land is now a good first step to quitting. A nice 24-hour-long flight to Australia ought to break anyone's habit. Of course, when you get there you'll find that everyone smokes.

In New York City, they recently banned smoking completely in bars and restaurants. When you book a hotel room now, they ask you if you'd like a non-smoking room.

The funny thing is, smoke doesn't bother me very much. Other things that haven't been banned annoy me much more than second-hand cigarette smoke. Children running around like crazy in restaurants — why hasn't that been banned? Fat men who take off their shirts at ball games — make them stop. Those big, baggy extra-long pants that teenagers wear — pass a resolution. One day I'd like to walk into a restaurant and have them ask me if I'd like to sit in the screaming, out-of-control children section or the child-free section. I'd like to go to a baseball game and have my choice of the no-swearing section or the men-must-keep-their-shirts-on section.

Some supermarkets are starting to put in "no candy" checkout lanes so parents don't have to get in huge, body-stiffening fights with their children over unnecessary treats. You see signs on convenience stores all the time that say, "No shirt, no shoes, no service." That's not a law; it's just a good idea. I think we could use more "good idea" signs. I'd like to pull into a gas station/mini mart and see a sign that says, "Turn off your engine before pumping gas. No mullets." Inside there might be a sign that says, "Must weigh under 300 pounds to buy snack sausages. We check ID."

If we can have smoke-free sections at restaurants, why not have comb-over-free sections? How many meals have been spoiled by having to look at some guy with three little bits of yard-long hair stretched over his bald spot?

One day I'd like to walk into a restaurant and have them ask me if I'd like to sit in the cell-phone section or the non-cell-phone section.

"Either one is fine with me," I'd say, "But is anything open in the smoke-free section? Say, next to the fireplace?"

BRIEFLY

Building authority questions permits

CHICAGO (AP) — City officials investigating a weekend porch collapse that killed 13 people determined that the owner did not have proper construction permits to build the structure, and were looking into whether it was overloaded.

The incident has prompted questions about the safety of porches and whether weight limits should be posted.

The collapse happened about 12:30 a.m. Sunday as about 50 people — most in their early 20s — were crammed onto an apartment's third-floor porch for a party. The floor suddenly dropped, sending people and debris crashing to the ground.

Seven men and five women, many on the porches directly below, were killed. A 13th victim, 25-year-old Kelly Pagel of Minnetonka, Minn., died Monday. At least 57 people were injured.

Chicago Building Commissioner Norma Reyes said Monday that permits had been issued for conversion work at the apartment. However, officials later determined the porch and the conversion were not authorized.

Study: People look for selves in mate

WASHINGTON (AP) — People like people like themselves.

That's the conclusion of a study by Cornell University researchers, who asked 978 people what qualities they valued most in a potential mate, and then asked them to rate themselves on the same qualities.

The researchers found that mate choice "seems to be based on a preference for long-term partners who are similar to one's perception of self."

The researchers, led by Peter M. Buston, asked people in and around Ithaca, N.Y., to rate potential partners on a scale of one-to-nine on such qualities as financial resources, attractiveness, faithfulness, parenting qualities, social status, health, ambition, family bonds and desire for children.

People who rated themselves highly were more discriminating in what they wanted in a mate, the researchers report in Monday's online issue of Proceedings of the National Academy of Science.

Ohio raises fees to balance budget

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Barbers will pay more to cut hair, aircraft owners more to fly, hunters and anglers more to take to the fields and waterways.

Short on cash, the state raised dozens of fees to raise millions of dollars as part of the two-year budget beginning today.

The increases are part of Ohio's $48.8 billion budget, which also includes a penny sales tax increase. The state is also extending the sales tax to previously untaxed services such as dry cleaning, taxis and satellite TV.

Barb O'Neill, a barber in Columbus, didn't know about the plan to increase the cost of renewing her license from $75 to $110 every two years. It will cost the same to renew her barber shop license.

Analysts: Goodyear strike is unlikely

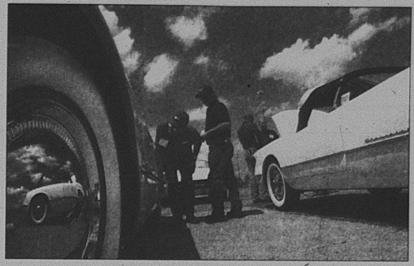
AKRON, Ohio (AP) — Analysts say a strike is unlikely at Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. even though the Steelworkers union rejected an offer and broke off contract talks over the weekend.

"The incentive not to strike is you want to keep this company out of Chapter 11," said Rod Lache, an analyst with Deutsche Bank.

Goodyear, the world's largest tire company, reported a record $1.1 billion loss for the last fiscal year.

The company wants to trim as much as $1.5 billion in costs by 2005 to shore up its North American tire operations and control costs so it can compete with overseas plants.

Comparing Corvettes



— AP photo by STEVE KLEEMAN

Jim Hromek of Flint, Mich., (left) who worked on prototypes of the 1953 Corvette, checks one out with John Cannone of Miami, Fla., at the Truck Plant in Flint to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first production Corvette.

Think tank executi killed in plane cras

CARO, Mich. (AP) — An official with a think tank was killed when his ultralight aircraft crashed and burned near an airport, state police said today.

Joseph P. Overton, senior vice president of the Mackinac Center for Public Policy, was dead at the scene of the 9:30 p.m. Monday crash, state police dispatcher Susan Schrader said.

The 43-year-old Midland resident was piloting the single-seat aircraft under a flight instructor's supervision. He had just taken off from the Caro airport when, according to witnesses, the craft suddenly headed downward, clipped some power lines, struck the ground and caught fire on impact, Schrader said.

The Federal Aviation Administration was notified. An autopsy was to be con-

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Overton had spent
with the Midlan
Mackinac Center,
advocates a free mar
promotes solutions t
and economic proble
do not involve gover
intervention.
The center conduct
ies and provides repor
mentaries and educa
programs on public
topics.
According to his
biography, Overton d
research projects, sta
ations and strategic pl
He also wrote numero
ies and commen
Several of Overton's
have appeared in The
Evening News editoria
over the past few year
Caro is located in T
County, 90 miles no
Detroit.

Granholm vetoes 4-day school weeks for struggling distric

LANSING (AP) — Gov. Jennifer Granholm has vetoed a bill that would have allowed financially struggling school districts to reduce the class week to four days while keeping the same number of class hours.

Monday was the deadline for Granholm to act. Her staff said she vetoed the bill because legislators had not yet passed a related bill that would have adjusted teachers' pensions to account for reductions in class days.

Granholm spokeswoman Liz Boyd would not say whether the governor opposes a shorter school week in principle or the way it was proposed.

"Given the impact of the bills upon schools, teachers, students and parents, I do not intend to make any decisions on changes in existing policy without all proposed changes on my desk at the same time," Granholm said.

Bill supporter Sen. Valde Garcia, R-Howell, criticized the governor's veto.

"So we're looking to protect t
pensions before we make an e
cut costs for schools," Garci
"Schools are struggling to find
and we give them an option
completely flexible, allows fo
control and she vetoes it. To say
appointed is understated."

Court papers say teammate shot missing Baylor player

WACO, Texas (AP) — The roommate of missing Baylor University basketball player Patrick Dennehy told a cousin he shot Dennehy in the head as the two argued while firing guns, according to court documents citing an unidentified informant.

A search warrant affidavit made public Monday says the informant told investigators in Delaware that Carlton Dotson, a former teammate of Dennehy's as well as his roommate, killed Dennehy with a 9 mm handgun. Dennehy has been missing for nearly three weeks.

No charges have been filed, Waco police spokeswoman Melody McElyea said today. She said she had no information on Dotson's whereabouts or whether he was being sought by police.

Waco Police Chief Alberto Melis said Monday that no body has been found. District Attorney John Segrest declined to comment.

Last week before the affidavit was made public, Dotson told The Dallas Morning News that police asked him not to discuss the case and that he had learned Dennehy was missing from Dennehy's girlfriend.

"I had to talk to police today, and I told them everything I can tell them and everything I knew," he said from his Hurlock, Md., home.

Dennehy's family reported the 6-foot-10, 230-pound junior missing June 19. His sport utility vehicle was found last week in a mall parking lot in Virginia Beach, Va. Waco police asked the FBI to join the investigation and have said several Baylor players had been questioned.

According to the warrant, filed June 23 in 19th District Court in McLennan County, the informant said Dotson told the cousin that while he and Dennehy were shooting guns, they argued and Dennehy pointed a weapon at Dotson as if to shoot him, but Dotson instead shot Dennehy. Dotson said he then drove home to Maryland and got rid of the guns along the way.

A message left on an answering machine at a number listed for Dotson's guardians in Maryland was not returned.

Tom Stanton, Baylor athletic director, released a statement late Monday confirming that Dotson was a former player, but said he couldn't discuss the case.

"We saw a young man who got along well with his teammates and was extremely anxious to compete this year," Stanton said.

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BUSINESS

The Monroe Evening News

Charles Slat: business editor

BRIEFLY

Ziebart planning superstore in Monroe

A Ziebart "superstore," offering a range of vehicle services and accessories, will open in about three weeks at 1173 W. Front St. at Toledo Ave.

Owner Terry Pantall of Grosse Ile said it will only be the third store of its kind. Others are in Lapeer and in Indiana. In addition to traditional Ziebart underbody rust-proofing, the business will have auto and truck accessories, vehicle audio and video systems, remote starting systems, alarm systems, sunroofs, trailer hitches, caps and lids, custom striping, detailing, glass repair and replacement and spray-on Rhino truck bed linings.

It has a 2,200-square-foot showroom with a separate audio room, a glass replacement, tinting and detailing room where customers can watch their vehicles being worked on, and a large service bay that will hold as many as 13 vehicles at once. It also has an enclosed bedliner spray booth that supports the application of custom truck bedliner colors.

Mr. Pantall bought the 7,200-square-foot building and chose Monroe to operate the franchise because the area has good demographics. "It's a pickup truck market and people don't lease cars," he said. "They own their cars and take care of them."

"We're excited about coming to Monroe," he added. He said Ziebart customers typically have traveled to other Ziebart shops in Ypsilanti, Toledo and Dearborn for service.

Mr. Pantall said the business will have eight to 10 employees, including his son and daughter.

He once worked for Monroe Oil Co. and then operated his own gasoline distributorship. He retired from that business to start the Ziebart franchise.

The business telephone number is 243-4410.

Outlet center getting clothing stores

Vanity Fair & Lee, combined clothing outlet stores, are expected to open Aug. 7 at the Horizon Outlet Center, 14500 LaPlaisance Rd., in the location previously occupied by the Linen Barn.

The stores are being developed by VF Factory Outlet, a company based in Reading, Pa., which operates more than 70 such stores around the nation as well as outlet malls in Reading; North Dartmouth, Mass., and Sunrise, Fla.

The company began in 1970 in a former hosiery mill in Reading and offers discounts on merchandise such as Lee jeans for the entire family, women's sleepwear and robes, casual pants, knit and woven shirts, underwear and socks for men and boys, activewear for the entire family, Vanity Fair intimate apparel and dress and casual hosiery and sportswear.

Officials said the Monroe store is a trial location that will operate at least through year-end. After that, it might become permanent if customer traffic warrants it.

Nominees sought for retailing honors

The Michigan Retailers Association is seeking nominees for its sixth annual "Michigan Retailer of the Year" awards.

The awards honor Michigan retailers who make a significant positive impact in their communities through their support of civic, charitable and volunteer programs.

"Each year, this program brings to light more of the innovative and commendable contributions retailers are making to their communities," said Larry Meyer, MRA chairman and chief executive officer. "We are delighted to honor these remarkable business people."

Awards will be presented in three categories – small, medium and large – based on annual sales volume. Recipients will be selected by a panel of representatives from business, higher education, the news media, state government and charitable organizations. An awards lunch will be on Oct. 14.

Anyone may nominate a business for the award. Retailers also may nominate themselves and previous nominess who did not receive an award may be renominated.

But nominations must be received by Aug. 8. They may be submitted via the MRA Web site at www.retailers.com or by obtaining an nomination form from Retha Lachance at 800-366-3699 or by e-mailing her at rlachance@retailers.com.

The awards are co-sponsored by Michigan Newspapers Inc., the marketing arm of the Michigan Press Association and Michigan Talk Radio Network.

Aquila weathers power plant default

KANSAS CITY – Aquila Inc. said a firm which it half-owns has defaulted on $270 million in loans used to build a gas-fired power plant near Pleasant Hill, Mo.

The company said MEP Pleasant Hill LLC was unable to refinance or pay off loans for its Aries Power Project by the June 26 due date and lenders have drawn on $37.5 million in letters of credit from Aquila that backed the loans. But the company said the lender action was expected and does not impact Aquila's near-term liquidity.

It also said the default has no impact on Aquila's other credit arrangements or utility operations, and that the Aries plant will continue to run according to contractual obligations and market needs.

Based in Kansas City, Aquila operates electric and natural gas distribution projects in Canada and seven states, including Michigan where it distributes natural gas in Monroe County and other southern and western areas of the state.

Freight firms melded in big buyout

Yellow Corp. said Tuesday it will acquire competing freight-hauler Roadway Corp. for about $966 million, assume about $140 million of Roadway debt, and rename the business Yellow-Roadway Corp.

It will create the largest U.S.-based transportation service provider with a focus on big shipments for business-to-business customers.

The combined revenue of the companies for the 12 months ending the first quarter of 2003 was nearly $6 billion.

The deal includes a Roadway terminal just south of the Michigan-Ohio state line near the Lost Peninsula that has business and employees in Monroe County.

Bill Zollars, currently chairman, president, and chief executive officer of Yellow, will be chairman, president and chief executive officer of the combined company. James D. Staley, currently president and chief executive officer of Roadway, will continue to lead Roadway, which will be an operating entity under the Yellow-Roadway holding company.

The complementary operations and would provide the combined company with the increased scale, strong financial base and market reach necessary to increase shareholder value and enhance customer service, officials said.

"While there will be no change in the customer interface, customers can benefit from new and expanded service capabilities and greater technological advances," Mr. Zollars said.

Kroger reopens ex-Food Town stores

By CHARLES SLAT
Evening News staff writer

Kroger Co. was to reopen three of the four former Food Town stores in the Monroe area today that are among the 13 Food Town stores in the region it purchased from Spartan Stores Inc.

Stores reopening under the Kroger banner Wednesday include the ones at 850 S. Monroe St., 3833 N. Dixie Hwy., and 531 W. Main St. in Milan.

The Dundee store probably won't reopen until sometime next week, said Leonard Terranova, a Kroger spokesman.

The stores are now part of Kroger's Great Lakes division, which operates 22 stores in the Toledo area and a total of 231 stores in Ohio, Michigan and northern West Virginia.

All 13 of the former Food Town stores Kroger purchased will re-open before the end of the month. Food Town stores on N. Telegraph Rd. and in Rockwood still are undergoing inventory clearance sales, prior to a new owner taking over.

Though he could provide no numbers, he said some of the Food Town workers were hired and some chose not to apply for Kroger jobs. Others are Kroger workers living in the Monroe area who are transferring to the Monroe area stores that are closer to their homes. "We wanted to fill those jobs with experienced people and those Kroger workers are some of the most experienced," he said.

He said the hours of the Monroe area stores most likely will be 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. initially, but might be adjusted as market conditions dictate.

Grand Rapids-based Spartan Stores has closed or sold most of the Food Town stores in Michigan and Ohio, citing tough competition in the regional grocery industry.

Headquartered in Cincinnati, Ohio, Kroger is one of the nation's largest retail grocery chains.

At the end of the first quarter of fiscal 2003, the company operated 2,496 supermarkets and multi-department stores in 32 states under two dozen names.

Kroger also operates, directly or through subsidiaries, 792 convenience stores, 445 jewelry stores, 395 supermarket fuel centers and 41 food processing plants.

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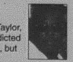
Dictators and leaders without a country

With his capital Monrovia surrounded by rebels, Liberian President Charles Taylor, said once again that he would step down and take exile in Nigeria. Taylor, indicted by a U.N.-backed war crimes court, would not say when he would step down, but urged an international force be sent to restore order.



	Idi Amin	Jean-Claude "Baby Doc" Duvalier	Emmanuel "Toto" Constant	Gen. Raoul Cedras	Col. Mengistu Haile Miriam	Milton Obote	Alfredo Stroessner	Ricardo Miguel Cavallo
Title, country:	Ugandan dictator 1971-79	Haiti's president 1971-86	Former leader of Haiti's death squad	Leader of Haiti's coup that ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide	Ethiopia's ruler 1974-91	Ugandan president 1980-85	Paraguayan dictator 1954-89	Argentinian military official from 1976-1983
Accused of:	Responsible for murders of 100,000-300,000 people	Thousands of political killings, kidnapping and torture	Convicted in absentia for massacre in town of Raboteau	Sentenced to life in prison for mass murder at Raboteau	At height of his "red terror" campaign, death squads killed thousands of opponents	Torturing and killing 100,000-300,000 people	Torture and killings of leftists hunted down by alliances of right-wing regimes	Genocide and terrorism for his role in Argentina's "Dirty War"
Lives in:	Saudi Arabia	France	New York	Panama	Zimbabwe	Zambia	Brazil	Extradited from Mexico to Spain, June 2003

SOURCE: crimesofwar.org AP

Liberians plead for U.S. intervention

MONROVIA, Liberia (AP) — Thousands of Liberians swarmed American military experts Tuesday, pleading for U.S. troops to help end a ruinous three-year civil war in the West African country. In confusion, U.S. servicemen briefly took aim at Liberian police.

At a high school filled with people displaced by fighting, the refugees surrounded the U.S. team, waved American flags and chanted, "No more war, we want rest."

As the Americans moved on, crowds chased their 15-vehicle convoy. The delegation decided to abandon a planned visit to another refugee camp in an abandoned Voice of America radio station compound outside Monrovia.

When the procession reentered the city, crowds formed again and in the confusion, one diplomatic car ran into a young boy.

As diplomats loaded the child into the vehicle to get medical treatment, the throng grew again. Liberian police special forces deployed on a bridge fired shots in the air without warning to disperse them.

U.S. servicemen at the front of the convoy jumped out and briefly took aim at the policemen until they realized what was happening, witnesses said.

The American military team, which arrived in the country a day earlier, is on a mission to evaluate how the United States can help restore order in the country.

The United States faces mounting international pressure to send troops to lead a peacekeeping force in Liberia, a nation founded by freed American slaves in the 19th century. But Washington is leery of becoming deeply involved in a complicated West African conflict and says it wants President Charles Taylor to step down first.

In the past month, Taylor has repeatedly promised to step down. Sunday, he accepted an offer of asylum from Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo — but did not say when he would leave. History is filled with several examples of dictators and leaders who have been forced out of office and who live on relatively safely in exile in another country.

President Bush, speaking Tuesday in Senegal on the first stop of a five-nation African tour, said he had not decided on the extent of U.S. involvement in Liberia.

He also repeated his demand that Taylor relinquish power.

Indicted on war crimes charges, his capital surrounded by rebels, Taylor is viewed by international prosecutors, diplomats and some of his own citizens as the main impediment to peace.

5,000 killed in Con
in nine months, gro

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — Fighting between rival tribal and rebel factions in a volatile northeastern Congolese province killed an estimated 5,000 civilians between July, 2002, and March, a human rights group said.

New York-based Human Rights Watch blamed neighboring Uganda and Rwanda — as well as the Congolese government — for fueling the conflict in Ituri by arming and supporting the factions.

"Agreements between governments don't do much good when the government armies are just passing their guns on to local militias," Alison Des Forges, a senior African adviser to the rights group, said Monday. "Violent death is now an everyday occurrence in Ituri ... killers have resorted to cannibalism to terrorize people they want to control."

Human Rights Watch said 5,000 people had been killed in Ituri between last July and March, in addition to an estimated 50,000 people killed in the province since 1999.

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THE MONROE Evening Ne
AN EMPLOYEE-OWNED NEWSPAPER ©2003 MONROE
Since 1825 — NO. 189 (USPS 359-400) MONROE, MICH. Thursday, July 10, 2003

Tonight Scattered rain low 60°
Friday Partly sunny high 75°
10B/Weather

Local

A Monroe couple won a trip to the Pepsi 400 race in Florida last year but decided not to go because of the recent birth of their son. The soft drink company let them delay their trip until this year and Don and Sara Hirst spent the July 4 weekend at the Daytona Speedway. **Page 3A**

Sports

Carleton, Ida start fast at Fair

Carleton and Ida rolled to lopsided wins on the opening day of the Monroe County Fair Baseball Tournament. **Page 1B**

Jeremy Bonderman snapped a long losing streak as the Detroit Tigers beat Chicago. **Page 1B**

World

Bush pledges aid in fight against AIDS

First Lady Laura Bush (center) watches children paint dolls at the Baylor Children's Clinical Center, a pediatric AIDS initiative in Gaborone, Botswana. President Bush today spoke of a $15 billion plan to combat AIDS in Africa. **Page 7A**

Today's obituaries

Evelyn M. Hamlin, 72, of Monroe.
Heather Renee Davis, 21, of Monroe.
Margaret L. Massamore, 77, of Monroe.
Dennis Patrick White, 32, of Toledo, formerly of Temperance.
Richard Wells Yarger, 73, of Kalamazoo, formerly of Erie.
Thomas E. Riley, 54, of Ypsilanti, formerly of Milan.
Jamie Lynn Fater, 41, of Carleton.
Ernest E. Hess, 81, of Temperance.

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Three sections – 32 pages

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Courts....10B
Dear Abby....10A
Editorials....4A
Entertainment....9-10A
Home & Building....6A
Local calendar....8B
Lotteries....2A
Markets....2A
Sports....1-5B
TV....11B

Water test process un

— Evening News photo by VALERIE TOBIAS

Boaters and swimmers crowd Sterling State Park on July 3.

TEST RESULTS

Beach	Sample date	Water sample results*	Contact advisory
Sterling State	7/08/03	19	No
Luna Pier	7/08/03	65	No
Campground			
Heath Beach	5/20/03	2	No
Pirolli Park	7/01/03	5	No
Totem Pole	7/01/03	7	No
Wilderness Retreat	7/01/03	8	No
River			
River Raisin	7/08/03	171	Yes

* Number of E.coli colonies per 100 mililiters of water.

The following campgrounds did not submit samples for testing: Camp Lord Willing, Covered Wagon, KOA, K.C. Camp and Vine.

County officials looking a public about tests of rive

By JOSHUA KENNEDY
Evening News staff writer

The local environmental health office began testing the River Raisin and several public beaches for bacteria weeks ago, but as the bacteria seems to be climbing, officials are seeking an improved process of warning the public about dangers.

The River Raisin, which flows through the heart of Monroe County, now is under a full-body-contact advisory.

Water sampling by the Monroe County Environmental Health Division discovered that the E. coli counts in the waterway exceeded state-set thresholds for safe contact. E. coli — Escherichia coli — bacteria infects 73,000 people a year and causes 61 death in the U.S. each year, according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

An infection from the nasty stuff often leads to bloody diarrhea and occasionally kidney failure. Most illness from E. coli has been associated with eating undercooked and contaminated meat, but infection can also occur after swimming in or drinking sewage-contaminated water.

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Population in county continues slow rise

■ New Census estimates show the population has grown about 2.3 percent since the April, 2000, official population count.

By CHARLES SLAT
Evening News staff writer

Monroe County's population has continued to grow since the April, 2000, Census as urban areas of Detroit to the north and Toledo to the south have lost residents, new Census estimates show.

The latest numbers peg the county population at 149,253 as of July 1, 2002, up 2.3 percent from the 145,945 documented during the Census.

And at a time when many cities and villages in Michigan have seen population erosion, most of those in Monroe County have seen slight growth.

Only Monroe and Luna Pier saw a population decline since the April, 2000, Census among the county's nine incorporated cities or villages, and Monroe's numbers seem to be turning around.

The city of Monroe went from 22,076 residents at the time of the Census to 22,029 as of July 1, 2002, a drop of 47 residents, or .2 of a percent. But between July 1, 2001, and July 1, 2002, the population climbed from 21,915 to 22,029, up 114 residents or .5 of a percent.

Monroe City Administrator Robert Hamilton said city officials disagreed with the original Census figures and question the new estimates.

He said the city has added residents at Mason Run, the housing development off E. Elm Ave.; has had continued expansion of the Frenchman's Bend subdivision; and in-filling of vacant lots around the city, including many on the east side of town. "It's not an insignificant number between what Habitat for Humanity has done, our own program has built and what private individuals have done," he said. "We're filling these lots up."

"We've had growth and I think it's going to

See CENSUS, Page 2A

POPULATION CHANGES

Place	2000	Population 2002	change
Monroe County	145,945	149,253	3,308
Carleton	2,562	2,569	7
Dundee	3,547	3,557	10
Estral Beach	486	492	6
Luna Pier	1,483	1,481	-2
Maybee	505	513	8
Milan (in county)	1,710	1,778	68
Monroe	22,076	22,029	-47
Petersburg	1,157	1,169	12
South Rockwood	1,284	1,604	320
Rest of county	111,135	114,061	2,926

Charisse Denman (right) of Petersburg looks at her family's silver co and Nicole, 8, Wednesday at Republic Bank in Maybee. A represen appraisals to those who visited the bank.

High interest in

■ Residents far and wide flocked to Republic Bank in Maybee to learn how much their old coins would fetch.

By CHARLES SLAT
Evening News staff writer

MAYBEE — In the short time one of Terry Kemnitz's dollars was in the Republic Bank branch here Wednesday, it grew in value to $61.

So perhaps it's no surprise that the tiny branch was unusually clogged with people most of the day.

It wasn't a special high interest rate that lured Mr. Kemnitz of Monroe and others to the branch. It was their high interest in knowing the value of the old coins that have been lying around their homes gathering dust instea dividends.

Silver half dollars, like thes Charisse Denham's collection, w fetch three times their face va

"This is my mother's and th my aunt's," Mr. Kemnitz said, ing two containers bearing c collected over years. "They w ed to know if they were worth thing."

Upon leaving the bank, Kemnitz also held a purchase from Brian D. Brown, a

Most students' writing sc

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nation's fourth-graders and eighth-graders have become better writers, but fewer 12th-grade students can convey well-organized ideas, a new national assessment shows.

Even the signs of improvement must be considered in context: Most students in the three benchmark grades still can't provide coherent answers with clear language, supporting details, accurate punctuation and creative thinking.

The National Assessment of Educational Progress, known as the nation's report card, charts student achievement and how it changes. It is the latter measure — changes since the last writing test in 1998 — that offers some

See SCORES, Page 11A

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Y LIBRARY SYSTEM ACTIVITIES

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umorous Hats and Hilarious airl – 7 p.m. Join the edford Library and hear me funny hat and hair stos. Make a crazy hat and ore. Registration required. maria Park Community nter.

iry Tale Madness – 7 p.m. in us for some fairy tales at are a little fractured. Kids l get the chance to make a fairy tale of their own. rleton branch.

hen Is a Noodle Not a odle? – 7 p.m. Use your odle to figure out these isted tales. Ellis Reference nformation Center.

Twin and I – 7 p.m. Bring pare change of clothes d make your twin to take me. Rasey Memorial nch.

dnesday

ry Tale Madness – 10 n. Hear some fairy tales t are a little fractured. Kids l get the chance to make a fairy tale of your own. rleton branch.

en Is a Noodle Not a odle? – 10 a.m. Use your odle to figure out these sted tales. Ellis Reference nformation Center.

Tots – 10:30 a.m. The Tot series is designed ecially for children 18- to months-old and their carer. Activities include sto-, singing and finger plays. y one child for each adult Registration is required. branch

for Hilarious Hair – 1 . Hilarious Hair and norous Hats! Listen to sto- and wear funny hair and s. Vivian branch.

gh It Up @ Your Library! – 0-3 p.m. Calling all 6th-, 8th- graders... Where air conditioning is cranked and the fun never stops. Reference & Information ter.

You Believe In Magic? – 0 p.m. The library will be d with hot air and balloon Don't miss Balloon Man

Dan. L.S. Navarre branch.

Grandma Science – 3 p.m. Enjoy some science experiments. Summerfield-Petersburg branch.

Thursday

The Trickster's – 10 a.m. Twisted tales, a craft and a treat this morning. Maybee branch.

Library Playgroup – 10:30 a.m. Bring your young children to the library for fun and interaction with others their own age. Stop by, play, read and hug. Dorsch Memorial branch.

Summer "Booknic" – 2:30 p.m. Kids of any age should bring a blanket and a snack or sack lunch for a picnic. We will be outside on the lawn reading independently or listening while someone else reads. In case of rain, we will be indoors. Newport branch.

The World of Bats – Featuring live large fruit bats! The Organization for Bat Conservation will discuss bats from around the world. 3:30 p.m. Dorsch Memorial branch. 7 p.m. Carleton branch.

Friday

G Is for George, George, George of the Jungle – 11 a.m. Monkey around with Margaret Rey's famous fellow, Curious George. Have a barrel of laughs and/or a barrel of monkeys. Blue Bush branch.

Check It Out – 9 p.m. – MCLS Newsmagazine.

MPACT (channel 13), Comcast

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Saturday

Check It Out – 1 p.m. – MCLS Newsmagazine.

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Rescued collies, cats getting 'forever homes'

Animals abused by Alaskan breeder get second chance

GREAT FALLS, Mont. (AP) — About 150 dogs and cats rescued from an Alaska breeder at the Canadian border last year are being released to volunteers who helped care for them, and to others who promise a "forever home."

▶ *The couple had drive the animals — 180 in all — 2,240 miles over nine days in a filthy, ammonia-clogged trailer with little food or water.*

There is no shortage of takers: 500 people offered to adopt the animals.

Athena Lethcoe-Harman and her husband, Jon Harman, gave up all but four dogs and one cat after they were each convicted of 180 counts of misdemeanor animal cruelty on May 31. They said they were moving to Arizona.

The couple had driven the animals — 180 in all — 2,240 miles over nine days in a filthy, ammonia-clogged trailer with little food or water.

By the time they reached the Port of Sweet Grass, the animals were sick, hungry, dehydrated and full of parasites.

Unless they're too old or infirm to withstand surgery, the dogs will be spayed or neutered before they're released.

About a dozen of the dogs have gone home with volunteers who fed, watered, exercised and watched over the dogs for months, first at Shelby and then at Great Falls, while the legal case was concluded.

The volunteers agreed to follow through with the surgeries.

In keeping with the sentencing agreement, 20 dogs believed to have superior genetics have been sent to a half dozen breeders from Washington state to Michigan.

Collie breeder Judy Wolf of Scottsdale, Mich., who was prepared to testify on Athena Lethcoe-Harman's behalf but wound up not being asked, received six dogs.

Authorities in Scottdale "couldn't say enough good things about her," Toole County Sheriff's Deputy Mike Lamey said.

Seven dogs were given to rottweiler breeder Gwen Towne Hogge, a friend of Lethcoe-Harman's in Alaska who did testify on her behalf during the Harmans' first trial in January, which ended with a hung jury.

TODAY IN HISTORY

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Sunday, July 13, the 194th day of 2003. There are 171 days left in the year.

Today's highlight in history:

On July 13, 1793, French revolutionary writer Jean Paul Marat was stabbed to death in his bath by Charlotte Corday.

On this date:

In 1787, Congress enacted an ordinance governing the Northwest Territory.

In 1863, deadly rioting against the Civil War military draft erupted in New York City.

In 1878, the Treaty of Berlin amended the terms of the Treaty of San Stefano, which had ended the Russo-Turkish War of 1877-78.

In 1886, Father Edward Joseph Flanagan, the founder of Boys Town, was born in Roscommon, Ireland.

In 1960, John F. Kennedy won the Democratic presidential nomination at his party's convention in Los Angeles.

In 1967, race-related rioting that claimed 27 lives broke out in Newark, N.J.

In 1974, the Senate Watergate Committee proposed sweeping reforms in an effort to prevent another such scandal.

In 1977, a blackout lasting 25 hours hit the New York area.

In 1978, Lee Iacocca was fired as president of Ford Motor Co. by chairman Henry Ford II.

In 1979, a 45-hour siege by Palestinian guerrillas began at the Egyptian Embassy in Ankara, Turkey.

Ten years ago: The American League defeated the National League in the All-Star Game, 9-3, in Baltimore. Race car driver Davey Allison died in Birmingham, Ala., of injuries suffered in a helicopter crash.

Five years ago: A jury in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., ruled that the Rev. Al Sharpton and two others had defamed a former prosecutor by accusing him of raping Tawana Brawley. Four young cousins in Gallup, N.M., died after becoming trapped in a car trunk.

One year ago: The nation's governors opened their summer meeting in Boise, Idaho, with high health care costs the main topic. Photographer Yousuf Karsh died in Boston at 93.

Today's birthdays: Former Housing Secretary Jack Kemp is 68. Actor Patrick Stewart is 63. Actor Robert Forster is 62. Actor Harrison Ford is 61. Singer-guitarist Roger McGuinn (The Byrds) is 61. Actor-comedian Cheech Marin is 57. Actress Didi Conn is 52. Singer Louise Mandrell is [illegible] director Cameron Crowe is 46. Tennis player Anders Jarryd is 42. Country singer-songwriter Victoria Shaw is 41. Blue-grass singer Rhonda Vincent is 41. Actor Michael Jace is 38. Country singer Neil Thrasher is 38. Singer Gerald Levert is 37. Rhythm-and-blues singers Lovell and Laval Jones (Twice) are 32. Singer Deborah Cox is 30. Rock musician Will Champion (Coldplay) is 25. Country musician Mike Melancon (Emerson Drive) is 25.

Thought for today: "There are people who want to be everywhere at once, and they get nowhere."

— *Carl Sandburg, American writer (1878-1967)*

Inventory Reduction Sale!
Sunday, July 13, through Saturday, July 19.
50% OFF
all greeting cards, and all health & beauty care items*
*excluding insulin and syringes

earliestsummer clearancesale
Further reductions just taken!
30% OFF
our original prices*
Men's & Women's Shoes - On Racks For Easy Selection
*Prior sales & layaways excluded
Yaeger's Shoes
1271 N. Telegraph Rd. Hampton Plaza - 241-5090
HOURS: Mon.-Fri. 10-6; Sat. 10-5
MasterCard VISA

Cash, checks up to the amount of purchase, credit or debit cards and Food Stamps accepted.
All sales final...
While supplies last.
Sale prices will scan at register.
food town SUPERMARKETS ®
This offer exclusively at:
Monroe Food Town
211 N. Telegraph Road
15472SR7/03

JUL 13 2003

COMMENT

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An employee-owned newspaper
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THOMAS POTTORFF, circulation manager
STEPHEN T. GRAY, vice chairman
DEBORAH SAUL, editor and vice president
THOMAS J. CHULSKI, editorial page editor
SHIRLEY HYDEN, business manager

OUR VIEW

Beef up fire inspections

Fire inspections of commercial buildings in the City of Monroe are lagging and city officials are a bit distressed over the issue.

National fire safety standards require all commercial buildings to be inspected at least annually, not an unreasonable expectation.

Yet, of the 750 businesses in the city, only about 165, or 22 percent, were completed last year. Fire officials say the reason is that the fire department is understaffed and overworked and isn't capable of doing all the required inspections each year. Each inspection can take from 30 minutes to several days, depending upon the size of the commercial structure.

City officials have known about the problem for years and got a recent reminder when it was brought up again by a consultant studying the potential merger of the city and Frenchtown Township fire departments.

The consultant's report didn't pull any punches. "The fire marshal, even with assistance, is challenged to keep regular inspections current and to adjust for day to day requests that come up," the consulting report said. "It is our observation that the fire marshal is extremely busy and lacks secretarial-administrative support."

Of course, this dilemma isn't surprising to most familiar with city fire department operations. Indeed, many cities suffer from the same problem.

In Monroe, it might be more understandable because several years ago the city decided to commit fire department staff to inspecting hundreds of apartments and other rental units under a new rental inspection law.

Not only is the city's fire marshal responsible for overseeing the rental housing inspection program, but he also investigates suspected arsons, is responsible for some training duties and for maintaining the city's fire code to meet state and national standards.

And unlike rental inspections, commercial inspections don't generate any revenue for the city.

Clearly, something's wrong with this whole picture.

First, it would seem the city cannot afford to ignore the issue. All it would take is one disastrous commercial fire in a building the city hasn't inspected for some time for the nightmare to begin. Memories of the recent nightclub fire in Boston should underscore that point.

Second, why can't the city charge for fire inspections on a sliding scale? Making sure a business is safe for employees and the public seems to be a legitimate cost of doing business and also could reduce a company's liability exposure. The city's already endorsed that concept by charging rental inspection fees to landlords, some of the city's smallest businesses. Even if the city charged a flat rate of $50 on each of the 165 businesses it inspected last year, it would have generated enough to pay for some part-time clerical help for the fire department, and maybe enable more inspections.

The city also will want to consider seriously some of the other findings in the consulting study that could produce savings, such as establishing joint purchasing and training with other area fire departments.

The commercial fire inspection issue is too crucial to let sit on the back burner. No doubt the city will move quickly on this issue.

▶ **To the point**

The City of Monroe should quickly address the need for more fire department help in tackling a backlog of commercial fire inspections.

Summer films fail to sizzle

To some, the start of the summer season has given us a few surprises: cooler May/June temperatures, more rain, an economy that has yet to charge back up.

Movie and television producers, too, may be suffering something of their own shock.

In recent years, the cycle of television shows and movie releases for the hot-weather months has gotten numbingly familiar. Studios offer up action sequences and hyped-up sequels, looking to cash in on audiences they believed wanted a lot of spark without a lot of substance. Television networks have committed themselves to a string of reality shows, hoping a steady diet of talent contests and dating games leaves viewers satisfied.

It seems they may have miscalculated.

Reruns, always poor performers in the summer months, are outpacing reality shows with viewers. Despite a string of shows that range from "Dog Eat Dog" to "For Love or Money" to "Fame," no reality show is placing in the top 10 in the ratings. Instead, powerhouse scripted shows – both "CSI" series and the "Law & Order" franchise – are capturing viewers who either missed episodes during the season or would rather watch the shows again than subject themselves to "reality" TV.

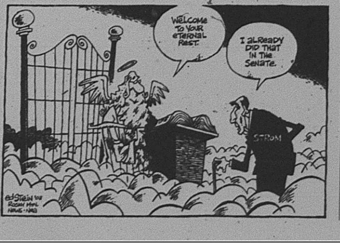
And movie studios' own season of reruns – sequels that are retreads of the original, action movies that employ all-too-familiar special effects and skimpy plots – has been disappointing. Attendance has been down 6 percent and, worse for the studios, major releases have failed to engage viewers as they have in the past.

There have been positive surprises, too. Films that employ more imagination and originality have outperformed expectations. "Finding Nemo," while it was widely believed to have major potential, has become the highest grossing film of the year. And smaller films have seen larger audiences than expected. The low-budget horror film "28 Days Later," the soccer film "Bend It Like Beckham" and the documentaries "Spellbound" and "Capturing the Friedmans" have become some of the season's biggest success stories.

If film and television executives are listening this year we'll have a long string of more original television programming and movie releases to enjoy in summers to come.

▶ **To the point**

Audiences seem to be tiring of the same-old-formula entertainment that executives try to sell in the summer.



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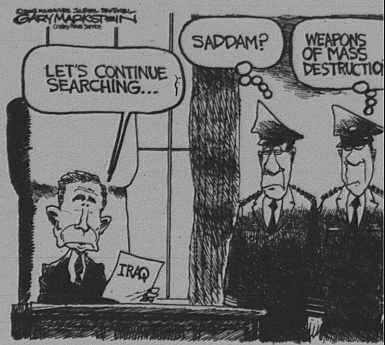

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Why can't MDOT see wisdom of cameras?

Your Sunday article "Monroe looking into intersection cameras" points to an important issue: Why doesn't the State of Michigan Department of Transportation take responsibility for citizens' safety?

I think the cameras would be beneficial in nabbing hazardous drivers that infest our roads nowadays. Why can't MDOT and others agree? It would bring in enough revenue to fund the project and save lives at the same time.

Recently I phoned MDOT and asked why we could not have a flashing red light to allow left turns when there is no oncoming traffic at the northbound US-23 off-ramp at M-50 in Dundee. This would reduce the backup of traffic and also reduce drivers' wait. But I was told "the state does not approve of that."

It seems as if the only thing the state approves is the Catastrophic Fund to finance the Detroit-type driving.

Winston Davies
Dundee

America can't afford 'free' drug benefits

A great deal of media time has been focused on the bills in Congress regarding prescription drug coverage. Did we really get the facts?

Did we get the idea that we were getting *free* prescriptions? If I heard right, a talk-show host mentioned that the eventual program cost to the government would be *trillions* of dollars.

With all the income tax cuts and rebates, where will this money come from? Has anybody figured out what percentage of our paycheck already goes into all of the other taxes and "fees" with which we are plagued?

Given the inefficiency with which the government operates, it seems like most of this would go toward "administrative" costs, but will it not be our own tax dollars (by whatever name they call it) that are footing that bill? Also, our Medicare premiums will be increased, and we will have larger co-pays and deductibles. I certainly wouldn't call that "free" prescription coverage!

Letters are welcome

Letters on matters of public interest are welcome. Full name, address and telephone number are required. Anonymous letters and those without verifiable names and addresses will not be published. Letters are limited to 500 words and may be edited for brevity.

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OTHER VIEWPOINTS

Justice Thomas follows colorblin

Joseph Perkins
Newspaper Enterprise Association

"Clarence Thomas is my color, but he's not my kind." So sneered Al Sharpton, the black preacher and presidential hopeful, during a recent Democratic candidates' forum sponsored by Jesse Jackson's Rainbow/PUSH coalition. Sharpton's remark reportedly elicited one of the loudest applause lines.

The predominantly black, overwhelmingly liberal, decidedly Democratic audience apparently shared the insinuation that Thomas is a traitor to the race, not the least because the Supreme Court justice opposes racial preferences.

Last month, Thomas joined the high court's 6-3 majority in Gratz v. Bollinger, which struck down a point system by which the University of Michigan's undergraduate admissions office gave a decided advantage to minority applicants over comparably qualified whites. He also sided with the 4-5 minority in Grutter v. Bollinger, in which the court contradictorily decided it was okay for Michigan's law school to give minority applicants an advantage over comparably qualified whites.

Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, who wrote the majority opinion in Grutter, offered a tortured explanation of why the university's law school admissions practices passed constitutional muster while the practices of undergrad admissions did not. The undergrad admissions' point system was blatantly preferential to minorities, she reasoned, whereas the law school's admissions system was more nuanced.

Yet the law school's practices were no less preferential to minorities, no less discriminatory toward whites — that was borne out during lower-court consideration of Grutter. An analysis of admissions data provided by the law school revealed that race was not just one of a number of factors in the admissions process but a "super factor."

An African American or Mexican American or Native American or Puerto Rican applicant with the same LSAT score and grade point average as a white applicant was many, many times likelier to be accepted by Michigan Law — tens to hundreds of times likelier, according to expert testimony.

Such grossly unequal treatment of minority and white students offended Thomas' sensibilities. "I believe," he wrote, "blacks can achieve in every avenue of American life without the meddling of university administrators." By "meddling," the justice referred to admissions policies that artificially increase the numbers of minorities on university campuses by holding blacks and Hispanics to lower admissions standards.

To Sharpton and others of his kind, that colorblind view amounts to racial heresy. How dare Thomas, how dare any black man or woman, think, write or say such a thing?

But Justice Thomas is hardly breaking new philosophical ground. In fact, his views on racial preferences sound very much like those of several much-revered figures in black history — men whom Sharpton almost certainly would count among his kind, like Frederick Douglass, one of the foremost leaders of the abolitionist movement. In 1865, Douglass delivered a message to well-meaning but misguided whites who thought they were doing blacks a favor by giving them preferential, rather than equal, treatment.

In "regard to the colored people," he said, "there is always more that is benevolent, I perceive, than just, manifested toward us. What I ask for the Negro is not benevolence, not pity, not sympathy, but simply justice.

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three years as principal and 17 years with the district.

"We all take pride in our school," said Jane Payne, a member of the Parent-Teacher Organization Board at Hunter who has two children enrolled in the school. "We just got our accreditation … it's very important to have principals in these positions before school starts."

Mr. Vollmar replied that she could "rest assured" that the district would have "qualified, certified" administrators in place by the time classes resume.

Ms. Payne said having someone with experience with elementary children was important. Mr. Vollmar said having a "knowledgeable administrator" was even more important.

"We're going to look for the best person possible," he said. "We've had these situations before. I think we staff people correctly and our record (with accreditation) speaks for itself."

Ms. Painter asked why the district waited so long to advertise to fill Mrs. Buchanan's position. Mr. Vollmar said the district looked at "all possibilities" for filling the job. The second vacancy also "changed some of our thinking as well."

No one applied on Tuesday, Mr. Vollmar said. He said he hoped to have a recommendation for filling the posts at the next board meeting Aug. 12.

MARKETS

Stocks fall

NEW YORK (AP) — A sluggish outlook from Boeing pressured Wall Street Wednesday as investors searched in vain for strong evidence of a resurging economy by year's end.

In morning trading, the Dow Jones industrial average was down 42.92, or .5 percent, at 9,115.53, having gained 61 points in the previous session.

The broader market also was lower. The Nasdaq composite index declined 8.19, or .5 percent, to 1,697.91.

	Closed Tues.	10:30 today
Air Gas	18.77	18.69
Aquila	2.45	2.42
AT&T	19.82	19.36
BP	40.99	40.99
CMS Energy	6.69	6.56
CSX	31.61	31.38
Charter Commun.	5.08	5.04
Citigroup	45.45	45.36
Comerica	31.61	46.15
DTE Energy	37.54	37.27
DaimlerChrysler	34.45	34.38
Dana Corp.	15.28	15.53
Delphi Automotive	8.07	8.15
Dow Chemical	37.54	31.99
Eastman Kodak	24.59	26.60
Elder Beerman	5.96	6.06
Fifth-Third Bank	55.51	55.58
Firstenergy	34.52	24.51
Foot Locker (Woolworth)	14.05	14.88
Ford Motor	10.58	10.52
General Electric	27.41	27.12
General Motors	36.04	35.91
IBM	81.85	82.11
International Paper	38.62	38.66
Jefferson Smurfit	14.37	14.35
Key Corp.	26.18	26.06
Kmart	24.15	23.67
La-Z-Boy Incorporated	21.88	21.72
Lear Seating	52.42	52.35
Libbey Inc.	27.30	26.86
Lowe's	47	46.96
Micron Tech	14.30	14.75
Monroe Bank & Trust	14.55	14.75
Morgan Stanley	46.76	46.97
National City	33.70	33.36
National Steel	.02	.02
Owens Corning	.68	.71
Penney, J.C.	16.91	16.75
PepsiCo	47.05	46.93
Pfizer	32.43	32.34
Rite Aid	4.50	4.51
Sears Roebuck	40	39.83
Spartan Stores	3.37	3.41
Sysco Corp.	28.75	29.69
Tenneco	5.13	5.28
USX	16.29	15.99
United Industrial	15.47	15.10
Verizon Commun.	35.67	35.42
Viacom	42.50	42.52
Visteon	6.29	6.24
Wal-Mart	56.90	56.18
Worthington	13.92	14.05

(Courtesy of Morgan Stanley)

NY Merc gold sold at $350.60 a troy ounce Tuesday. Silver sold for $4.78.
— Associated Press

Local cash grain

Ida Farmer's Co-Op Co.

	Tues. 9 a.m.	Wed. 9 a.m.
No. 2 white wheat	$2.85	$2.84
No. 2 red wheat	$3.05	$3.04
Corn	$2.04	$2.04
Soybeans	$5.63	$5.61

2003 crop prices

No. 2 red wheat	$3.05	$3.04
Corn	$1.81	$1.81
Soybeans	$4.83	$4.61

Prices are subject to change.

Eggs

Midwest dozen egg prices for Tuesday: extra large, 66-75; large, 65-73; medium, 50-58.

LOTTERIES

Multi-state Lottery

Mega Millions
1-5-31-38-47

Mega Ball
3

MICHIGAN LOTTERY

Tuesday Daily
Midday 3-6-4
Evening 9-5-8

Tuesday Daily-4
Midday 8-7-8-2
Evening 8-2-9-9

Tuesday Rolldown
7-12-15-17-19

Tuesday Keno
8, 9, 13, 17, 18, 22, 29, 33, 39, 42, 50, 51, 54, 56, 57, 59, 61, 62, 70, 75, 78, 80

Tuesday Change Play
B-E-0-1-5-1
M-Z-4-3-4-1
D-X-1-7-2-6
H-E-2-7-0-1
P-H-8-6-8-5
M-R-7-5-8-8

OHIO LOTTERY

Tuesday Pick 3
Midday 2-9-7
Evening 0-2-0

Tuesday Pick 4
Midday 7-5-3-3
Evening 2-0-5-0

Tuesday Buckeye 5
5-10-20-22-36

sibly caused tning strike

njuries, fire officials said.

Chief Wertenberger said he origins of the fire may go ack to Monday when the ouse was struck by lightning. When the electrical ystem of the home was estarted, a short in the iring ignited the inside of he walls, the chief said.

The Ida Township Volunteer Fire Department ervices the southern part f Raisinville Township by ontract.

Firefighters arrived at 7:24 .m., according to central ispatch, and were at the ome making sure the fire vas extinguished until just fter 10 p.m.

"The whole attic was nvolved when we got there, ut it didn't break through he roof," Chief Wertenerger said.

be suspended

ture, Mr. Link said.

There is already an existng 10-inch water main in he ground, but that isn't big nough to serve a larger disibution system to the west, e said.

Crews cleared a storm rain in front of the fair ffice Tuesday to allow torm water to flow more eely. More than an inch of ain that fell Monday and uesday produced standing ater on the fairgrounds, Varren Siebarth, fair manger, said.

"We had water sitting all ver the fair," Mr. Siebarth aid.

rsonnel moves

Iichigan State University, ast Lansing.

Also hired were Crystal IacKenzie-Zipp of righton, an MSU graduate vho will teach at Parsons lementary School, and am DeAngelo, a Gibraltar esident and Eastern Iichigan University, psilanti, graduate who will each at Hunter Elementary chool. He has taught swimning, football and baseball n the district.

All three teachers will be aid $34,425 a year under the istrict salary schedule for eachers with bachelor egrees at Step 1.

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INSIDE LOCAL GOVERNMENT, SCOHOLS
— a look around the Monroe County region

AIRPORT SCHOOL BOARD

Hollister named Airport president

CARLETON – Elaine Hollister, the longest-serving trustee on the Airport Community Schools Board of Education, has been returned as president of the seven-member body.

Mrs. Hollister, who has headed the board since 1999, will continue at the helm, it was decided at the board's annual organizational meeting last week.

Mrs. Hollister has been a trustee for 22 years and serves on the board's subcommittees on policy and facilities. She also is a member of board panels that negotiate contracts with teachers, secretaries and aides.

Margaret Hoffman returns as vice president. Other officers returning are James Geiermann as secretary and Gary Baker as treasurer.

The board will continue to meet at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Mondays of every month in the Wagar Middle School library. The only exceptions will be in December due to Christmas and in April due to spring break.

Other reappointments approved included the firm of Collins & Blaha P.C. as legal counsel; Mrs. Hoffman, delegate to the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB); Mr. Baker as MASB Key Board member, and Mr. Geiermann as representative on the Monroe County Association of School Boards.

The following employees were hired: Heather Blankenship of Redford, resource room instructor at Sterling Elementary School; Corinne Webb of Indianapolis as art instructor, Airport High School; Stephanie Perry of Novi, band instructor, Wagar, and Marcee Pinter of Carleton, math instructor, high school.

A one-year contract with Sodexho to provide food services was renewed.

NEW BOSTON

Postmaster being sworn in Thursday

NEW BOSTON – A swearing-in ceremony for Pamela Collins, the new postmaster in New Boston, will be held at 1 p.m. Thursday at the post office, 18777 Huron River Dr.

PAMELA COLLINS

John H. Talick, lead executive and district manager for customer service and sales in the Detroit District, will administer the oath of office. The event is open to the public.

Mrs. Collins, 46, was appointed in April and has more than 14 years of service with the U.S. Postal Service starting as a city carrier in Wyandotte. She has served in a number of supervisory and management positions throughout the district, with her most recent duties including officer-in-charge at the New Boston office.

She and her husband, Charlie, have been married for 31 years and live in Southgate. They have three daughters and one grandson.

She succeeds William Reeder, who retired in January after 10 years at the helm. The New Boston office serves about 3,700 customers and is growing, Mrs. Collins said.

MEETINGS CALENDAR

TONIGHT

Monroe Mayor's Traffic Committee, 5 p.m., council chambers, city hall, 120 E. First St.

Flat Rock Library Board of Directors, 7 p.m., municipal building, 25500 Gibraltar Rd., Flat Rock.

Berlin Township Water Sewer Commission, 7 p.m., wastewater plant, 8000 Swan View Rd., Newport.

Bedford Township Planning Commission, public hearing and regular meeting, 7 p.m., township hall, 8100 Jackman Rd., Temperance.

Milan Area Schools Board of Education, workshop, 7 p.m., administrative conference room, Milan High School, 920 North St., Milan.

Huron Township Board, 7:30 p.m., Country Meadows Mobile Home Park clubhouse, 3211 Will Carleton Rd., Huron Township.

THURSDAY

Monroe County Commission on Aging, budget hearing, 1-3:30 p.m., Monroe County Health Department, 2353 S. Custer Rd.

Monroe City Council, work session on refuse contract, 6 p.m., council chambers, Monroe City Hall, 120 E. First St.

Flat Rock Historic Preservation Commission, 7 p.m., municipal building, conference room A, 25500 Gibraltar Rd., Flat Rock.

Luna Pier City Council, 7:30 p.m., 4357 Buckeye St., Luna Pier.

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New grocer to keep Food Town name

■ Raymond Kouza says he hopes to improve the operation of the stores he's purchased in Monroe and Rockwood.

By CHARLES SLAT
Evening News staff writer

Over the past three weeks, Raymond Kouza periodically has been serving as a bagger at the Food Town store in Rockwood.

It may be an uncharacteristic role for the real estate investor and owner of an Ann Arbor restaurant and party store, but he figures that's one of the ways to find out what the customers want.

"The customers have got to teach us what else we need," Mr. Kouza said Tuesday.

For Mr. Kouza, the new owner of the Food Town stores in Rockwood and Monroe, the learning curve has been short.

He reopened the Rockwood store within days after Grand Rapids-based Spartan Stores withdrew from the region's grocery wars, closing or selling its Food Town properties. He plans to have the Monroe store at 211 N. Telegraph Rd. in full swing by this weekend.

"We managed to keep the name Food Town because I believe Food Town did a good job," he said. He will continue using the name under license from Spartan Stores.

Mr. Kouza said he found himself a buyer of the Food Town stores after a friend tipped him off that a store being closed on Airport Hwy. in Toledo might make a good Sav-A-Lot store location.

When Mr. Kouza inquired of Spartan Stores, he learned a slew of other properties were for sale.

"Believe it or not, it was a sucker deal," he said. "I figured if you buy more, you get a better deal."

He bought the Airport Hwy. store to convert to a Sav-A-Lot and snapped up the Rockwood and one Monroe store.

Mr. Kouza said he hopes to build upon the Food Town foundation, saying he hopes to have the stores cleaner, fuller stocked and providing better service.

"We want to bring them back to full capacity and have more natural food and diet stuff as well as more varieties and more perishables," he said.

He's also planning to have one aisle in each store stocked with $1 items — items he described as 80 percent of things that customers use everyday. It's a direct response to the growing number of dollar stores in the region, he said. Instead of video rental, he said he expects to bring in a line of videos that are inexpensive enough for most to afford.

He said he will continue to sell alcoholic beverages and might expand the wine selection. He operates the Main Party Store, which has a wine shop inside, and the Heidelberg restaurant, both in Ann Arbor. He said one of his brothers is a wine expert.

Each of the two Food Town stores will employ 35 to 40 workers. Both are still hiring. Plans are to have them open seven days a week, probably between 8 a.m. and 10 p.m.

A main wholesaler to the stores will be Roundy's Inc., which was the distributor Food Town used before it began stocking Spartan-brand foods.

Mr. Kouza said the grocery business is a bit of a new field for him, but "all my life, I've dealt with the public."

"I hope we can run them to the customer's satisfaction," he said of the stores he's purchased. "We're going to be staying Food Town and we're going to be doing our best."

Mr. Kouza's stores are just two of 20 Food Town stores in southeast Michigan and northwest Ohio that Spartan decided to close or sell due to tough competition in the area grocery industry.

Food Town stores in Milan, Dundee, Monroe and Frenchtown Township were sold to Kroger and are opNew erated by that company. The Temperance store was closed and the Lambertville store continues to operate under Spartan ownership.

CITY OF MILAN

Candidates questioned on school vote

By SCOTT NEINAS
Evening News staff writer

MILAN — The moderator's question at a candidates forum in Milan Tuesday rang out like a shot in the night.

"How did you vote in the school millage election and why?"

Up until that point, the questions at the forum were relatively straight forward. The 11 candidates told a crowd of about 40 how they would handle the city's growth, taxes, parks and police department.

Then, Chad Nyitray, the who moderated the forum for the Milan Area Chamber of Commerce, posed the question that stuck out like a sore thumb on a healthy hand.

All 11 candidates responded to the question, but not all of them answered it.

"It doesn't make a difference how I voted," said Mayor David Ludwig, who's again running for the city's top job.

Councilwoman Marilyn Wisner, Martha Churchill, Jim Latham, and Joe Chapin didn't answer it either, although some of them gave implied answers.

"My children deserve nothing but the best," said Mr. Chapin.

Marcia Hancock, Rod Hill and Russell Dotson said they voted against the millage, Owen Diaz and Tim Gibelyou said they voted for it and Doug Gilson said he didn't vote at all.

"That was a tough question," said Mr. Nyitray after the meeting.

The question was even open to interpretation. It was clear some candidates thought it referred to the $50 million bond proposal in 2000 that's paying for the new Milan High School. Others apparently thought it was for the most recent proposal, a building repair fund that was defeated for the third time in a row by Milan voters.

Mr. Nyitray said he just asked the question exactly the way it came in. The chamber took questions from the community and asked them in the order they were received, Mr. Nyitray said.

The forum at Milan City Hall Tuesday night was held to give voters and idea of where the 11 candidates are on the issues. In Milan, that means how to deal with the influx of hundreds of homes planned for the community in the next few years.

An Aug. 5 primary election will trim three mayoral candidates down to two. Running for the two-year term are Mr. Ludwig, Ms. Hancock and Mr. Diaz.

The primary also will cull eight council candidates down to six. Those six then will run for three four-year council seats. Lone incumbent Marilyn Wisner along with Mr. Chapin, Ms. Churchill, Mr. Dotson, Mr. Gibelyou, Mr. Gilson, Mr. Hill and Mr. Latham are the candidates.

The general election is Nov. 4.

The questions at times generated criticism of the current council, which some candidates said was allowing too much residential development in the city and not attracting enough industry.

Mr. Ludwig said negotiations with York and Milan townships are vital to the city's future tax base as the city eyes a plumb piece of land northeast of town that could be a future industrial park.

But some candidates said not enough has been done already.

"You can say we don't have land for industry, but that doesn't stop the housing developers who are putting up homes all around the edge of town," said Ms. Churchill.

Ms. Hancock, a council member who is running for mayor, said she would stem the tide of residential growth.

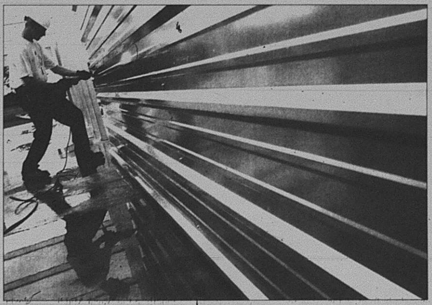
"The residents will have to pay for that growth. I'm not afraid to say 'no' to anything that will strain our infrastructure," she said.

The forum as a whole went smoothly as all the candidates respected the one-minute time limit they had to answer questions, sometimes stopping in mid sentence as they were told their time was up.

Judy Schonek, a Milan resident who attended the forum, said that although she "didn't like the question about the school," she felt she benefited from the forum.

"I think it was very interesting," she said.

Storage sheds taking shape



– Evening News photo by KELLY GLASSCOCK

Alex Hess helps build extra storage units at Secure Self Storage on S. Telegraph Rd. Monday morning. The units will be finished by September. The business is expanding with a single building that will house small units.

Trash bills being considered

WASHINGTON (AP) — Michigan lawmakers hope a former state police trooper who discovered blood dripping from a Canadian trash truck at the Michigan border can finally convince Congress to let Michigan and other states ban shipments of Canadian trash.

The former trooper, Linda Jordan, who turned back the trash shipment after finding it contained prohibited medical waste, is among those scheduled to testify today at a hearing before the House Subcommittee on Environment and Hazardous Materials. U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich., Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Director Steve Chester and Michigan Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema also are scheduled testify.

It's the first time in two years Congress will consider bills to limit Canadian trash, according to U.S. Rep. John Dingell's office. Dingell, D-Mich., is sponsoring one of the three bills the subcommittee is considering; Republican Reps. Jim Greenwood, R-Pa., and Mike Rogers, R-Mich., are sponsoring the other two.

The bills would combat the trash shipments in different ways. Rogers' would allow states to ban shipments from Canada but not from other states, a concession to trash exporters like New York. Greenwood's bill would allow state and local governments to limit shipments. Dingell's bill would make the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency enforce a 1992 agreement that requires the EPA to consider a state's needs and ban trash if there are impacts on public health, the environment or roads.

The bills have an uncertain future in the face of the powerful waste management industry as well as states who export trash. There also is some debate within Michigan's delegation about whether the bills violate the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Dingell says Rogers' bill would be tied up in the courts if it passes. Expected to repeat that claim Wednesday is Daniel Esty of the Yale University Environmental Law and Policy Center, an official in the administration of former President George H.W. Bush who helped negotiate NAFTA.

"You can't get a better authority than this," Dingell spokesman Michael Hacker said.

Rogers is countering with University of Michigan Law School professor Robert Howse, a trade specialist who is expected to say Rogers' bill withstands NAFTA.

"The waste-haulers wrap themselves in NAFTA," Rogers spokeswoman Sylvia Warner said. "But NAFTA has exceptions in it, for the environment, conservation, health issues."

Chester is expected to testify in favor of Greenwood's bill, which would let states put an annual cap on the amount of waste they want to accept. Without the measure, "we are unable to manage our solid waste capacity," DEQ spokeswoman Patricia Spitzley said.

Democratic Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm also supports Greenwood's bill, her spokeswoman said Tuesday. Granholm is one of six governors who signed a letter to the subcommittee in April asking it to pass Greenwood's bill.

GLANCE AT TRASH BILLS

U.S. Reps. John Dingell, D-Dearborn, and Mike Rogers, R-Brighton, and Jim Greenwood, R-Pa., are sponsoring measures to halt Canadian trash shipments into Michigan. Here are summaries of those measures:

Bill: HR1730

Sponsor: Rep. Jim Greenwood (co-sponsored by Dingell and Rogers)

The bill does not allow states to prohibit all out-of-state trash, but gives states and local governments some tools to responsibly maintain disposal sites. For example, local governments would be authorized to ban out-of-state municipal solid waste unless the landfill obtains the agreement of the affected local government. State governments, when issuing permits for waste facilities, would have the authority to place a cap on out-of-state waste received annually. States and affected local governments also could limit the amount of out-of-state waste received at each landfill to 1993 levels, or any subsequent year where records documenting out-of-state waste were kept.

Bill: HR382, The Solid Waste International Transportation Act of 2003:

The bill would allow states to ban or impose limitations on municipal solid waste from Canada. It would not allow bans or limits on trash from other states.

Bill: HR411

Sponsor: U.S. Rep. John Dingell (co-sponsored by Rogers)

The bill would require the Environmental Protection Agency to enforce a 1992 hazardous waste agreement between Canada and the U.S. The agreement requires Canada to notify the EPA before it sends shipments of trash to Michigan. The bill also would allow the EPA to turn back trash shipments based on concerns about the environment, public health, road use and emissions from trash trucks.

Source: U.S. Congress

GIBRALTAR SCHOOLS

Deadline for law firms to apply Friday

By DEAN COUSINO
Evening News staff writer

GIBRALTAR – Law firms wanting to represent Gibraltar Schools in 2003-04 have until Friday to apply for the job.

The district is shopping around for a new firm to replace Logan, Huchla & Wycoff, P.C., a Riverview firm that has represented the district since the mid-1990s. The board of education dropped the firm by a 4-3 vote at the July 8 organizational meeting and appointed the Southfield firm of Collins & Blaha as its legal counsel on an interim basis.

Board President Elton Laura Jr. announced Friday's deadline at Tuesday's board session. He said after the meeting the post is being advertised in three area newspapers and that no firms had applied so far.

Five members of the board met in closed session with the interim law firm and Supt. James Vollmar after the meeting to discuss pending litigation. Attending his first board meeting was William Blaha, a partner in the firm with Gary Collins. The firm represents about 45 school districts in primarily southeast Michigan, including Airport, Bedford, Huron and Monroe Public Schools.

Mr. Laura suggested, and the board concurred 5-0, to establish a subcommittee to interview the applying law firms and then make a recommendation to the full board. He hoped the interviews could take place between Monday and Aug. 5. Mr. Laura said he envisioned a four-member panel consisting of three board members and an administrator.

Trustee Joanne Hawkins asked that as a precursor to the interviews, the district require the firms not to charge the district for an interview. She said past firms that were interviewed and not hired had charged fees to come in.

Both Michele Small, a parent of two students at Carlson High School, and Greg Calmus, a citizen, questioned the board about its decision to drop the Wycoff firm. Mrs. Small said she was concerned about saving money and believed that switching legal firms would cost more than retaining the Wycoff firm. She said Mr. Wycoff told her that one of the reasons his firm's fees were low was because Mr. Vollmar negotiated contracts with employees.

Mr. Vollmar said that most superintendents do not negotiate labor contracts.

"I've done it for at least six years," he said. "I just met Mr. Blaha yesterday. I have no idea what their intentions are."

Mr. Laura said that no decisions had been made yet by the board as to which firm would represent it in upcoming bargaining talks with four employee groups – custodial, food service, secretarial and transportation. He said when he came on board 11 years ago, there were no contracts to negotiate. Then, he and former board Treasurer Greg Irwin negotiated labor agreements and also saved the district money. Collins & Blaha was hired on an interim basis to handle general legal matters for the time being, but might have to review new contracts for errors and legalities.

Mr. Calmus said he was surprised the board moved so quickly on hiring the new law firm without any discussion. He said it looked "like a railroad."

Board Vice President Jeffrey Coleman said the four members of the board who voted to switch firms did not meet together prior to the vote.

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SHIRLEY HYDEN, human resources director and secretary

OUR VIEW

Laptops vs. adult ed?

The compromise budget package just adopted in Lansing includes a plan to offer Michigan's 132,000 public school sixth-grade students laptops or handheld computers. To say the concept is misguided would be charitable; in fact, its adoption shows an absurd skewing of priorities by our elected officials.

The plan would cost $38 million next year: $22 million in state funds and $16 million in federal funds. School districts would apply for grants to buy the laptops or handheld computers, such as Palm Pilots, and private firms would bid for the contracts to provide them.

Supporters say that, with these devices, students will be able to solve math problems using spreadsheets, to write papers and to use the Internet for research.

But students already can do these things with desktop computers, which already are proliferating – and which are cheaper, at least, than laptops.

True, not all school buildings are wired for Internet connections, and these wireless devices get around that obstacle. But that alone cannot justify the expense of this program.

And the costs go beyond the $38 million budgeted by the state. Local districts reportedly would have to pitch in $25 per student for each laptop or handheld computer. They would have to provide for maintenance and possibly storage and security. And who pays to train the teachers to integrate the devices into their classroom lessons? Again, apparently the local districts.

The plan is a huge extension of a pilot project that gave 100,000 students in 146 schools access to such devices earlier this year. Gov. Granholm actually proposed cutting the program to $1 million next year.

And it should be easy to see why. Technology in the classroom can be a great thing; Monroe County voters, recognizing this, twice have approved millage to bolster it for their own students. But it has to be carefully planned for, or a lot of money can be wasted.

> ▶ **To the point**
> *A $38 million state plan to give sixth-graders a shot at free wireless computers shows a misplaced sense of priorities in Lansing.*

Furthermore, it is far from clear that giving students Palm Pilots or laptops is the best way to improve education at a time when state revenue is scarce. The same budget that allots $38 million for this program cuts funding for adult education by nearly $57 million – a cut of nearly two thirds from present levels. That program serves 100,000 people now in programs, among other things, to earn GEDs (General Educational Development degrees), learn to read and speak English.

Where exactly is the overwhelming public demand for this program, at a time of tight budgets? Where are the hordes of educators demanding, "Give all our sixth-graders laptops!"?

The answer: nowhere. Nor was there much debate about the program in the Legislature. It apparently was slipped into the budget package during last-minute negotiations because House Speaker Rick Johnson wanted it. Possibly he was inspired by former Gov. John Engler's $110 million program a couple of years ago to give free computers to 91,000 teachers – another questionable idea.

Lansing would be better off using the money for other education programs – notably adult ed. Local officials should think long and hard before applying for the grants; given all the extra costs, the program is far from a bargain.

GUEST EDITORIAL

Commentaries from other newspapers do not necessarily reflect the views of The Monroe Evening News' editorial board.

Let representatives pay for health care

From THE FLINT JOURNAL

There will be no pangs of sympathy for Michigan House members as they absorb a 93 percent cut in their insurance benefit coverage. It is not a question of any of them going uninsured, in the manner of 52,000 residents of Genesee County alone.

It does mean that instead of receiving an annual payout of $2,389 to cover health care, they will receive $188.50 during the fiscal year that will begin Oct. 1. For those who even need the state's health care program, the remaining cost will have to come out of their $79,650 salaries, which only two years ago were $56,918.

… Many Michiganians were indignant at the time of the raises, without even taking into account that above salaries the lawmakers receive $1,000 a month for unmonitored expense funds.

The insurance-benefit cut is being imposed by House Speaker Rick Johnson, R-LeRoy, who wanted to slash House salaries across the board by 3 percent, but he had no power to enact a cut because legislators' pay is set by a compensation panel. Once the raises take effect, House members are stuck with them. So Johnson took an indirect route by imposing an administrative cut on the health care.

This is a symbolic cut, mostly recognition that the state has a $1 billion budget challenge and sacrifices will be made widely throughout government. Considering the total compensation package Michigan legislators enjoy, the effects on their pocketbooks might also be termed as symbolic.

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Parents are to good educ

Having just read Page One of Wedn about schools that " ment in academics, angry at those in the s government who ha the rules and penaltie seem to indicate that with the teaching a the school. Nowher mention of parent or sibility.

How can any tea responsible for failur student is not in scho parent assumes no re getting the child to sch no one at home to se homework is complet home sees that the st quate sleep so he/sh asleep in class, etc.? I stated as needing imp many parents take parent-teacher confe

Maybe the state ar ernments should st the home situation b everything on the t

Let stat

States' rights are a principle — exc become inconve powerful interest gr can be ignored or sw

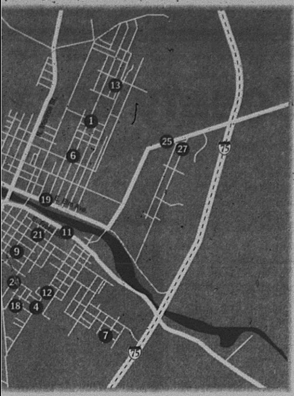
That lesson, taught will be put to the test as soon as today. Th House Financia Committee may take that would sharply power of state regulators to oversee the securities industry. The measure, introduced by Rep. Richard Baker, a Louisiana Republican, would prevent state regulators from working independently of the federal Securities and Exchange Commission in seeking structural changes in the way b es and investment ba

In other words, if fe are asleep at the swit be able to step in. No is being seen as a dir York Attorney Gener who forced the secu to end stock analys interests in a settle Spitzer embarrasse when he released e- that research analyst ly trashing stocks tha ommending to the pu

States may have a lo if they embarrass a f firms, the power of b in Washington will b stop them. So it seem Democrat. "The fede Republican Party se when the issue is the poor, and they want t the states," Spitzer sa view. "But when it c power to help the patrons, they brin Washington."

Strong words? Som are also worried abou

k of July 24-30



17. 1200 block of N. Telegraph Rd., larceny
18. 900 block of E. Ninth St., larceny
19. 400 block of W. Elm Ave., larceny
20. 600 block of S. Monroe St., larceny
21. 400 block of Humphrey St., larceny
22. 400 block of Smith St., breaking and entering
23. 1600 block of Ridge Ct., breaking and entering
24. 600 block of E. Seventh St., breaking and entering
25. 1000 block of N. Dixie Hwy., drunk driving arrest
26. 300 block of Crampton Dr., parental kidnapping
27. 800 block of Detroit Ave., domestic violence
28. 1500 block of Hampton Ct., larceny from a motor vehicle
29. 1700 block of Riverside Dr., larceny from a motor vehicle
30. 200 block of W. Second St., disturbing the peace
31. 600 block of W. Ninth St., minors consuming alcohol

—Evening News map by ROB GORCZYCA

Y CRIME LOG

2900 block of Hickory Dr., larceny of handgun
Summit and I-75, open intoxicants in a vehicle
7100 block Summit St, breaking and entering
2600 block of Gary Dr., assault
6100 block of S. Dixie Hwy., assault with a handgun
Erie Rd. and S. Dixie Hwy., drunk driving arrest
200 block of Westfield Dr., breaking and entering a vehicle
8300 block of S. Dixie Hwy., breaking and entering a vehicle
6500 block of S. Dixie Hwy., assault and battery
Dead end of Erie Rd., larceny from a motor vehicle

EXETER TOWNSHIP

7600 block of Blue Bush Rd., felonious driving
Sumpter and Shoemaker Rd., drunk driving

FRENCHTOWN TOWNSHIP

2100 block of Grand Blvd., home invasion
3100 block of 10th St., home invasion
5600 block of Lakeview Dr., larceny
3500 block of Monrona Blvd., breaking and entering
3200 block of Baycrest Dr., domestic violence
1100 block of N. Macomb St., domestic violence
1200 block of N. Dixie Hwy., larceny
1900 block of Hurd Rd., larceny
3300 block of Beechwood Dr., larceny
2900 block of Woodland Dr., larceny
300 block of Pebble Beach Dr., larceny
1400 block of N. Dixie Hwy., criminal sexual conduct
1700 block of Roman Dr., breaking and entering
4500 block of Dewey St., malicious destruction of property, resisting arrest
4100 block of Seventh St., aggravated assault
1500 block of Stewart Rd., larceny from a motor vehicle
1200 block of N. Telegraph Rd., malicious destruction of property
2100 block of N. Telegraph Rd., larceny
1700 block of N. Telegraph Rd., larceny
2100 block of N. Monroe St., retail fraud
4600 block of St. Clair St., larceny
8500 block of Chapel Ct., arson

LASALLE TOWNSHIP

Lavigne Rd. near Bartnik Rd., illegal dumping
3500 block of Swartz Rd., attempted breaking and entering
12000 block of B St., breaking and entering

LONDON TOWNSHIP

13000 block of Tuttle Hill Rd., malicious destruction of property

MILAN

11000 block of Darling Rd., domestic violence

MONROE TOWNSHIP

Rauch and S. Telegraph Rds., larceny
1000 block of Bacon St., domestic violence
1800 block of Everest Dr., assault and battery
14000 block of Cedar St., larceny
15000 block of S. Dixie Hwy., malicious destruction of property
1900 block of S. Custer Rd., domestic violence
Cloverdale and Mulhollen Drs., felonious assault

RAISINVILLE TOWNSHIP

M-50 and Raisinville Rd., larceny
3700 block of S. Custer Rd., assault and battery

SUMMERFIELD TOWNSHIP

US-23 and 11 mile marker, receiving and concealing stolen property

WHITEFORD TOWNSHIP

10000 block of Needham St., credit card fraud
Erie and Whiteford Center Rds., larceny from a motor vehicle
9300 block of Old US-223, breaking and entering
9600 block of S. County Line Rd., breaking and entering
9200 block of US-223, breaking and entering

MARKETS

Dismal report drops stocks

NEW YORK (AP) — Wall Street pulled back Friday after a lackluster employment report renewed investors' worries that the economic recovery would not be as speedy as hoped. The Dow Jones industrials fell nearly 80 points to end a four-week winning streak.

"Even though unemployment went down, the number of jobs available did too and that's really key," said Mike Kayes, chief investment officer at Eastover Capital in Charlotte, N.C. "Investors have been looking for when the economy can create jobs and it hasn't yet."

The Dow closed down 79.83, or .9 percent, at 9,153.97, more than wiping out a 33-point gain in the previous session that marked its fifth straight winning month.

The broader market also declined. The Nasdaq composite index fell 19.40, or 1.1 percent, to 1,715.62, having notched a six-month winning streak. The Standard & Poor's 500 index lost 10.16, or 1 percent, to 980.15, after it posted a fifth month of gains Thursday.

For the week, all three main gauges finished lower, with the Dow losing 1.4 percent, the Nasdaq lower .9 percent and the S&P declining 1.9 percent. The Nasdaq and S&P posted their second losing week in three.

The Labor Department reported the nation's unemployment rate declined to 6.2 percent in July from 6.4 percent in the previous month.

The figure was slightly better than analysts' estimates, but much of the drop came from 470,000 disenchanted people who abandoned job searches.

Meanwhile, the Institute for Supply Management said its manufacturing index rose to 51.8 in July from 49.8 in June. A reading above 50 indicates expanding manufacturing activity; analysts had been forecasting a July reading of 52.0.

Trading has been choppy in recent weeks as investors, having sent stocks surging since mid-March, now seek proof of a strong economic recovery. Many investors believe employment in particular must show clear improvement for the rebound to continue.

"There was no real hurrah in the reports today to keep the market sustained in its current overbought condition," said A.C. Moore, chief investment strategist for Dunvegan Associates in Santa Barbara, Calif.

LOTTERIES

Multi-state Lottery

Mega Millions
2-11-27-30-33
Mega Ball
46

MICHIGAN LOTTERY

Friday Daily
Midday 1-0-4
Evening 7-4-0
Friday Daily-4
Midday 3-6-0-8
Evening 8-5-5-8
Friday Rolldown
4-7-13-21-28
Friday Keno
1-4-5-10-13-27-28-35
36-37-38-40-43-45-55
58-61-68-70-78-79-80
Friday Change Play
C-X-2-0-4-6
H-B-3-9-8-0
M-M-6-3-3-1
B-H-1-9-6-6
M-F-2-3-2-2
V-S-1-6-7-5

OHIO LOTTERY

Friday Pick 3
Midday 6-9-7
Evening 9-3-4
Friday Pick 4
Midday 4-1-2-5
Evening 8-5-4-1
Friday Buckeye 5

State to review driving records of Huron Township employees

HURON TOWNSHIP — Some 60 full-time Huron Township employees will have their driving records checked as part of a new service provided by the State of Michigan and contracted by the township board.

The governmental subscription service examines the records to see if employees have any serious traffic violations or outstanding warrants.

The service, which is free to nonprofit governmental entities, was recommended by the township's insurance company and the fire and police chiefs, said Dawnette Bowers, township clerk.

"We want to be notified if there" are people working with poor driving records, Mrs. Bowers said Tuesday.

"We check them out when

The service begins Aug. 1. It also will check the records of part-time employees.

The township has three part-time officers working in the police department, the clerk said.

The board also:

■ Scheduled its first auction to be held Sept. 26 at the department of public works' yard on Sterling St.

Mostly surplus office and computer equipment will be sold, Mrs. Bowers said.

An auctioneer has not been enlisted as yet.

■ Took no action on a proposed historic district study for the downtown area.

The township could use the district to apply for state or federal grants to improve public facilities in the area.

■ Learned that today is the last day to apply for a full-

Doug Donnelly, city editor

'Bee' movie first-rate thriller

Deborah Saul
Evening News editor

Forget "Survivor," "Who Wants to Marry My Dad?" and all the rest of those so-called "reality" shows. They might be entertainment, but they aren't reality.

But a movie called "Spellbound," now *there's* reality.

I don't mean the wonderful old Alfred Hitchcock film, but the new documentary about – be sure you're sitting down for this – the national spelling bee.

Don't dismiss it yet.

If you've seen the final rounds of the competition broadcast on ESPN you have some idea of the drama, tension and rare skill that goes into the national bee.

But the movie reveals so much more. It's really the story of America in the late 20th and early 21st centuries.

Seeing this film was a natural for me. For several years I've been the pronouncer at the annual county bee.

Many of the students practice all year and they know their schools and their families are proud of them. When a speller hears the "ding" of the bell that says he or she misspelled a word, a flood of disbelief, pain and disappointment follows.

Multiply those feelings by about a quadrillion and you have the national spelling bee.

I can't believe a pronouncer can even say the words much less should 12-year-olds be able to spell them.

Hellebore. Preterlabent. Dysphagia. Imputrescible.

But it's not about the words.

Here's the bio of a 9-year-old contestant from Texas: "He is a fan of mysteries, classics, myths, legends, history, and Harry Potter books. He enjoys and plays football, soccer, tennis, and basketball. His other leisure-time activities include gardening, rock collecting, coin collecting, bicycling, playing piano, and working with computers. His best subject is math."

But it's not about smart kids or busy kids.

Filmmaker Jeff Blitz chose 12 spellers to profile, eventually editing those down to eight who are followed from their homes to the big stage in Washington, D.C.

One girl is growing up on a Texas ranch where her father has worked since entering this country illegally from Mexico decades ago so his children would have a better life. Angela created her own games to help her learn to spell the English words. No matter what happens, she already has fulfilled her father's dream for her.

Neil is a second-generation East Indian boy from California whose father drills him on words along with the French tutor he hired to work with Neil on words derived from French ... and a Spanish tutor .... and a German tutor ... and an English tutor.

Ted's family lives in a doublewide trailer in Missouri. April's father works in a bar since being laid-off from his factory job years ago. Angela lives in the D.C. projects with her single mother. Emily wants to take her au pair to the finals.

In fascinating vignettes and interviews, we meet and grow to love these kids while we marvel at their determination, abilities and dreams. We meet their teachers, their siblings, the kids they beat out in their school spelling bees.

And when they step to the microphone and hear their words for the first time, we're pulling for them just as much as their parents are in the audience.

Rising above the odds to excel, finding a place where people appreciate a special talent or a quirky personality – is anything more American? "Spellbound" leaves us in awe to live in such a country.

Deborah Saul can be reached by telephone at 242-

Steer sale draws new grocer to area

By DEAN COUSINO
Evening News staff writer

There's a new grocer in the neighborhood and some 4-H'ers are mighty happy they're here.

Kroger Inc. made its debut at the 4-H Junior Livestock Auction Friday night in a big way by snatching up the grand champion steer owned by Bob Laux of Petersburg.

Even the pouring rain outside couldn't dampen the spirit of the sale inside the cozy show arena. William Lesko and more than a half-dozen store managers and meat cutters from Kroger's banded together in the middle of the arena and bought the 1,235-pound steer for a hefty $6 a pound. That brought a big smile to Bob, a football lineman at Ida High School, who shook hands with each of the employees after earning $7,410.

Mr. Lesko, who heads the meat operations in Michigan and Ohio, had to hold off Danny Vuich from Danny's Fine Foods and Herb Krueger from Monroe Bank & Trust to win the prized steer. Mr. Vuich went as high as $5.50 before yielding.

"We want to be involved," Mr. Lesko said before the big sale. "We are agriculture and the consumer business is agriculture. There's no better way to give back to 4-H and FFA."

Kroger's, which already owns a store in Lambertville, has added three new stores in the county by acquiring three Food Town stores, one in Dundee and two in Monroe. Mr. Lesko said they bought pigs and steers raised by employees' kids and gets "thousands" of letters from 4-H'ers in the two states who want Kroger to bid on their animals.

The livestock auction was nothing new for Lanell Ohlinger, who manages Kroger's Dundee store. She showed pigs and cattle for 10 years as a 4-H'er in Lenewee County and today helps her younger sister and cousins show.

"It's always good to see younger kids (show)," Ms. Ohlinger, 25, said. "It taught me responsibility and (how to) make good relationships with people."

Mr. Vuich came right back and grabbed the reserve grand champion steer that looked exactly like the grand champion, auctioneer Charles Chestnut noted. Andy Stahl of Deerfield, who raised the steer, got a nice $3.50 a pound, which earned him a sum of $4,498.

The Michigan State University sophomore was thrilled, he said, because it topped the $3.25 a pound he received for his grand champion in 1992, his first year in 4-H. It also was a great way to bow out of 4-H in his final year.

Gary and Lynn Lowe, owners of Winners Dodge in Woodhaven, were the contending bidder on the second sale. Not to be outdone, the Lowes got the next steer — Andy's 1,125-pound Division I champion — for $1.20 a pound. The Lowes, who live in Carleton, also bid at the 2002 auction.

Other division champions and their prices were: Division 2 grand champion, Ryan Geiman of Carleton, $1.20 a pound to Meyer-ERA Laboe Realty; Division 2 reserve champion, Jill Blanchette of Monroe, $1.50 a pound to United Realty Insurance-Mitch Felton; Division 3 reserve champion, Daniel Mathis of Monroe, $1.40 a pound to St. Mary's Meats.

Prices in the regular sale for steers averaged $1.20 a pound, which exceeded the 79-cent market price on Friday. Just to assure a fair premium, Monroe Bank & Trust brought about a dozen or so sales that were under average up to $1 a pound. The bank did the same for the hogs, bringing those sub-par sales up to 80 cents a pound.

Among the more than 350 registered bidders was Cousino Farms of Newport. The family consists of brothers Mike, Bob, Tony and Jake Jr. Most of them formerly showed steers in 4-H and now have kids of their own.

"They were in our club and are here to give back to 4-H," Denise Reaume, a 4-H leader, said. "That's what 4-H is all about."

— Evening News photo by VALERIE TOBIAS

The entire bidding crew from Kroger Co. stands behind the grand champion steer raised by Bob Laux (far right) of Petersburg. Kroger bought the 1,235-pound steer Friday night for $6 a pound, or $7,410.

Mark Vinceguerra of Monroe holds a banner he got after buying the grand champion hog Friday night at the fair for $13 a pound. Owner Katie LaRoy of LaSalle is all smiles after earning $3,315 from the sale.

— Evening News photo by VALERIE TOBIAS

Downpour dampens auction, but prices remain high

By DEAN COUSINO
Evening News staff writer

Squealing pigs, pouring rain and rolling thunder can sometimes make for unpredictable bidding.

That was the case Friday night when thunderstorms nearly washed out the annual 4-H Junior Livestock Association (JLA) auction at the Monroe County Fair. But the sale escaped any serious damage.

The downpour, thunder and a severe weather watch posted for Southeast Michigan arrived just as the hog sale got under way shortly after 6 p.m.

Katie LaRoy didn't have time to notice the dark clouds. She was too occupied trying to smile while selling her 255-pound grand champion hog for $13 a pound to Mark Vinciguerra of Monroe, owner of Northern Ohio Investment Co., a mortgage financing firm. That netted her a whopping $3,315, which the LaSalle teenager said she would put away in a savings account.

There were only two bidders on the grand champion. Herb Krueger, a perennial buyer from Monroe Bank & Trust, went as high as $12 a pound before yielding.

The premium was $2 a pound less than the $15 a pound paid for the grand champion in 2002. The record for the pigs is $20 a pound paid in 2001 for a champion raised by Michael Mathis of Monroe.

Mr. Vinciguerra had the biggest buy last year when he purchased a pen of hogs owned by the late McKenzie Orde of Ida for an incredible $5,000. Miss Orde died in an auto accident about 2 ½ months before the 2002 auction.

The reserve champion hog raised by little Kalah Parran of Petersburg went for $10 a pound to Michael Fahnestock, meat manager for Busch's Valu Land of Carleton. Danny Vuich was the contending bidder. Kalah, 8, earned $2,500 from the sale of her 250-pound hog.

Mr. Krueger came back and grabbed the 250-pound grand champion bar-

two years in high school left, said she would save the $1,500 for college. Her father, Jerry, one of the ringmen assisting with the sale, was elated.

"You've got to save early," Mr. Blanchette said. "College is expensive."

Katie Frutiger of Petersburg also had a good sale. Her 260-pound reserve champion barrow went for $2.75 a pound, earning her $715. John Durbin, manager of the Meijer Inc. store in Monroe, was the buyer and had to fight off Mr. Krueger.

Justin Ryan of Ida was the first to sell a pen in the regular sale. His pen of hogs totaling 475 pounds were sold for 70 cents a pound.

Most of the regular sale prices were well above the market price of 43 ½ cents a pound at the livestock markets, Ray Kuehnlein, general superintendent of 4-H hogs, said.

Dan Mathis, president of the JLA, planned to use the $539 from the sale of his Best in Class pen for college this fall when he enrolls at Eastern Michigan University. His younger brother, Michael, 15, also used his proceeds for college.

A pen with a gilt and a barrow raised by Kelsey Stein of Carleton went for $2.10 a pound to John Martin, owner of McGeady's Town Pub in Monroe.

The pen weighed a total of 540 pounds, so Kelsey received $1,134. The money will come in handy to buy more pigs next year, said her mother, Barb Stein.

"These pigs cost $200 each when we bought them," Mrs. Stein said. "They could be $400 to $500 next year."

As for Mr. Martin, don't expect any of the pork to be served to his family.

"He doesn't want to eat it," Mrs. Stein said. "He's going to donate it back."

Ida Township Supervisor Larry Metz also assisted with the hog sale and bought a couple of pens.

"I got a lot of letters," he said while herding pigs into the arena. "Some of

Dannys, bank lock horns again for top 4-H lamb at county fair

By DEAN COUSINO
Evening News staff writer

You can't threaten a total sales record in the Junior Livestock Association (JLA) auction without a big sale of lamb chops.

And that's just what happened Friday night when the grand champion lamb owned by Carrie Christensen went through the roof again for $30 a pound and helped boost overall sales to a near record. Both the buyer and the contending bidder were familiar faces — Danny Vuich from Danny's Fine Foods and Herb Krueger from Monroe Bank & Trust.

As was the case with the grand champion hog, there were only two bidders going after the 136-pound top lamb — Mr. Vuich and Mr. Krueger. Bidding started at $20 a pound and Mr. Krueger went as high as $29 before yielding to his arch-rival.

The incredible sale produced a fine finish to the JLA sale, which survived several downpours, lightning and thunder. When the last lamb was sold at 11:15 p.m., the total sales for 284 hogs, 280 lambs and 87 steers amounted to $272,683. That fell just short of the $283,437 earned last year and $282,058 in 2001.

"We were down about $10,000. That's not bad," said Ray Kuehnlein, 4-H hog superintendent. "The economy is a lot different today than it was last year. You just can't keep going up and up every year. We're happy."

Beef cattle sales amounted to $114,171, which topped the $104,755 from last year but fell short of the $125,355 in 2001. Sales of pork totaled $91,499, which was below the $108,619 from 2002, but which easily surpassed the $90,715 in 2001. Lamb sales amounted to $66,047, compared to $70,063 in 2002 and $65,988 in 2001.

Perhaps it was the auctioneering crew that kept urging Carrie to smile or the cool breeze that wafted through the arena that kept the bidding high. Whatever, Carrie, 19, earned herself $4,080 from the big sale. Mr. Vuich actually saved money after having bought the top lamb last year for $35 a pound.

The popular dark-haired grower ended up buying 43 lambs to add to the five pigs and three steers he bought, Mr. Kuehnlein said.

"He probably bought the most" among the several grocery stores present, he said.

The new 4-H queen — Megan Richey — followed Carrie in fine fashion and wore her crown. The 2003 Whiteford High School graduate sold her 145-pound reserve champion Suffolk for $13 a pound in a grocer fight to William Lesko from Kroger Co. John Durbin, manager of the Meijer Inc. store in Monroe, was the contending bidder. Megan took home $1,885 from the sale.

Trisha Hughes of Ottawa Lake came next and also had a successful sale. She saw her 122-pound champion ewe go for $3.50 a pound, or $427, to Wells Farm of Monroe. LeeAnn Wells, the bidder, fought off Mr. Krueger for the lamb. Ms. Wells said she liked the ewe so much, she wanted to take it home and breed it so her three children can show lambs again next year. One of her daughters, Lauren, went next and saw her 121-pound reserve champion ewe go for $4.50 a pound to Rehbein Paint Service of Monroe. The sale thrilled Lauren because the market for lambs was 95 cents a pound Friday. But her younger sister was less impressed and fell asleep on a chair.

Danyelle Himburg of Petersburg started off the regular lamb sale when her pen of lambs was bought by Timothy Doyle for $4 a pound.

For the second year in a row, bidders relied on two large overhead television monitors to see who was buying what while about two dozen JLA members and Enlist Group volunteers from the bank scrambled to record bids.

Danny Vuich, holding his son, Griffin, 3, and daughter, Taylor, 8, stand behind the 136-pound grand champion lamb being held by Carrie Christensen of Ottawa Lake. Mr. Vuich bought the lamb Friday night for a whopping $30 a pound, or $4,080.

— Evening News photo by VALERIE TOBIAS

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OUR VIEW

Terrorist futures: R.I.P.

> **▶ To the point**
> *The Pentagon plan to create a futures market for predicting dire Mideast events should have been stopped at the starting gate.*

The Pentagon this week announced a plan to create an online futures market where speculators could bet on the probability of terrorist attacks. And, amid cries of outrage, Pentagon officials shut the project down just a day later.

Give them one point for the quick cancellation – but deduct 10 points for coming up with this concept in the first place. Granted, the feds should be encouraged to "think outside the box" when it comes to novel ways of thwarting terrorists, but this plan was truly bizarre.

Under the $3 million program, beginning Oct. 1, speculators were to have a chance to trade futures in Mideast events, much as one can trade in futures on corn or other commodities now. The trading was to take place on the online Web site of the Policy Analysis Market, operated jointly by the Department of Defense and private partners.

The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) came up with the idea. Agency officials said it was designed to assess the likelihood of certain events by harnessing the hunches and inside knowledge of traders worldwide. The agency explained that the process has worked successfully in predicting commodity prices and elections. Possible examples of dramatic future events listed on the Web site included a coup in Jordan, a missile strike by North Korea and Yasser Arafat's assassination.

Defense officials observed that markets "are extremely efficient, effective and timely aggregators of dispersed and even hidden information ... often better than expert opinions."

That may be true when it comes to corn or elections. But terrorist events? That's a dubious theory at best.

Besides, as critics point out, creating a "terrorist futures market" with big payoffs for successful speculators might actually lead to terrorists cashing in on their misdeeds.

It's easy to see why this plan elicited howls of outrage, especially from Democrats. And it's easy to see why Deputy Defense Secretary Paul D. Wolfowitz – who said he learned of it through news accounts – professed shock in announcing its rapid demise. What's less clear was how such a badly misconceived concept got so far. Traders were to begin registering Friday.

DARPA has a good track record. Created in 1958 in response to the Soviet Union's launch of Sputnik, the agency pioneered in speech-recognition technologies and antichemical warfare and is credited with creating the forerunner of the Internet.

But it appears to have gone astray under the guidance of John M. Poindexter, who helped hatch the terrorist futures trading scheme. Mr. Poindexter, a retired rear admiral, also was the brains behind another dubious plan, Total Information Awareness, which was supposed to compile electronic dossiers on millions of Americans until Congress clipped its wings earlier this year.

Certainly federal officials should not be afraid to think creatively in brainstorming ideas to thwart terrorist attacks, but at some point someone has to weed out the bad ideas. The terrorist futures market should have been throttled much earlier.

The Bush administration should be asking itself whether Mr. Poindexter is the right person for this sort of job. What next: hiring a team of psychics to root out terrorists?

New push on deadbeats

> **▶ To the point**
> *A new state effort to prosecute child-support scofflaws should pay dividends.*

State Attorney General Mike Cox clearly is serious about fulfilling his 2002 campaign pledge to go after child-support deadbeats. Recently he and Gov. Jennifer Granholm announced a partnership to prosecute the worst offenders.

It looks like a worthwhile effort. About $4 billion in delinquent support is owed to families. Another $3 billion is owed to the state, which has to pay welfare or healthcare subsidies to low-income custodial parents when non-custodial parents fail to pay their share. In Monroe County alone, about 1,000 non-custodial parents are delinquent, owing anywhere from $1,000 to $100,000 in back child support.

To be sure, not all delinquents deserve the "deadbeat" label. While some parents refuse to pay, others might simply not have the means. They are in jail, out of work or in low-income jobs. Indeed, state records show nearly 75 percent of overdue child support is owed by parents making less than $20,000 a year.

These people, however, are not the target of the state's new collection effort. Mr. Cox wants to go after those who clearly have the means but who simply refuse to pay.

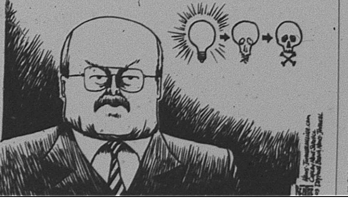
In many cases, these folks are out of reach of local prosecutors and friend of the court offices. For example, a man living in Florida owes thousands in back support, but local agencies do not have the budgets to pay for the $500 it would cost to return him from Florida. The new program is designed to overcome such obstacles.

Mr. Cox says his office is spending $280,000 on the new program in the present fiscal year (which ends Sept. 30) and the federal government is providing $500,000 in matching funds. He says he hopes to collect an extra $1 million this year and $10 million next year.

To be sure, that barely will make a dent in the billions owed in back child support. Still, it should make a difference to hundreds of custodial parents and their children who are struggling extra hard to pay their bills because of lack of child support.

It also will send a message to scofflaws. Since Mr. Cox took office, he has created a 10-person office for the sole purpose of collecting overdue support. As of early July, that office already had collected $330,000 and issued 30 arrest warrants.

Such efforts, combined with the new program, should help convince deadbeats that the state will not tolerate their foot-dragging, and to pay up before the police show up on their doorsteps.



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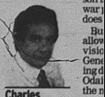


Charles Krauthammer
Washington Post Writers Group

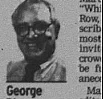
When the Iraqi monarchy was overthrown in 1958, Prime Minister Nuri al-Said, fleeing disguised as a woman, was caught, castrated and hacked to pieces by a crowd. When the strongman who took power, Abdul Karim Kassem, was overthrown five years later, he was shot and his body displayed on television. When Najibullah, deposed dictator of Afghanistan, was killed by the Taliban in 1996, he too was castrated, shot and hanged, still alive, from a lamppost.

Given the neighborhood, the complaint about the offense to local sensitivities by the American treatment of the bodies of Odai and Qusai is hard to fathom. Not that the public display of overthrown tyrants is by any means an exclusively Muslim custom. Think back only to 1989, when the Ceausescus' summary execution was videotaped and their bodies shown on Romanian TV, or, most famously, to Mussolini being strung upside down by the partisans.

These shows of public fury are more than just catharsis. They are a form of preventive politics. You want to show that the king is not only dead but also humiliated, desecrated, so as to strip him posthumously of the awe and aura he possessed in life.

Which is why the display of the dead Hussein brothers was so necessary. Consider the circumstances under which the Baath regime was overthrown. For 30 years, it ruled by torture and fear. Then all of a sudden, it disappeared. It was not decimated. It vanished, literally, into the night.

It's okay for cler



George Plagenz
Newspaper Enterprise Association

Ministers have to be careful about the anecdotes they tell. Sometimes, a minister who makes up a little story to warm up his congregation or to illustrate a point tells the story so often that eventually he can't remember whether it's true or not.

Usually this makes no difference. When you tell an interesting story, people don't make an issue over whether it actually happened.

One of evangelist Billy Graham's funniest stories is about a drunk on an airplane who stumbled up to him and muttered, "Mr. Graham, I am so glad to meet you. Your sermons have meant so much to me."

I don't imagine that ever happened. But it could have. Who knows? Who cares? It's a good story, and I laugh every time I hear it.

When I was a minister in Boston, I once invited the great Baptist preacher Bernard Clausen to preach at my church. The title of his sermon was "Good Grief!"

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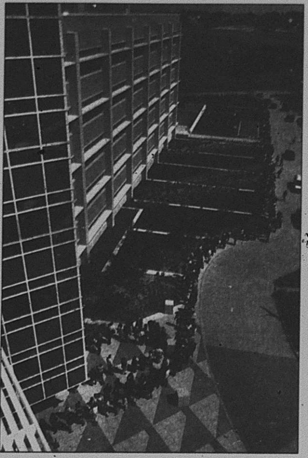
JUN 29 2003

Pounding the pavement



Hundreds of job seekers line up Thursday outside Wells Fargo Home Mortgage Headquarters in West Des Moines, Iowa. At a time when many companies are closing plants and laying off workers, Wells Fargo, the nation's largest home mortgage lender, planned to hire 1,300 people to handle a boom in mortgage and consumer lending.

— AP photo by MARY CHIND

High court decision slows school voucher programs

> "It's a great program in the sense that it empowers parents to make education decisions for their kids. Not that we've crossed the legal hurdles, let's do what we need to do to really make the system work."
>
> — Tony Kaloger, Cleveland parent using the voucher program

CLEVELAND (AP) — It's been a year since the Supreme Court decided Ohio's school voucher program was constitutional, but the tuition plans have been slow to catch on nationwide.

Only one state, Colorado, has since started a program — and it already faces a legal battle.

Arizona, Louisiana and Texas saw their movements flop.

Three states — Ohio, Wisconsin and Florida — have succeeded in getting more tax money to send poor children to private schools.

"It just takes awhile to move things through legislatures," David Brennan, one of the architects of Cleveland's seven-year-old plan, said in explaining why vouchers haven't spread.

Still, Brennan is not discouraged and is using Friday's anniversary of the high court ruling to urge states to keep trying.

"Our country needs to step up now and break down the barriers that keep disadvantaged children from getting the quality of education that can help them escape another generation of poverty," he said.

Tight budgets and opposition to public subsidies for private education are most often cited as the main reasons why voucher programs aren't spreading across the country.

But there's also some skepticism about whether children in voucher programs actually do better in school.

An Indiana University study commissioned by Ohio and released in April showed voucher students were academically on par with their public school counterparts.

"There was a lot of hoopla after the Supreme Court decision, but we felt all along that it wasn't going to have a dramatic impact," said Marc Egan of the Washington, D.C.-based National School Boards Association.

"There's not a groundswell of support for this concept."

Tony Kaloger of Cleveland uses vouchers to help send his children, ages 7, 10 and 13, to a city parochial school. He said his 13-year-old son has improved significantly since switching from a charter school.

"It's a great program in the sense that it empowers parents to make education decisions for their kids," Kaloger said. "Now that we've crossed the legal hurdles, let's do what we need to do to really make the system work."

More than 5,000 students in Cleveland get up to $2,250 a year toward tuition at private schools. Ohio is expanding the program by 1,000 pupils and creating vouchers for ninth- and 10th-graders.

In Florida, voucher programs are part of education reforms that have satisfied some parents and resulted in student improvement.

"The needs of the students are being addressed in ways that they were not being addressed in their previous schools," said Frances Marine, spokeswoman for the Florida Department of Education.

The state's teachers' union and others have challenged the Florida law.

A trial judge last summer ruled the law unconstitutionally allowed public money to be spent to support religious schools. The case is pending before a federal appeals court.

Colorado's two-month-old program is being challenged by education and religious groups that argue it illegally removes local control from school boards and compels taxpayers to support religious schools.

Teachers led the opposition to the voucher movement in politically conservative Texas, saying they feared a lack of state accountability in private schools. Opponents also were helped by a $10 billion budget shortfall.

"The legislative leadership also faced a hard economic reality. They had to balance the budget without raising taxes," said Brock Gregg of the Association of Professional Texas Educators.

Canine class

— AP photo by DIANE BONDAREFF

Suzi Teitelman, a yoga instructor at Crunch Fitness, and her cocker spaniel, Coali, lead a monthly yoga class for dogs and their owners Thursday at Madison Square park in New York.

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SPORTS
The Monroe Sunday News

section B
THE MONROE SUNDAY NEWS
JUNE 29, 2003

They're the stars of the stars

Steffen is unanimous

By RON MONTRI
Evening News sports editor

FLAT ROCK – If Casey Steffen had only played baseball, he would have had a great athletic career at Flat Rock.

He was the winning pitcher in the state championship game as a sophomore. He was named the Region Player of the Year as a senior when he had an 8-1 pitching record, hit .400, stole 28 bases and was the most feared leadoff man in the Region.

Steffen earned 21 career pitching victories and had the lowest earned-run-average in the Region both as a sophomore and as a senior.

Those are some pretty impressive credentials, considering baseball is Steffen's *worst* sport.

Wrestling is his best. Steffen went 57-0 as a senior and repeated as a state champion.

Football is his second-best sport. He rushed for 1,249 yards and 12 touchdowns last fall, had 80 tackles as a defensive

See STEFFEN, Page 4B

BOYS

Casey Steffen, Flat Rock	**40**
Nick Notario, Monroe	36
Pat Sharrow, Monroe	32
Joe Gust, Whiteford	25
Shane Smith, Erie Mason	22
Bobby Plumer, Whiteford	19
Ryan Sontag, Jefferson	17
Marshall Kyles, Monroe	6
Jared England, Erie Mason	6
Jon Dalton, State Line	5
Kurt Elinski, Erie Mason	5
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CASEY STEFFEN

JENIFER SULEWSKI

Sulewski a clutch performer

By JEFF MEADE
Evening News sports writer

TEMPERANCE – Two golden moments define Jenifer Sulewski's sports career at Bedford.

One came during her sophomore year in the state championship volleyball match. The Mules had lost the first game and were trailing 14-13 in the second, facing match point.

Sulewski took the set and calmly delivered the biggest kill in school history. Moments later, she served the game-winner and Bedford went on to win the state title.

Then as a junior, Sulewski ended a 15-inning marathon in the District softball final with a drive over the leftfielder's head that drove in the winning run.

"I never minded pressure situations," she said. "After facing that pressure just once (in volleyball), I was always used to it."

See SULEWSKI, Page 4B

T-Wolves are stuffed in opener

■ The Southern Michigan Timberwolves failed to dent the scoreboard in their first game.

By JEFF MEADE
Evening News sports writer

The reviews will be disappointing for the Southern Michigan Timberwolves' opening act.

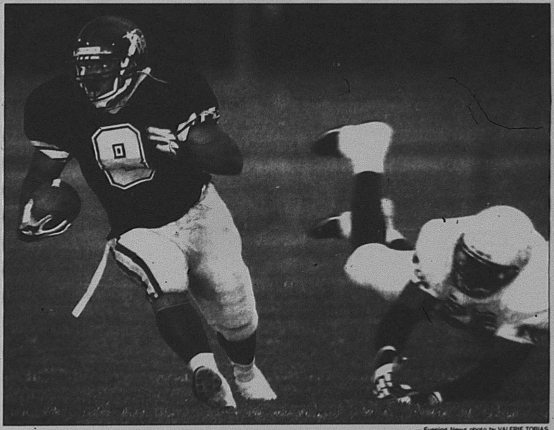
For the first time in the 10 years of the franchise, the T-Wolves have dropped their opening game.

The Motor City Cougars came to Navarre Field and stuffed the Timberwolves 6-0 Saturday on a night when the weather was more threatening than either team's offense.

Southern Michigan's defense was brilliant until midway through the fourth quarter. It had held the Cougars to three first downs and 54 total yards.

Then Motor City from the Lakeshore League engineered a 15-play, 96-yard scoring drive

See T-WOLVES, Page 2B



— Evening News photo by VALERIE TOBIAS

Southern Michigan Timberwolves running back DuShawn Siller eludes a tackler from the Motor City Cougars Saturday night at Navarre Field. The Timberwolves were beaten 6-0 in their season opener.

Family man Lietzke has Open lead

BY JASON HAUPRICHT
Evening News sports writer

TOLEDO – Bruce Lietzke is a family man with a simple golf swing.

It's a marriage that most of his peers envy.

For the last 20 years he has played a less-demanding schedule to spend time as a little league baseball coach, husband and father.

▶ *Ex-Monroe teacher in fifth place — 6B*

His basic swing allowed him to take weeks off at a time, then return to the course and compete with the best players in the world.

Lietzke will put his skills to the test today when he tees off for the final round of the U.S. Senior Open at Inverness Club. He made nine birdies and shot 64 Saturday to take a four-stroke lead over Tom Watson.

"When I first got on tour, I was not married and golf was the No. 1 thing for me. But in the

See OPEN, Page 3B

Basketball gets nod as the best of Region's prep all-star games

Ron Montri
Evening News sports editor

Basketball and softball receive an A.

Football gets a B-minus.

Wrestling gets a C-plus.

Baseball gets a C-minus.

That's how I would grade the recent all-star games that showcased the Region's best senior talent.

Over a span of 10 days, the premier local prep athletes were on display in five sports.

Here's a closer look at each all-star game and why it received the grade it did.

Boys Basketball: Maybe some purists were moaning about the emphasis on show-time basketball in a game with a final score of 114-95, but I loved it. And most of the fans in a good turnout of nearly 600 seemed to.

When you've got a player who can handle the ball like Marques Haynes, why keep him in shackles?

Thankfully, West coach John Rice allowed Anthony Miracola to free lance. Rice even encouraged him to show his street-ball talents and Miracola did. Boys basketball was the most entertaining of any all-star game.

Girls Basketball: When Bryan Parran of Erie Mason came up with the idea of playing boys and girls games on the same night in the same location, he probably had some reservations. He can be proud of the way things unfolded. The girls game had everything that makes basketball exciting, impressive shooting, a great comeback and a clutch shot in the final seconds to win it.

The best thing about an all-star game is it gives fans a chance to watch some of the players they never saw during the regular season. Relative unknown Jodi VanWassehnova of Gibraltar Carlson, who is 5-3 and weighs 115, raised some eyebrows with her talent even before she hit the game-winning shot.

Football: It should be the game that draws the most interest and did attract a large crowd. The problem with a football all-star game is the defenses always dominate. There isn't enough practice time for a running attack to gel or for the quarterbacks to get their timing down with receivers.

Nobody rushed for even 40 yards and the passing statistics produced a combined 11-of-43 with 3 interceptions. But the main reason this year's game gets a B-minus is because of some poor sportsmanship. Several players were ejected.

Every time you put on a uniform, you are representing yourself, your school and your sport. Show some class.

Softball: It was a 2-1 game that was chocked full of heads-up defensive plays and impressive pitching. The Blue won because it didn't make an error and its trio of pitchers allowed just three hits.

Softball always seems to put on a good show.

Baseball: You'd think baseball would be one of the best-played games because the season just ended and many of the players are involved with summer teams. Not this year. The game had 18 runs, 20 hits, 8 errors, 9 walks, 4 hit batsmen and only one truly effective pitcher, Drew Besedich.

There were some valid reasons. One pitcher was injured, one just had surgery and one was unavailable because he had thrown eight innings the day before.

Look for a better game next year because many of the Region's best players this season were juniors.

Wrestling: It's a major sport locally and has produced more state team and individual champions than any other. But it is difficult to put an all-star match together three months after the season ended.

Three periods are a long time mat when you aren't in top condition, plus most wrestlers cut weight during the season and are 15 to 20 pounds heavier now.

This was the first time wrestling has been added to the all-star list and organizer Jake Shulaw of Flat Rock did well for his first try.

Overall view: I enjoy the all-star action because it gives us one last look at our senior talent and because it provides a stage for lesser-known athletes to shine like Joey Sancrant, Ryan DeLand and Matt Ringle.

Sancrant and Ringle destroyed the myth that State Line Christian athletes can't compete against the rest of the county. Sancrant not only was chosen for the basketball game, he earned a starting job in practice and had two dunks in the game.

Ringle, a State Line athlete until he transferred to Whiteford, was the most impressive player in the football game.

DeLand is a nothing-flashy, nose-to-the-grindstone type of athlete, but he made his mark in three all-star games. He had the hit of the game in football, went 2-for-2 in baseball and scored 12 points in basketball.

ECT

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S SPORTS TOYS DOLLS AND PLUSH

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bids & pieces

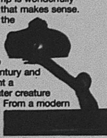
Modernist marvel

Modernist posters made their mark at Swann Auction Galléries in May, and a 1926 movie poster for *Metropolis* was a shining star. The poster fetched $36,000.

Shining a bit brighter and commanding $46,000 was a 1929 Russian exhibition poster by El Lissitzky. The Russische Ausstellung poster was reprinted in 1981, and today, even that reproduction is hard to come by.

ask the expert

● Q: This is a lamp belonging to my father-in-law. The only markings are a sideways "E" on the bottom of the left leg. Any idea of how old it is, where it came from or its value?



● A: Your lamp is wonderfully grotesque, if that makes sense. My feeling is the piece was produced in Germany or Austria in the early 20th century and may represent a Germanic water creature from folklore. From a modern perspective, it reminds me of the creature Gollum from *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy, a human-turned-reptilian due to the force of the One Ring. The base appears to be well-cast bronze. It's hard to determine what such a unique piece might bring in today's market. There were some grotesque figural pieces made at potteries such as Amphora in Austria that can sell for many thousands of dollars. Perhaps the right buyer would bid this piece up there, too.

— Kyle Husfloen, price guide editor
Antique Trader Publications

e-mail askthexpert@krause.com.
When requesting information about an item, please include a detailed description and a photograph, if possible. Personal replies and published responses are not guaranteed.

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THE MONROE Evening News

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Nation

Reaching goals

Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty skates on the ice during the inaugural Hockey game in St. Paul, Minn. The new Republican governor is accomplishing much more in office than his predecessor, Jesse Ventura.
Page 7A

Summer Saturday

Need somewhere to go, something to do this weekend? There are several possibilities in the Monroe County region:

RALLY

A Support Our Troops rally is scheduled before the fireworks at 8:30 tonight in Milan. A stage will be set up on Wabash St. across from the fire station. Monetary and care package donations will be collected. "We send the packages to troops right on the front lines. We've received some beautiful emails from them, thanking us," said Gary Lillie, a member of Chapter 310, Vietnam Veterans of America.

The group will accept troops' addresses for care packages. The band God's Country will play patriotic music beginning at 9 tonight. For volunteers willing to help military families with household emergencies, like plumbing or car trouble, a sign-up sheet will be available. Flags and veterans' colors are encouraged.

SPORTS

The 10th season kickoff for the **Southern Michigan Timberwolves** is at 7:25 tonight at Navarre Field in Monroe. The team features the most local players ever assembled by the franchise.

Flat Rock Speedway will feature the ARCA Lincoln Welders Truck Series tonight. Erie resident Chad Guinn is the defending series champ and leads the point standings this year.

At **Toledo Speedway**, NASCAR Winston Cup driver Johnny Benson will sign autographs during the racing. He is scheduled to appear between 3:30 and 5 p.m. Sunday.

PARKS

Plants of Pain and Poison, at Oakwoods Metropark: Participants will identify some fascinating plants that go back to Socrates. Preregistration required. 2 p.m. Sunday. Nature Center of Oakwoods Metropark. Willow Rd., Huron Township. 782-3956.

The country music band Southbound will be at Willow Metropark, near New Boston, from 6 to 9:30 tonight. For more information, call (800) 477-3182 or 697-9181.

Today's obituaries

Grace Craft, 67, of Dundee.
William V. Schaedler, 49, of Blissfield.
Eleanor (Ellie) Bergner, 70, of Lambertville.
Jessie J. Buckner, 88, of Monroe.
Brent P. Seely, 28, of Kentwood.
Sister Berchan (Deotilla) Murray, 89, IHM, of Monroe.
William C. (Will) Kruse, 65, of Dundee.
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Markets 2A
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Kroger confirms purchases

■ The big chain will convert two stores in the Monroe area and others in Milan and Dundee. An independent grocer is buying a store in Monroe and one in Rockwood.

By CHARLES SLAT
Evening News staff writer

The Kroger Co. has been doing some shopping of its own lately, confirming Friday that it has purchased 13 area Food Town stores from Spartan Stores Inc., including the ones on S. Monroe St., N. Dixie Hwy. and in Dundee and Milan.

And Spartan Stores confirmed Friday that an independent grocer has purchased four other Food Towns — the one in Rockwood and the one on N. Telegraph Rd. in Monroe and two others in Toledo and Willard, Ohio.

Spartan said it still is pondering the future of the Lambertville store and said it is moving ahead with the closing of the Temperance store.

The stores being purchased by Kroger scaled back operations within the last few days for inventory review, though pharmacies continue to operate. The stores in the Monroe area should begin operating under the Kroger banner by mid-July, according to Kroger spokesman Leonard Terranova.

"Southern Michigan and northwest Ohio are important markets for Kroger," said Jon Flora, president of Kroger's Great Lakes division.

"The addition of these stores will provide growth opportunities for our business and added convenience for our customers, who can expect to see lower prices, greater variety and many improved services. We look forward to serving them for many years to come."

He also said Kroger plans to interview Food Town employees who have been staffing the stores and "looks forward to their help in serving our new customers."

The Kroger announcement ends weeks of speculation about the future of the stores, which Grand Rapids-based Spartan Stores said in April it would seek to sell or convert to another format in the face of a highly competitive grocery market in Southeast Michigan and Northwest Ohio.

Mr. Terranova said Kroger decided to buy the stores based on certain market criteria. "As Food Towns became available, we looked at the market and where we thought we could do well," he said.

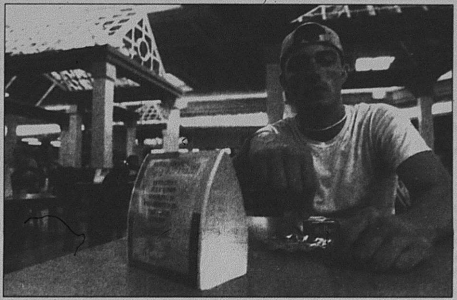
The stores Kroger has purchased average 45,000 square feet. Mr. Terranova said the priority will be to get them up and operating as basic Kroger stores and then invest money over time to enhance the stores and add services.

Kroger had a presence in the Monroe area for nearly 70 years until it closed a store in the South Monroe Plaza in February, 2000. It opened a new store in Bedford Township in November, 2001. Mr. Terranova said "the dynamics of the Monroe market have changed considerably since then" and Kroger's purchase of the two Monroe area Food Town stores will mean two less competitors.

Mr. Terranova said all Food Town employees will have the chance to interview for the Kroger jobs and it was hoped many would join the company. "Our goal isn't to tear apart the community. We hope to bring it together," he said.

"I'm pretty optimistic," said one Food Town employee who declined to be identified by name. "I think I have the experience they want and it certainly

See KROGER, Page 9A



— Evening News photo by KIM BRENT

Taking a smoke break in the Frenchtown Square mall's food court may no longer be an option for patrons such as Robert Kurilla of Monroe. The property owners put out signs Thursday indicating a ban on smoking that will take effect Tuesday.

Mall ban irks smokers

By SCOTT NEINAS
Evening News staff writer

Word of a no-smoking policy at Frenchtown Square mall has smokers who work and shop there steamed.

Mall officials announced the new rules Wednesday. As of Tuesday, there will be no more smoking areas in the mall's food court.

"The decision follows the national trend over eliminating second-hand smoke in public buildings and was made to enhance the shopping environment for the entire community," said Bob Webb, marketing director of the mall.

The move has sparked a mini-rebellion at the mall where restaurant owners say the policy will put them out of business. George McCoy, owner of Cameron's Coney Island, said the move will be the beginning of the end for his store.

"We're going to lose at least $50-$100 a day," he said, sitting at a table with a thin line of smoke rising from his cigarette.

"It's going to destroy us," said Debra, his wife.

The only place in the mall where smoking will be allowed will be at Olga's Kitchen, which is an independently-owned restaurant, separate from the food court.

Bobbie Blue, manager of Olga's, said he planned on making no changes to his restaurant.

"I really do expect there to be more business," he said.

Mr. McCoy isn't going down easily. He's collected 197 signatures from mall customers and employees that he faxed to Cafaro Corp., which owns the mall.

There's even talk of a "smoke in" Tuesday, where a group will congregate in the food court and light up in defiance of the ban.

"The customers are really, really upset," Mrs. McCoy said.

Fred Everly sat in the non-smoking section of the food court. A former three-pack-a-day smoker, he could relate to the persons on the other side of the aisle, but didn't sympathize.

"It will be hard on people who have the habit, but I don't think

See SMOKERS, Page 9A

Governments enforcing lawn lengths

■ Homeowners whose lawns exceed grass heights can pay hefty fines and the price of labor.

By CLAIRE CUMMINGS
Evening News staff writer

The fast-paced lives of many Monroe County residents requires them to hire a lawn-mowing service to keep their yards in shape. However, some properties force community governments to become personal lawn caretakers at the expense of the homeowners.

The restrictions vary depending on the city, township or village. Community leaders say, though, that it is a matter of pride and public health, which is why the governments continue to deal with the problem.

How they go about it, however, varies

The City of Milan, for example, notifies its residents if the grass exceeds four inches in height, and contracts with a private mowing company which bills the owner if the lawn is not cut within 10 days.

"I think its probably pretty fair," Milan Director of Public Works Todd Knepper said on their policy. "We give them enough notice." The city also states that all properties must mow the first of every month from May to October.

Monroe Township's policy is not as specific. There is no maximum height and it refers more to "noxious weeds" than grass. According to Supervisor Alan

See LAWN, Page 9A

— Evening News photo by VALERIE TOBIAS

Monroe resident Nathan Schultz, 12, cuts the grass around his family's home Thursday afternoon. With assistance from his dad, Nathan started cutting grass at age 9. Caring for the lawn is important when having the grass too long could result in extra costs.

Cox to discuss Open Meetings laws

Michigan Attorney General Mike Cox will host a free seminar for citizens and government officials on the ins and outs of the Freedom of Information Act and the state's Open Meetings Act on July 15.

MIKE COX

The 2 p.m. session, in the Monroe County Community College (MCCC) cafeteria, is sponsored by the Michigan Press Association and The Monroe Evening News.

Mr. Cox will provide a computer-assisted presentation on the nuances of the laws, which are designed to assure citizens easy access to government deliberations and decision-making.

"Citizen participation is an essential part of the governing process in a democracy," said Evening News Editor Deborah Saul. "This session should help clarify some points of law for those in government as well as those who are governed."

She said the intricacies of the laws sometimes are a source of confusion even to those who must interpret them on a daily basis. "This seminar is a great opportunity for citizens to get acquainted with these important tools and it also can serve as a fine refresher for public officials who must live by these laws," she said.

Mr. Cox will discuss what the acts provide, how they apply to public bodies and specific exemptions contained in the laws.

After his presentation, he will answer questions from those attending. The cafeteria is in the Student Services/Administration Building at MCCC.

His appearance is part of a series of local visits around the state to explain the legislation.

Mr. Cox was raised in Redford, Mich., and enlisted in the Marines after high school graduation. After discharge, in attended the University of

See LAWS, Page 9A

COMING SUNDAY: After more than 30 years, Audrey Warrick is leaving MCCC

JUN
28
2003

THE RECORD

The Monroe Evening News

Doug Donnelly: city editor

Drunk driving campaign starts

Overtime hours and an advertising promotion began Friday in Michigan to enforce drunk-driving laws and promote the "You Drink and Drive, You Lose" national campaign.

In cooperation with this program, more than 500 Michigan law enforcement agencies will make enforcement of drunk driving laws a priority during the next two weeks. About 100 of those agencies have received federal funds to help pay for the overtime hours.

Monroe County is included in the areas where overtime law enforcement hours have been scheduled. Officers in Wayne, Washtenaw and Oakland counties also are participating.

Also on Friday, a two-week advertising and enforcement campaign began in Michigan to support the crackdown efforts, according to an announcement from the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning in Lansing. The national ads supported by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration will start one week later.

The advertising is aimed at men aged 18 to 34, who are the motorists most likely to drive while drunk.

The promotions have been produced in both English and Spanish and will air on networks and programs popular with young men.

To get the attention of those motorists, the campaign ads mention the increased threat of arrest and the possibility of losing a car, license or money for those who drive while intoxicated.

Federal traffic safety funds will pay for the $240,000 ad campaign in Michigan. No state general fund money will be used to support the ads.

State officials report the Fourth of July and Labor Day holidays historically are busy ones for traffic fatalities in Michigan.

Last year in the state, 30 people died during the four-day Fourth of July weekend and 44 percent of those fatal crashes involved alcohol.

Meetings calendar

TODAY

Ida Township Board, annual meeting and budget hearing, 9 a.m. township hall, 3016 Lewis Ave., Ida.

MONDAY

The Mason Consolidated Schools Board of Education has called a special meeting for 9 a.m. Monday at Mason High School, 2400 Lakeside Rd., Erie. The agenda is to discuss the superintendent's contract.

CORRECTIONS

Errors in Evening News articles are corrected in this space. To report an error, please call the local desk at 242-1100.

The e-mail address listed at the end of the Baker Boy profile in the Business Profiles section of Friday's Evening News is not for customer orders. Anyone wishing to contact the business should call 384-0533.

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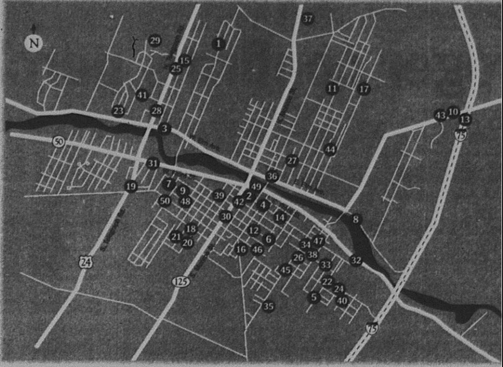
GDNN

** Includes selected holidays and editions.

CITY OF MONROE CRIME LOG

Locations of crimes in the city for the week of June 19-27



1. 1100 block of John L. Dr., unlawful entry
2. 100 block of E. First St., assault and battery
3. 1000 block of W. Front St., suspended license
4. E. First and Macomb Sts., suspended license
5. 500 block of Conant Ave., suspicious incident
6. Kentucky Ave. and E. Fourth St., resisting arrest
7. 600 block of S. Roessler St., criminal sexual conduct
8. 1400 block of E. Elm Ave., malicious destruction
9. 600 block of W. Fifth St., civil custody matter
10. 1200 block of N. Dixie Hwy., attempted armed robbery
11. 1000 block of Riverview Ave., larceny from vehicle
12. 200 block of Jerome St., license suspended
13. Northbound I-75 south of N. Dixie Hwy., license suspended
14. 400 block of E. First St., malicious destruction
15. 1600 block of Princess Ct., larceny from vehicle
16. 800 block of Jerome St., juvenile runaway
17. 1200 block of Maple Blvd., damaged property
18. 200 block of W. Eighth St., domestic assault
19. 400 block of S. Telegraph Rd., larceny from vehicle
20. 800 block of Harrison St., aggravated assault
21. 800 block of Smith St., drug possession
22. 300 block of Almyra Ave., domestic assault
23. 1700 block of Riverside Dr., home invasion
24. 200 block of Almyra Ave., stolen vehicle
25. N. Telegraph Rd. near Lorain St., license suspended
26. 1100 block of E. Fourth St., drug possession
27. W. Noble Ave. and Lincoln Ave., drug possession
28. 200 block of N. Telegraph Rd., retail fraud
29. 800 block of Donnalee Dr., larceny
30. 600 block of S. Monroe St., fraud investigation
31. W. Front St. near Toledo St., drug possession
32. 1700 block of E. Front St., larceny
33. 1000 block of E. Third St., assault and battery
34. 1000 block of E. Second St., domestic violence
35. 900 block of Cherry St., larceny
36. 200 block of E. Elm Ave., larceny
37. 800 block of Walnut St., larceny from building
38. Winchester and E. Second Sts., assault and battery
39. 200 block of W. Third St., indecent exposure
40. 300 block of Conant Ave., license suspended
41. 1600 block of Kings Ct., larceny from vehicle
42. E. First St. near S. Monroe St., possession of marijuana
43. 1200 block of N. Dixie Hwy., felonious assault
44. 200 block of Michigan Ave., domestic violence
45. 300 block of Winchester St., license suspended
46. 800 block of E. Seventh St., malicious destruction
47. 100 block of Eastchester St., larceny
48. 600 block of W. Sixth St., larceny from vehicle
49. First block of E. Front St., larceny
50. 600 block of Union St., larceny from vehicle

—Evening News map by ROB GO

MONROE COUNTY CRIME LOG

The following is a list of crime activity reported to the Monroe County Sheriff's Office and the Erie Township Police between June 19-25:

ASH TOWNSHIP
14800 block of Briarhill Rd., home invasion
2700 block of Corkins Rd., arson
First block of Helen St., suicidal subject
2900 block of E. Newburg Rd., larceny
2600 block of Ash St., breaking and entering
2800 block of Newburgh, suicidal subject
10200 block of N. Telegraph Rd., breaking and entering
10100 block of N. Telegraph Rd., larceny from building
11900 block of Sweitzer, malicious destruction
3800 block of Scofield Carleton Rd., malicious destruction
12000 block of Finzel Rd., malicious destruction

BEDFORD TOWNSHIP
8500 block of Sandra Kay Dr., malicious destruction
3300 block of Deepwood Lane, malicious destruction
7100 block of Rockingham Ct., malicious destruction
Douglas Rd. north of Consear Rd., false verbal identification
9100 block of Pheasant Dr., larceny from vehicle
6600 block of Williams Place, breaking and entering
7300 block of Jackman Rd., larceny
1400 block of Granby St., larceny
8400 block of Douglas Rd., breaking and entering
2900 block of W. Erie Rd., larceny from vehicle
9500 block of Comstock St., malicious destruction
3100 block of Quail Hollow Dr., stolen vehicle
Douglas Rd. at Consear Rd., suspicious incident
3700 block of Chamberlain Dr., runaway
700 block of W. Temperance Rd., domestic violence
8000 block of McLain St., malicious destruction
400 block of Midlands St., death investigation
6200 block of S. Dixie Hwy., breaking and entering
7900 block of Douglas Rd., burglary
7000 block of S. Telegraph Rd., stolen vehicle
1000 block of Firecreek Ct., domestic assault
8000 block of Secor Rd., breaking and entering
7300 block of Elmwood St., domestic violence
Consear Rd. near Douglas Rd., breaking and entering
10400 block of Douglas Rd., trespassing investigation
7000 block of Middlebury Dr., house fire
300 block of E. Sterns Rd., felonious assault
2400 block of W. Sterns Rd., malicious destruction
7000 block of Wildwood Dr., larceny from vehicle
7400 block of Secor Rd., breaking and entering
2900 block of W. Erie Rd., breaking and entering
1900 block of Briarwood Lane, credit card fraud
6200 block of Lewis Ave., larceny

BERLIN TOWNSHIP
8700 block of Cantebury Dr., breaking and entering
4900 block of Meadowbrook Dr., malicious destruction
8900 block of Birchwood St., breaking and entering
8300 block of S. Huron River Dr., breaking and entering

DUNDEE TOWNSHIP
100 block of Cabela Blvd., breaking and entering
200 block of Elm St., aggravated assault
18500 block of Cone Rd., damaged property
2300 block of Plank Rd., breaking and entering
200 block of Emerald Circle, attempted suicide

ERIE TOWNSHIP
4500 block of Erie Rd., suspicious subject
6400 block of S. Dixie Hwy., malicious destruction of property
I-75 at five-mile marker, hit-and-run accident
200 block of Westfield Dr., breaking and entering
6300 block of Edgewater Dr., criminal sexual conduct
Bay Creek Rd. at I-75, drunk driving
6400 S. Dixie Hwy., drug activity
11000 block of Strasburg Rd., domestic assault
6400 block of S. Dixie Hwy., domestic assault
6400 block of S. Dixie Hwy., malicious destruction

EXETER TOWNSHIP
13700 block of Sumpter Rd., breaking and entering

FRENCHTOWN TOWNSHIP
3200 block of Lakeview Dr., assault and battery
8700 block of Ashland Dr., domestic violence
First block of George Dr., larceny
2100 block of N. Monroe St., retail fraud
1700 block of N. Telegraph Rd., retail fraud
3800 block of N. Dixie Hwy., larceny from vehicle
1400 block N. Dixie Hwy., larceny
N. Monroe St. at Nadeau Rd., vehicle fire
7700 block of Kirkwood, damage to vehicle
Nadeau Rd., drunk driving
1700 block of N. Telegraph Rd., retail fraud
3300 block of Orchardale St., malicious destruction
1600 block of Paree Ct., home invasion
3200 block of Ferndale St., criminal sexual conduct
1700 block of N. Telegraph Rd., retail fraud
1800 block of Spaulding Rd., telephone threats
3100 block of Comboni Way, larceny
2100 block of N. Monroe St., retail fraud
1200 block of N. Dixie Hwy., felonious assault
2100 block of N. Telegraph Rd., retail fraud
8400 block of Mimi Ct., home invasion
1200 block of Josephine Ct., larceny
4900 Sycamore Rd., domestic violence
7800 block of Kimberly Dr., trouble with subject
8400 block of Laverne St., malicious destruction
N. Telegraph Rd. near Stewart Rd., license suspended
Dewey Rd. near North St., aggravated assault
1900 block of Meadow St., breaking and entering
2500 block of N. Dixie Hwy., peeping tom

IDA TOWNSHIP
7500 block of Ida East Rd., harassment
7500 block of Ida East Rd., family trouble
12000 block of Lulu Rd., stolen vehicle

LASALLE TOWNSHIP
3100 Second St., breaking and entering
14000 S. Telegraph Rd., suspicious incident
5200 block of S. Otter Creek Rd., assault and battery
3000 block of Stein Rd., larceny

LONDON TOWNSHIP
12900 block Mayer Rd., death in
tion
12800 block of Tuttle-Hill Rd., m
destruction
11500 block of Grames Rd., at
arson

MILAN
16300 block of Cone Rd., resc
Dennison Rd. near Hickory Rd.,
suspended

MONROE TOWNSHIP
2000 block of N. Outer Dr., m
destruction
1600 block of Sherwood Dr., d
violence
5900 block of Greenwycke Lane,
ed suicide
1100 block of Union St., larceny
15200 block of S. Telegraph Rd.
vehicle
2000 block of N. Outer Dr., larce
vehicle
13900 block of Bridge Dr., larcen
1200 block of Briarwood Dr., run
W. Seventh St. and Patterson Dr.,
1200 block of Valley Dr., attempte
ing and entering
800 block of Bacon St., stolen ve
15300 block of S. Dixie Hwy., brea
entering
14500 block of LaPlaisance Rd.
vehicle
1000 block of Bashaw Dr., disorde
duct
5300 block of Evergreen Dr., m
destruction of property

CITY OF PETERSBURG
100 block of Division, harassing

RAISINVILLE TOWNSHIP
700 block of Regent Park, domes
lence

WHITEFORD TOWNSHIP
6500 block of Old US-223, break
entering
7300 block of Roloff Rd., ma
destruction
5000 block of Smith Rd., ma
destruction

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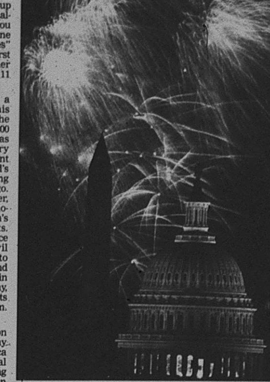
pitol Fourth’ airs fireworks

Tuesday, "Another World" returns from the netherworld on Soapnet. The story picks up with the episode that originally aired July 1, 1987. And if you don't know any of the fine folks, on-screen "Soapnotes" will help you along for the first couple of weeks. "Another World" airs weekdays at 11 a.m., 5 p.m. and midnight.

■ What happens when a father butts heads with his community to defend the rights of his son? Out of 2,200 residents in the West Texas town of Lockney, Larry Tannahill was the only parent to object to the school board's new mandatory drug-testing policy three years ago. Tannahill, a cotton farmer, believed the testing was a violation of his 12-year-old son's Fourth Amendment rights. Forming an unlikely alliance with the American Civil Liberties Union, he sued to overturn the policy, and found his life forever changed. Just in time for Independence Day, "Larry v. Lockney" makes its broadcast premiere at 10 p.m. Tuesday on PBS.

■ Home & Garden Television observes Independence Day with "Restore America Honors," a one-hour special that's the first step in a yearlong on-air and online collaboration between HGTV, the National Trust for Historic Preservation and Save America's Treasures "Restore America Honors" airs at 8 p.m. Friday.


— AP photo

"A Capitol Fourth 2003" will bring performers such as Dolly Parton and The Chieftains to the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol for a live broadcast climaxed by a dazzling display of fireworks over the Washington Monument. The concert airs at 8 p.m. Friday on PBS.

BRIDGE

By PHILLIP ALDER
Newspaper Enterprise Association

The Senior Life Master was savoring the last mouthful of his lunchtime sauvignon blanc, when someone sat down next to him.

"I was told that you like to play with the new members. I would be honored if you would partner me this afternoon."

I would be delighted (the SLM replied), and the honor will be mine. You remind me of Stella Manning-Montbeliard, who had an American father and French mother. On this deal, her partner, Andrew Weste-Wyckham, was weak. Tell me what you would have done in Andrew's place.

The SLM wrote out the North-South hands.

You are in three no-trump (the SLM continued). West leads the spade two and East plays the eight.

Stella considered.

I win the first trick (she said) with the spade king.

Correct. Andrew won with the spade 10 and played a club, but East ducked. East won the next club and shifted to the heart 10. Andrew won and led a low spade, but West correctly put in the queen to deny a second dummy entry. Now Andrew had no chance.

Declarer needs two dummy entries: one to establish the clubs and one to reach them.

These entries must be the ace and jack of spades. So, assuming West has the queen, South wins with the spade king and plays on clubs, eventually coming to an overtrick.

North 06-28-03
♠ A J 4
♥ 7 5 2
♦ 6 3
♣ Q J 10 9 8

West
♠ Q 9 7 2
♥ J 6
♦ J 9 8 7
♣ 6 3 2

East
♠ 8 6 3
♥ Q 10 9 8
♦ Q 10 5
♣ A K 5

South
♠ K 10 5
♥ A K 4 3
♦ A K 4 2
♣ 7 4

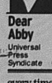
Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♠ 2

mom needs to ignore other mothers

ments. If you don't allow yourself to react to them, she'll look like a combative fool.


Dear Abby
Universal Press Syndicate

Dear Abby: My wife, "Ruthie," and I have been together for 10 years and married for five. We have three beautiful children. Last year, I caught Ruthie having an affair, but I eventually forgave her.

To this day, every time my wife leaves the house, I can't help asking her who she's meeting, where she'll be, what time I can expect her home — and if she's going to cheat on me again. Every once in a while, I still find strange phone numbers in her pocket or purse.

When I call, the men always say they didn't know Ruthie was married. Then they quickly break it off with her.

Abby, I want my marriage to last. I love my wife with all my heart. What can I do to make my marriage to Ruthie better?

— Kentucky Husband

Dear Husband: Counseling might help if your wife sincerely wants to save the marriage. It's possible that she is a sex addict. If she's willing to admit that she has a problem, Sexaholics Anonymous can be helpful. It's a self-help group for sexually compulsive men and women. It can be contacted by writing: P.O. Box 111910, Nashville, TN 37222-1910.

The Web site is: www.sa.org.

If all else fails, consult a family law attorney and see what your options are. You deserve to be respected, and your first responsibility is to your children.

P.S. Have you been checked for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs)? If the answer is no, you should be. Please don't wait.

Dear Abby: I am a 27-year-old male. I live at home. My problem is my uncle, "Barney." He's my dad's brother. Uncle Barney always takes Dad out to eat and shopping and stuff and never invites me. Sometimes he will ask my dad right in front of me.

It makes me feel awkward and unwanted. How should I handle this?

— Excluded in Marysville, Calif.

Dear Excluded: Tell your uncle privately how you feel when he extends an invitation in your presence and excludes you.

Tell your father that occasionally you would like to be included. It's possible they don't realize that their conversation would interest you. It's worth a try.

If that doesn't work, consider this: Sometimes people who live together need a break from each other.

Don't take it personally. Cultivate friends your own age.

Pauline Phillips and Jeanne Phillips make up the mother-daughter partnership that writes this column.

Problems? Write to Abby. For a personal, unpublished reply, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, Calif. 90069.

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NEMO (G) (1200 230 500) 730 1000
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Israel agrees with pact to pull out its troops

JERUSALEM (AP) — In a boost to U.S.-backed peace efforts, Israel agreed on terms for a troop pullbacks from the Gaza Strip and Bethlehem after Palestinian militants confirmed Friday that they will halt attacks on Israelis for three months.

The progress in negotiations — which sources said included a commitment by Israel to halt targeted killings of militants — came despite continued violence. A raid by Israeli commandos left four Palestinians and an Israeli soldier dead in the Gaza Strip.

"We are pleased with the progress we have seen," Secretary of State Colin Powell said in Washington.

The road map peace plan, the latest bid to end the decades-old conflict between Israelis and Palestinians, has been on shaky ground because of escalating violence ever since President Bush launched it June 4.

National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice was expected in the region today for talks with the Palestinian and Israeli prime ministers about the plan, which outlines steps toward establishing a Palestinian state by 2005.

Her visit would coincide with an expected formal announcement by militant groups Sunday that they are ending attacks. The announcement would be a turning point in the 33 months of violence.

Gaza militants said leaders of the two Islamic militant groups, Hamas and Islamic Jihad, had accepted a temporary cease-fire negotiated with Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement, providing first confirmation by the militants that such a deal has been reached.

FROM PAGE 1A

Smokers (cont.)

they realize the damage secondhand smoke does to others," Mr. Everly said.

Brandon Moorhead of Monroe sat at a table near Mr. McCoy, smoking what could be his last cigarette inside the mall.

"I don't think it will work, I just heard someone at the next table complaining about it five minutes ago," he said.

Still, he realized that he and other smokers have been lucky that the smoking ban didn't come sooner.

"This is probably the only mall in America where you can still smoke," he said.

Laws (cont.)

Michigan, Ann Arbor. He graduated from law school there in 1989 and took a post with the Oakland County Prosecutor's office. A year later, he went to work for the Wayne County prosecutor, then spent years prosecuting organized crime cases.

In 2000, he was appointed director of the Wayne County Prosecutor's Homicide Unit, which prosecuted approximately two-thirds of all homicides in Michigan.

In 2002, he was elected Michigan's 52nd attorney general.

Lawn (cont.)

Barron, the ordinance instructs the city to "destroy [the weeds] before they reach a seed baring stage ... and to prevent their re-growth." And they will do just that, at $80 an hour.

The township, which has already received hundreds of complaints this summer due to out of control lawns, focuses more on the health hazard that the seeds provide than the appearance of the weeds.

"I don't like being in the lawn-mowing business. This is mainly a health ordinance, not so much a beautification," Mr. Barron said.

Ragweed and poison ivy also are included in the policy.

The City of Monroe only gives its citizens five business or seven calendar days to trim their 10 plus inches of green. Charges include labor and rental equipment, along with a hefty civil infraction fine.

Ash Township only allows for six inches, and according to the law, citizens must trim their lawns June 1 and Aug. 1 of every year.

The Village of Dundee is six inches as well, but also charges the resident "whatever cost the mowing business charges."

Some of the communities agree that it is, to an extent, the government's responsibility to keep the area attractive and healthy, but they also argue that it should be the neighboring properties duty as well.

"I think there is an obligation. It affects the appearance of the neighborhoods," Monroe Public Works Director Scott Davidson said.

Until every citizen and business controls their lawn, the governments will continue to mow them, with a significant price tag attached.

"In an effort to keep the city looking nice, I think it makes a difference," Mr. Knepper said.

Kroger (cont.)

can't be worse than working for Spartan."

Jeanne Norcross, a Spartan spokeswoman, said the company has shared with Food Town stores the options being considered all along. "It's not going to be surprising to them to hear this announcement today," she said.

The timetable for the transition of the Rockwood and N. Telegraph Rd. stores isn't known, though store employees have said the buyer is Rick Kouza, a Detroit area grocer. Spartan Stores officials would only say it is an independent who bought the stores.

"We are very pleased to have completed the transactions with these buyers," said Craig C. Sturken, Spartan Stores president and chief executive officer. "The sales are an outcome of our strategic evaluation process announced in February and will help our efforts to restore retail profitability."

Though the terms of the sales weren't disclosed, Spartan said it would net about $30 million in proceeds that it said it would use to pay bank loans.

The sales announced Friday still leave in question the futures of the Lambertville store and six others in Northwest Ohio. "We're still looking at options for those stores," said Jeanne Norcross, a Spartan spokeswoman. "We hope to be able to resolve the futures of those stores within the next 45 days, some sooner than others."

She said there's nothing new to report regarding the future of the Temperance store, which Spartan announced the closing of earlier. She said Spartan still is operating 21 Pharm deep-discount drugstores in Northwest Ohio.

Based in Cincinnati, Kroger is one of the nation's largest retail grocery chains, operating directly or through subsidiaries about 2,496 supermarkets and multi-department stores in 32 states under two dozen names.

Spartan, which also is a grocery wholesaler, began trimming Food Town operations over the past several months due to what it called intense competition in the Toledo grocery arena. It acquired the Food Town chain in late 2000 from Maumee, Ohio-based Seaway-Food Town Inc.

It closed five of the 43 Food Town stores late last year, including those in Flat Rock and Trenton, and another 13, mostly in Ohio, in April.

"These transactions will immediately help improve our operating cash flow and allow us to concentrate resources on our best performing grocery stores in geographic areas where we have the strongest growth potential," he said of the stores being sold.

Deaths

Eleanor (Ellie) Bergner

April 6, 1933 – June 26, 2003

LAMBERTVILLE – Eleanor (Ellie) Bergner, 70, of Lambertville died Thursday at The Toledo Hospital.

ELEANOR (ELLIE) BERGNER

Friends may call from 2 to 8 p.m. Sunday at the Bedford Funeral Chapel, Temperance, where a Scripture service will be held at 7 p.m. Sunday. Funeral services will be at 9:30 a.m. Monday at the funeral home and at 10 a.m. Monday at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Catholic Church, Temperance. Interment will be at 1:30 p.m. Monday at Maple Grove Cemetery, Hillsdale.

Born April 6, 1933 in Chicago, she was the daughter of Joseph and Mary (Boyle) Peirce. She married Edward Bergner Dec. 26, 1952, in Buffalo, N.Y., and they had lived in Bedford since 1968. Mr. Bergner died Oct. 8, 1981.

She was coordinator of the Retired Senior Volunteers Program (RSVP) for the Bedford Community Education Department for 27 years.

She was a past Green Hills trustee, Women's Club past president and past Banner editor.

She was coordinator for the RSVP Quilt Show "Expressions in Pieces" for more than 10 years, and was a member of the Bedford Administration Building Sunshine Committee, Historical Society of Bedford, Black Swamp Hosta & Day Lily Society, Bedford Arts Council, RSVP Quilters, Friends of the Library, Bedford Goodfellows, RSVP Advisory Board, Bedford Garden Club and The Gathering.

She loved the theater, quilting, gardening and traveling.

Surviving are a son, Edward "Ted" (Marian) of Perrysburg, Ohio; three daughters, Melanie (Gregory) Kurdys of Portage, Susan (Jeffrey) Bonsteel of Centerville, Ohio, and Mary Jeanne (Gary) Kurdys of Carmel, Ind.; a sister, Norma Peirce of Canyon Lake, Texas, and nine grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the Bedford Library Garden Fund.

William V. Schaedler

Sept. 8, 1953 – June 26, 2003

BLISSFIELD – William V. (Bill) Schaedler, 49, of Blissfield died Wednesday at Sparrow Hospital, Lansing, from injuries and complications from a work-related accident June 11 at Michigan State University.

Friends may call from 4:30 to 9 p.m. today and from 4 to 9 p.m. Sunday at the Tagsold Funeral Home, Blissfield, where funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Monday. Rev. Mose Henney will officiate. Interment will be in Riga Cemetery, Riga Township.

Born Sept. 8, 1953 in Toledo, Ohio, he was the son of Virgil A. and Ruth M. (Camper) Schaedler. He married Deborah Lynn Bair Jan. 10, 1981.

A 1971 graduate of Whiteford High School, he worked as a truck driver for Bulk Transit, Dundee, for 17 years.

He was active in 4-H and enjoyed participating with his children in softball, baseball, 4-H and many other activities.

Surviving are his mother of Ottawa Lake; his wife of Blissfield; a son, Casey William of Blissfield; a daughter, Ashley Lynn of Blissfield and a brother, Jeffrey A. (Jody) of Ottawa Lake.

He was preceded in death by his father and his grandparents, Albert and Mina Schaedler.

Memorials may be made to the South Riga Go-Getters 4-H Club or to a charity of the donor's choice.

Grace D. Craft

July 20, 1935 – June 27, 2003

DUNDEE – Grace D. Craft, 67, of Dundee died at 2:10 a.m. Friday at her home.

GRACE D. CRAFT

Friends may call from 6 to 9 tonight and from noon to 9 p.m. Sunday at the Cover Funeral Home. She will lie in state from 10 a.m. until funeral services at 11 Monday at St. John Lutheran Church. The Revs. Angela and Martin Zimmann, co-pastors of the church, will officiate. Burial will be in Maple Grove Cemetery.

Born July 20, 1935 in Summerfield Township, she was the daughter of Irvin and Leona (Baker) Smith. She married Edward Craft July 25, 1953, at St. John Lutheran Church.

She owned Park Place Designers in Dundee and worked at the Dundee village office, at Ford Motor Co.'s Saline Plant and for Kelly Services at Detroit Edison Co.'s Fermi 2 nuclear plant.

A 1953 Summerfield High School graduate, she was a member of St. John Lutheran Church.

Surviving are her husband; three sons, Dale (Cheryl) of Dundee, David (Diane) of Milford and Dennis of Onsted; a daughter, Dottie (Keith) Bowler of McMillan; a brother, Bud (Gail) Smith of Melbourne, Fla.; a sister, Mrs. Marjorie "Midge" (Willis) Fetzer of Kaleva; six grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Memorials may be made to the Rev. Cesler Fund at St. John Lutheran Church or the St. Joseph Mercy Hospice.

William C. Kruse

April 23, 1938 – June 26, 2003

DUNDEE – William C. Kruse, 65, of Dundee died at 12:40 p.m. Thursday at home.

Friends may call from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday at St. John Lutheran Church, parish hall. A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Tuesday at St. John Lutheran Church. The Rev. Gerald Elshotz of Upper Sandusky, Ohio, and the Rev. Angela Zimmann, co-pastor of St. John Lutheran Church, will officiate. Cover Funeral Home is handling arrangements. Cremation has taken place.

Born April 23, 1938, in Dundee, he was the son of Herman J. and Elizabeth C. "Libby" (Rasp) Kruse. He married Sharon L. Coors May 12, 1962, at St. John Lutheran Church.

He was a Boy Scout executive for Wood County, Ohio, from 1961 to 1963. He also worked for 23 years at Ford Motor Co., Rawsonville, taking medical disability in 1987 and retiring in 1997.

He was a 1956 graduate of Dundee High School, earning letters in basketball and baseball. He graduated in 1961 from Cleary College with a bachelor's degree in business administration and played basketball there for three years, serving as team captain for two years.

In 1957, he and his parents organized the Dundee Small Fry League baseball program in their back yard and helped start the Monroe County Fair Tournament.

Surviving are his wife; three sons, Bill (Julie) Kruse, Garvin Kruse and Herman Kruse, all of Dundee; four daughters, Tamra Kruse and Mary (Robert) Sandefur of Dundee, Crysti (Tracy) Esper of Monroe and Shara (Bryan) Goetz of Tecumseh; two brothers, Fred (Suzanne) of Adrian and Herman (Donna) of Dundee; three sisters, Mary "Lena" (Robert) Heinl, Patsy Zieske and Sandra (Charles) Benore, all of Dundee, and three grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Memorials may be made to the Rev. Cesler Fund at St. John Lutheran Church, Mercy Memorial Hospice of Monroe or The Cleveland Clinic Foundation.

Jessie J. Buckner

April 6, 1915 – June 26, 2003

Jessie J. Buckner, 88, of Monroe died at 11:53 p.m. Thursday in Medilodge of Monroe, where she had been since January, 2001. She had been in poor health for several years.

JESSIE J. BUCKNER

Friends may call from 1 to 6 p.m. Sunday at the Earle Little Funeral Home, Bacarella Chapel, where funeral services will be at 6 p.m. Sunday. The Rev. Sally Martin, associate pastor of the Stewart Road Church of God, will officiate. Burial will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Oak Grove Cemetery, Marion, N.C.

Born April 6, 1915 in Marion, N.C., she was the daughter of James and Ethel (Anderson) Proctor. She married Garland Buckner June 23, 1933, in Marion, N.C. He died May 9, 1999. She came to the Monroe area in 1951, returned to Marion in 1972, then returned to Monroe in 1992.

She was a nurse's assistant at Wyandotte General Hospital (now Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital) for 18 years, retiring in 1971. She enjoyed praying and reading the Bible.

Surviving are a son, C. Gene (Nancy) of Monroe; a daughter, Brenda J. (Lewis) Tucker of Trenton; two brothers, J.D. Proctor and Ray Dewey Proctor, both of Marion, N.C.; a sister, Margaret Woody of Marion, N.C.; seven grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by two sons, David T. and Ronald G.; four sisters and three grandsons.

Memorials may be made to the Stewart Road Church of God and the Medilodge Activities Department.

Brent P. Seely

July 4, 1974 – June 27, 2003

GRAND RAPIDS – Brent P. Seely, 28, of Kentwood, whose grandmother, Dorothy Carmack, lives in Monroe, died at 3 a.m. Friday at St. Mary's Hospital, Grand Rapids.

BRENT P. SEELY

Friends may call from 2 to 4 p.m. and from 7 to 9 p.m. Sunday at the Matthyss-Kuiper Degraaf Funeral Home, Kentwood, where funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Monday.

Born July 4, 1974, he was the son of Sheila Seely, of Kentwood, formerly of Monroe, and Patrick Seely of Grand Rapids.

Surviving are his parents; a sister, Sheyna (Jared) Cronin of Kentwood, and grandmother, Dorothy Carmack.

He was preceded in death by two grandfathers and a grandmother.

Sister Berchan (Deotilla) Murray

May 7, 1914 – June 27, 2003

Sister Berchan (Deotilla) Murray, 89, of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM) died Friday in the IHM Health Care Center.

SISTER BERCHAN (DEOTILLA) MURRAY

Friends may call from 2 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at the IHM Motherhouse, where a memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday in the Motherhouse Chapel. The Rev. Richard Mevissen will officiate. Burial will be in St. Mary Cemetery. Rupp Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Born May 7, 1914 in Detroit, she was the daughter of John and Mary (Rooney) Murray and named Mary Berchan. She grew up in the Detroit area and attended St. Catherine's elementary and high schools. She became an IHM member in Monroe in 1934, taking the religious name of Sister Deotilla.

She earned a bachelor's degree from Marygrove College, Detroit, and a master's degree from Villanova College in Pennsylvania. Her career as an educator spanned 51 years. She taught at Our Lady of Lourdes, River Rouge; St. Felicitas, Chicago; St. Mary Academy; All Saints and St. Martin, Detroit; St. Mary, Wayne, and St. Patrick, Wyandotte, and for 20 years at Gabriel Richard High School, Riverview. From 1986 to 1992, she was director of Continuing and Adult Education at St. Pius Catholic Church, Southgate.

Besides classroom teaching, she taught religious education classes, participated in the Sodality, and assisted with book and stationary accounts. She enjoyed lettering, typing and reading.

In 1992, she retired from Gabriel Richard Convent, Riverview, volunteering at the Children's Creativity Center in Monroe. She moved to Monroe in 1997 and was a patient at the Health Care Center for three years.

Surviving are her sisters, Elizabeth (Ray) Kusch and Nancy (Walte) Langeloh.

She was preceded in death by two sisters, Ellen and Catherine.

Memorials may be made to the IHM Retirement Fund.

Obituaries published by *The Evening News* in its news columns are provided free of charge as a public service. Parties desiring specifically worded obituary announcements may place them through paid advertising. The notices are boxed and when possible appear on the same page as obituaries.

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JUN 28 2003

Flowers bursting in air

Clara Wilkins waters the plants outside her Monroe home, including a lily she planted three years ago. The flowering plant shot up past her dining room window this spring, sporting numerous flowers and buds. She has counted as many as 15 blooms on one of its stems, and the others are just as plentiful. She said she just keeps them watered, adding a little Miracle Grow a couple of times each week.

— Evening News photos by KIM BRENT

Asparagus study reaches milestone

WEARE TOWNSHIP, Mich. (AP) — Asparagus growers everywhere owe a debt of gratitude to John and Marijo Bakker.

The couple has managed an asparagus research farm in northern Oceana County's Weare Township, about 15 miles southeast of Ludington, since the farm's establishment 20 years ago.

Nearly 200 varieties are now grown there by researchers from Michigan State University and the state's asparagus industry, which includes the Bakkers. Some of the research findings have helped to keep the asparagus industry viable in Michigan and elsewhere.

The researchers try to determine the varieties best-suited for the region and for producing the finest spears and greatest yields. They also test different methods of controlling weeds.

"The future depends on finding varieties that do well in old asparagus soil," John Bakker said.

He has found that about 30 percent more asparagus can be produced in soil where it has not previously grown.

But since most of the western Michigan soil good for raising asparagus already is planted with the crop, he is working on finding varieties that do well in existing asparagus fields.

Bakker said the future success of the vegetable depends on finding varieties that produce many stalks, as well as expanding the market for fresh asparagus.

As executive director of the Michigan Asparagus Advisory Board, he not only knows about growing asparagus but also promoting it.

"Anything to improve the lives of asparagus growers," he said.

Bakker was an entomologist specializing in fruit insects in 1975 when he started working for the Farm Bureau co-op in Hart.

He knew very little about asparagus at the time but soon became fascinated by the nutritious vegetable.

His interest was fueled by his identification of an insect that attacked the crop. He set up a research project and found a remedy to deal with the pest, all the while learning more and more about asparagus.

To commemorate the research farm's establishment in 1983, it will host an open house from 7 to 10 p.m. Thursday.

The event will give growers a chance to learn about the latest in asparagus research and the trials being carried out this year at the farm.

Water garden op include containe

FROM METRO EDITORIAL SERVICE

Do you love the look of water gardens, but aren't quite sure that you want to commit to a permanent pond in your backyard or simply don't have the space to build one? Here's an idea: Try a containerized water garden. These miniature water gardens can thrive just about anywhere, and they'll definitely add a splash to your home.

The first thing you'll need to do is find a good, watertight container. Just about anything, from an old ceramic planter to a large half whiskey barrel, will do. Be sure the container is wide enough at the top and deep enough to sink one or two small aquatic plants. (Tip: Use a dark-colored container to give the impression of greater depth, discourage algae growth and make any algae that does appear less obvious to the observer.)

Once you've selected a container, it's time to choose your plant material. There are a lot of great aquatic plants available. If a certain plant catches your eye, buy it and use it as the focal point for your garden. Select some other aquatic plants that will complement your first choice. Remember to keep your plants in proportion to your container. That is, avoid using plants that are too big or too small for the area in which they will grow.

Getting your garden afloat

National Botanical Gar to get ancient tree see

COPEMISH, Mich. (AP) — Bristlecone pine seedlings from a 4,768-year-old tree are soon to be delivered to the National Botanical Garden in Washington.

The four seedlings contain genetic material from some of the oldest living things on the planet and were delivered to the Milarch family farm in Manistee County last week.

The Milarchs founded the Champion Tree Project in 1996 to collect genetic material from America's largest, oldest and most historically significant trees and preserve them in "living libraries" where they eventually may provide a way to restore and revitalize America's urban landscape.

The bristlecone seedlings contain genetic material from the ancient Methuselah Tree from eastern California and the slightly younger Patriarch Tree.

The young trees will be sent

ORD

242-1100, news1@monroenews.com

ncreases

s food service bid

Chartwells was the top scorer in the district's 100-point evaluation approved by the state.

Because it finished the highest, according to Michigan law the contract will go to Chartwells.

In its proposal, the food service was the company that guaranteed the district a profit in its bid. If the food service does not make Bedford a profit of $35,000, Chartwells will make up the difference out of its own pocket.

On May 1 the school board asked Mr. Magrum to re-bid the food service operations to see if a better deal could be brokered after Chartwells projected it would only be able to break even during the school year.

District officials estimated that they have a 65-68 percent student participation rate in the food service program.

ut power to 200

Scott Simons, an Edison spokesman. The problem also disrupted traffic signals at the busy intersection and left police directing traffic for some time.

Mr. Simons said work on transformers still was under way late this morning and power was expected to be restored to all affected by about 10:30 a.m.

ett interim president

Warrick retires next week. Community colleges must have a president in place at all times or they could lose accreditation. Also, a leader is necessary to make certain day-to-day decisions.

Although Dr. Nixon has been selected, he still must negotiate a contract, leave his current position and make the move from Iowa, a process that could take weeks.

L GOVERNMENT

encies around the Monroe County egion

ide on firefighter pay

firefighters $10 a run, officers $12.50 a run and Fire Chief Nick Lucas $5,000 a year. Mr. Lucas would not be paid by the run, said Summerfield Township Supervisor Zelda Lucas.

Mrs. Lucas said the proposal would cost the township less than $36,000 a year.

The meeting is open to the public.

meet Saturday morning

The meeting is open to the public and will be at 9 a.m. Saturday at the Ida Township Hall, 3016 Lewis Ave.

CALENDAR

regular meeting, 7:30, administration building, 1101 S. Raisinville Rd.

Exeter Township Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., township hall, 6158 Scofield Rd., Maybee.

Flat Rock Historic Preservation Commission, 7 p.m., municipal building, 25500 Gibraltar Rd., Flat Rock.

Luna Pier City Council, 7:30 p.m., 4357 Buckeye St., Luna Pier.

FRIDAY

Summerfield Township Board, special meeting, 7 a.m., township hall, 26 Saline St., Petersburg.

MARKETS

	Closed Wed.	10:30 today
Air Gas	17.30	17.11
Aquila	2.57	2.45
AT&T	19.41	19.63
BP	42.82	42.46
CMS Energy	7.85	7.88
CSX	29.29	29.27
Charter Commun.	3.65	3.67
Citigroup	43.06	42.82
Comerica	47.22	46.86
DTE Energy	39.50	39.59
DaimlerChrysler	32.82	33.98
Dana Corp.	11.37	11.37
Delphi Automotive	8.64	8.58
Dow Chemical	31.13	31.01
Eastman Kodak	27.25	27.29
Elder Beerman	5.31	5.84
Fifth-Third Bank	57.83	58.21
Firstenergy	37.80	37.98
Foot Locker (Woolworth)	13.55	13.51
Ford Motor	11.21	11.16
General Electric	29.07	29.04
General Motors	36.61	36
IBM	82.49	83.25
International Paper	36.70	36.72
Jefferson Smurfit	13.56	13.46
Key Corp.	25.37	25.30
Kmart	25.65	26
La-Z-Boy Incorporated	22.39	22.30
Lear Seating	44.75	44.81
Libbey Inc.	22.72	23
Lowe's	43.40	42.89
Micron Tech	11.86	12
Monroe Bank & Trust	18	17.90
Morgan Stanley	43.80	44.38
National City	31.98	32.04
National Steel	.02	.02
Owens Corning	.82	.69
Penney, JC	16.73	16.93
PepsiCo	43.55	43.34
Pfizer	35.33	35.45
Rite Aid	4.30	4.35
Sears Roebuck	33.15	33.08
Spartan Stores	2.74	2.89
Sysco Corp.	29.52	29.55
Tenneco	3.79	3.69
USX	16.43	16.43

Local cash grain

Ida Farmer's Co-Op Co.

	Wed. 9 a.m.	Thur. 9 a.m.
No. 2 White Wheat	$2.61	$2.60
No. 2 Red Wheat	$2.81	$2.80
Corn	$2.30	$2.29
Soybeans	$6.05	$6.17

2003 crop prices

No. 2 Red Wheat	$2.81	$2.80
Corn	$2.03	$2.02
Soybeans	$5.33	$5.37

Prices are subject to change.

Eggs

Midwest dozen egg prices for Wednesday: Extra large 64-73, large 63-71, medium 50-58 [illegible]

LOTTERIES

MICHIGAN LOTTERY

Wednesday Daily
Midday 4-4-1
Evening 0-6-3

Wednesday Daily-4
Midday 6-4-9-7
Evening 5-6-1-1

Wednesday Rolldown
4-16-22-23-27

Wednesday Keno
3, 4, 8, 10, 11, 12, 18, 26, 33, 34, 38, 41, 43, 44, 49, 55, 56, 58, 66, 71, 72, 77

Wednesday Change Play
T-P-1-0-2-4
X-S-8-1-7-4
N-F-9-0-4-8
P-D-5-7-1-9
K-K-3-0-7-1
V-Y-4-7-6-1

Wednesday WinFall
17-18-29-36-46-49

No winner of jackpot
Saturday jackpot: $2.3 million

OHIO LOTTERY

Wednesday Pick 3
Midday 8-6-2
Evening 3-3-3

Wednesday Pick 4
Midday 1-8-9-6
Evening 7-8-2-7

Wednesday Buckeye 5
6-11-15-23-24

Wednesday Kicker
730980

Wednesday Super Lotto Plus
1-11-24-31-44-48
Bonus Ball 47

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LOCAL

The Monroe Evening News

Doug Donnelly, city editor

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Landfill dumping to cost more

By JOSHUA KENNEDY
Evening News staff writer

MONROE COUNTY

It may soon cost more to dump trash in Monroe County.

The Monroe County Board of Commissioners Finance Committee has unanimously approved increasing the solid waste tipping fee from 10 cents a cubic yard to 50 cents a cubic yard for all waste dumped within the county's borders.

"The landfill pays us for any garbage disposed of within Monroe County," said Maureen Pfund, assistant director of the Monroe County Environmental Health Division.

The money raised by the fee – which was created by county ordinance in 1991 — helps pay for the county's solid waste program. That program includes six recycling sites in municipalities across the county, hazardous waste collection days, tire and yard waste collection days, the Christmas tree chipping program and many others.

It also pays the salary of the county's solid waste coordinator position, and has not been increased since the ordinance was adopted. But with the exception of 2000 and 2001, it's made money every year for the county.

County Administrator Charles Londo said the losses in those years were due to the solid waste position being full time.

"That's when we had full-time staff there and we were spending more than we were taking in," he said.

Since then, the position has been scaled back to part time and the revenues have outpaced the expenses. With the increase, Mrs. Pfund said, the county could see additional solid waste programs.

The environmental health division anticipates using the increased fee to pay for ground water pollution prevention, resource recovery education, financing recycling or composting centers and promotion of recycling initiatives.

"Monroe County residents will get more services," she told the finance panel, adding that the cost to the county for the last hazardous waste collection day was $13,000. "That was free. They're getting a great service."

The increased fee, which still must be approved by the full board, will be paid by Monroe County's three landfills. Browning Ferris Industries (BFI) in Erie Township, Rockwood Landfill in Berlin Township and Regulated Resource Recovery in Ash Township would each pay 50 cents a cubic yard — or $1.50 a ton — for waste buried on site.

"I assume they'll pass that cost onto their customers," Mrs. Pfund said, adding that 80 percent of the trash sent to landfills in the county comes from other areas.

Only Macomb, Oakland, Washtenaw, Wayne and Lenawee counties and Ohio send trash into Monroe, Mrs. Pfund said. Canada used to – and still can – but is currently sending trash to places like Sumpter Township.

Approving the increase "doesn't mean the floodgates would open" and Canadian trash would begin to filter into the county, she said. The county's solid waste management plan ensures that and it also limits incoming trash at each of the three facilities to 5,000 tons a day.

Kroger asking for 3 sign permits

■ The national grocery chain is seeking approval for signs at the same location as three Food Towns in the Monroe County region.

By SCOTT NEINAS
Evening News staff writer

Kroger has submitted paperwork for sign changes in Frenchtown Township and the City of Milan, another signal that the Cincinnati-based grocery chain will take over several Spartan-owned Food Town stores in the next two weeks.

Food Town stores in Monroe Township, Dundee, Milan and Frenchtown Township are now expected to transform into Kroger supermarkets. Spartan has said it's selling 20 of its remaining 26 Food Town stores in Michigan and Ohio.

Kroger officials still wouldn't comment on the maneuvers. A secretary for a public relations person said the company wouldn't make a comment on "rumors or speculation."

Frenchtown Township Building Official Clarence King said Kroger has submitted sign changes for what is now the Food Town store on N. Dixie Hwy. The company also inquired about an occupancy permit, which aren't issued until a company shows it has bought a particular property.

Robert Grostick, building inspector for the City of Milan, said Kroger has been issued a sign permit for what is now a Food Town store on W. Main St. He expects the store will reopen July 7.

"I envision them bringing a proof of ownership" to the city for an occupancy permit, Mr. Grostick said.

Kroger has also applied to Monroe Township officials for permission to change the sign at what is now a Food Town on S. Monroe St.

Food Town stores on N. Telegraph Rd. and in Rockwood are expected to be taken over by a Detroit businessman, according to Mr. King.

Spartan bought the Food Town chain from Maumee, Ohio-based Seaway Food Town Inc. in 2000. It began shutting down stores last year, citing a competitive grocery industry.

Monroe mayor treated 'like royalty' in Japan

■ C.D. (Al) Cappuccilli spent a week in Japan to commemorate the sister city relationship between Monroe and Hofu.

By SCOTT NEINAS
Evening News staff writer

– Courtesy photo

Monroe Mayor C.D. (Al) Cappuccilli (middle) talks with Masato Matsuura, mayor of Hofu, Japan, during a recent trip to the Far East.

Mayor C.D. (Al) Cappuccilli showed up at city hall last week to find the entire city work force lined up before him as he entered.

He wasn't in Monroe, however. It happened in Hofu, Japan, one of Monroe's sister cities.

Mayor Cappuccilli spent time in Hofu, Yamaguchi Prefecture, earlier this month to celebrate 10 years as sister cities. It's actually been 12 years since the two made the diplomatic agreement, but the mayor couldn't make the trip two years ago on the anniversary. Dr. David Mehregan and Monroe Public Schools Superintendent David Taylor went in his place.

Mayor Cappuccilli said he didn't want to miss it this year, and was in Japan from June 7-14.

Upon arriving at Hofu city hall, employees lined up three deep to greet him and the eight-member delegation from the Monroe International Friendship Association (MIFA): David and Cheryl Bagnall, Roger and Marge Kreps, Joan Benore, Sherry Brown, D'Lon Schneider and Kim Steve.

"You were treated like royalty; it had to have that same kind of feeling," the mayor said after his return.

Hofu, in terms of population, could be considered Monroe's big sister. According to its Web site (www.cityhofu.yamaguchi.jp/english/), it has 117,000 people compared to Monroe's 22,000. It's situated in southern Japan on an inland sea and is surrounded almost entirely by mountains. Its industrial base includes a Mazda Motor Corp. factory that served as a model for Flat Rock's Auto Alliance International Inc. plant.

The mayor and his contingent visited parks, Buddhist temples and receptions put on by Hofu officials. He said that things in Japan are very organized.

"There was a reception we went to, it was scheduled to end at 9 p.m., and at 9 on the button, it was over," the mayor said.

He bathed in a natural hot spring and participated in an eerie ritual in a park where, according to the Japanese, if you clap your hands and stamp your feet, the echo sounds like birds chirping.

"I tried it, and it really sounded like it," the mayor said.

Joan Benore, vice president of D&S Benore Trucking, said there is plenty for American businesses to learn from the Japanese.

"They have a great customer service industry," she said. "Everybody had a smile on their face and they all helped each other, whether it was their job or not."

The trip was organized by MIFA and the airfare was paid for by Delta Corp. and D&S Benore Trucking, a Newport-based company that works with Delta. The City of Hofu paid for hotel lodgings and meals while the contingent was there. Mr. Cappuccilli said the only thing the city had to pay for was his gift to Hofu Mayor Masato Matsuura, which was a $250 eagle made of crystal. The mayor also was able to give a watercolor painting by a local artist. It was a painting of a lotus, the official flower of the City of Monroe. The painting was donated to the mayor by Pat Asbury of LaSalle Township.

In return, the mayor received a stately wooden plaque with copper plating inside and velvet backing, as well as a tea set. Both will be displayed in the sister city showcase at Monroe City Hall.

MIFA and a similar group in Japan helped form the bond in an effort to give leaders of both cities a chance to learn more about the other's culture. Sister city agreements began in 1956 under President Dwight D. Eisenhower to do just that.

Since the program began, the cities' mayors have visited each others, and several student exchange programs have been initiated. The mayor last flew to Hofu in 1993 and, in 2000, Monroe hosted Mr. Matsuura.

"It's a great way for each of us to understand each other," the mayor said.

Months ago, in preparation for the trip, the mayor was worried about security issues, particularly around the time when U.S. forces invaded Iraq. He said he felt more comfortable by the time the day arrived to go, however.

Not everyone felt as comfortable.

"I had to talk my wife (Tavi) into going," the mayor said.

Hofu's mayor, Masato Matsuura, will visit Monroe Oct. 14, the mayor said. Until then, he'll have fond memories of mountains, natural springs and the echo of chirping birds.

"It's a beautiful country," the mayor said.

Gibraltar board extends contract for assistant superintendent

■ The extension was shortened by one year and viewed as a compromise in a night-long debate about whether the district could afford the salary.

By DEAN COUSINO
Evening News staff writer

GIBRALTAR – Eric Federico, assistant superintendent of Gibraltar Schools and a former athletic director at Carlson High School, has been given a one-year contract extension.

Tuesday night, the board of education was split on whether to grant him a two-year contract as recommended by Supt. James Vollmar. Instead, after several failed motions ended in 3-3 ties and two recesses to call the board's attorney at home, the board voted 6-0 to grant him a one-year pact.

"Let's negotiate later," a weary Secretary Linda Andrzejewski urged the body before the vote. "Call the question – people want to go home tonight."

After the second recess, Trustee Jeffery Coleman made a motion to approve a contract through the 2003-04 school year and to pay Mr. Federico on a per diem basis for the 19 days until July 1 that administrators are supposed to have off in June. The per diem amounts to about $420 a day, Mr. Coleman said after the meeting ended at 9:45 p.m. The motion also requires the board to notify Mr. Federico by April 1, if it wants to extend the contract.

Mr. Coleman told the board that he preferred a one-year accord to "protect" the district in case the economy takes a turn for the worse.

"We cannot afford this position," Mr. Coleman said, a statement that Treasurer Kenneth Jacobs had repeated several times earlier. "This is an additional position we've added. I'd hate to see the economy slide."

Other board members and Mr. Vollmar disagreed. The board was obligated to offer him a contract by law, Trustee Joanne Hawkins said, because the board voted March 25 to have Mr. Federico stay on at least another year as required under terms of all administrative contracts.

On Tuesday, Mr. Vollmar presented the formal contract that would extend Mr. Federico's service through 2004-05. But issues of whether the board could assign him other responsibilities – like being a principal – and whether it could afford Mr. Federico's $89,114-a-year salary posed major stumbling blocks for some board members.

Mrs. Hawkins urged against tabling the pact as proposed by Mr. Coleman, saying Mr. Federico "has a right to know if he needs to show up to work tomorrow." At one point, she asked Mr. Federico if he was willing to negotiate other duties.

The administrator hesitated, then said "Yeah, at this point I'd be willing to do anything this district wanted."

He has been with the district for six years, having served as assistant superintendent since August. Mr. Federico, 53, holds two master's degrees. After the meeting, Mr. Federico didn't want to comment about the board's hesitation to renew his contract. He said he was still excited about working in the district, especially since many of the planned renovations had begun.

Mr. Jacobs said he was once a big proponent of having an assistant superintendent. However, he changed his mind this year following concerns about a half-dozen instructors retiring and not being replaced. He said that could mean upwards of 200 students being displaced and larger class sizes. He also fretted about the budget and the district's projected $116,500 fund balance at the end of this fiscal year.

"The money isn't there," he said during one of the recesses. "Eric's a fine man. I know him. This is not about his qualifications. We need the position, but we need teachers too. We're a small district (about 3,000 students). We just can't afford him right now."

Mr. Vollmar and others said new teachers may still be hired if enrollment climbs. They also said there were enough funds in the new $24.5 million general budget for 2003-04 okayed earlier in the meeting to cover Mr. Federico's salary. The spending plan projects a fund equity, or surplus, of $760,347 on June 30, 2004.

There is one principal vacancy with the retirement of Phyllis Buchanan at Weiss Elementary School. The district has not posted the position and the possibility of assigning Mr. Federico to that post was mentioned Tuesday night.

Mr. Coleman asked for the first recess so he and Mr. Vollmar could call Charles Wycoff, the board's attorney who lives in Grosse Ile, to see if Mr. Federico could be principal and still hold the assistant superintendent's label. But when the board reconvened, board members and Mr. Vollmar could not agree on what the attorney advised. So another recess was requested at 9:12 p.m. The attorney noted that Mr. Federico could not hold both jobs, but could be assigned other duties as assistant superintendent if that was agreeable with the board and the superintendent.

Earlier in the meeting, Mr. Vollmar said there may be some shuffling of administrative duties based on student counts, teacher hirings and other factors. He expressed concern that the board's past policy of allowing administrators and the superintendent to recommend these assignments was being usurped by the board.

"Normally, the recommendations flow through the superintendent to the board, not the other way around," he said. "You can't micromanage this process and the district."

Tuesday was President Melvin Kramer's last regular meeting, since his term expires this month. He strongly urged extending Mr. Federico's contract.

"It's an important move," Mr. Kramer said. "We got more than our money's worth. He's a dedicated individual. Someone has to step in when Mr. Vollmar is out of the district. I can't see any reason for delaying this."

JUN 26 2003

COMMENT

The Monroe Evening News

The Monroe Evening News
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THOMAS J. CHULSKI, editorial page editor
SHIRLEY HYDEN, business manager

OUR VIEW

Keep Big Mac fee hike

It used to cost the drivers of cars, pickup trucks or school buses $1.50 to cross the Mackinac Bridge, that beautiful span connecting the state's two peninsulas.

On May 1, that fee rose to $2.50. And the response of most folks to that probably is: big deal.

But apparently some believe it is a big deal. And they are trying to convince lawmakers to reverse the toll increase and freeze any others until 2006-07. Bills now before the Senate would do just that.

Walter North, a St. Ignace resident and former chairman of the Mackinac Bridge Authority, claims the increase could actually hurt tourism. He says the economy is so sensitive that a $1 increase in bridge fare could actually deter tourists from entering the Upper Peninsula.

Hogwash. First of all, bridge fees have not risen in 34 years. In fact, the current $2.50 fee, which took effect May 1, is lower than when the bridge opened in 1957, when it was $3.25. Raising the fee a buck is nowhere near excessive and perhaps is overdue.

Big Mac is a jewel of a bridge. It spans the Straits of Mackinac and is a symbol of northern Michigan's beauty. Money raised from fares pays for maintaining the bridge, keeping it in its excellent shape.

Without an increase, however, some maintenance could come to a standstill. William Gnodtke, chairman of the bridge authority, said the organization would quickly be in a deficit at current fee rates. Such maintenance work as painting and deck replacement that is scheduled for 2017 could be jeopardized.

So the fees were adjusted. In addition to raising fees to $2.50 for cars, pickup trucks and school buses, other increases included $1 to $2.50 for motorcycles; from $22 to $33 for an 11-axle truck; and from $1.25 to $1.50 for a commuter who buys a roll of 24 tokens.

The fee hikes have not caused a stir among motorists. In fact, only 12 complaints were received during May out of 300,000 bridge crossings. It's evident that people understand that increased bridge fares are necessary.

But critics of the plan claim the money to help maintain Big Mac should come from somewhere else. Where? Money for road repairs already is scarce. Besides, during its 46 years of existence, the bridge has been well maintained by self-supporting funds raised with the fares.

Lawmakers would be wise to stay away from this ridiculous fee-freeze idea. To think that one extra dollar would prevent tourists from heading to the gorgeous Upper Peninsula to enjoy the crystal clear streams, gracious waterfalls, expansive forests and quaint towns is ludicrous.

▶ To the point

An idea to roll back the recent modest fee hikes at the Mackinac Bridge is a bad one.

GUEST EDITORIALS

Commentaries from other newspapers do not necessarily reflect the views of The Monroe Evening News' editorial board.

Mistrust sparked rioting

FROM THE HERALD-PALLADIUM (ST. JOSEPH)

State and local authorities must get a better handle on the rioting that last week turned Benton Harbor into a violent scene normally reserved for Third World countries. ...

Perhaps luckily, no one died during those two nights of unrest. We hope the worst is over, but if the melee is any indication, the governor may need to bring in National Guard troops to help restore civil order.

From the start, the situation was a tinderbox of pent-up rage and suspicion, with the fuse being lit when a Benton Harbor man died when his motorcycle crashed into a house during a police chase. The details of the chase remain somewhat sketchy. However, according to police, motorcyclist Terrance Shurn died on Pavone Street near Empire after being chased by two police departments. At one point his speed was estimated at more than 100 mph.

Some residents have alleged that a Benton Township officer's car hit Shurn's motorcycle, causing the accident. Police in charge of the chase investigation maintain that the officer's car was blocks away when Shurn's motorcycle slammed into a house.

It is this kind of disconnect and mistrust that helped lead to the violent confrontations on the city's streets. The quicker that outside police agencies conduct an investigation and release a full report on the chase, the better chance there will be to calm tensions between residents and police. In the meantime, Benton Harbor's elected and community leaders must work harder to stop tensions from boiling over again.

As for city residents, we urge restraint and calm, and hope that people can see in the clear light of day after two nights of rioting that blind rage against a system they perceive as unjust, and perhaps racist, is no answer. There is room to work for improvement within the system, and there is much to be said for personal responsibility.

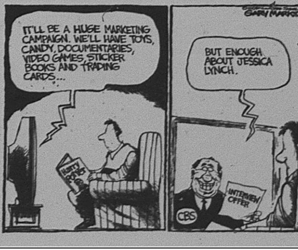
One man is dead, perhaps a victim only of his own poor judgment. Compounding his death with violence, felony offenses and hate-filled invectives is not a solution, but a recipe for further mistrust and, in the worst case, tragedy.

Is California ready for Terminator?

From THE LANSING STATE JOURNAL

Arnold Schwarzenegger is making noises about a possible run for governor of California. We're not convinced California is ready for a Terminator-turned politician.

Of course, if he runs and loses, he has a ready-made slogan: "I'll be back!"



GARY MARKSTEIN
IT'LL BE A HUGE MARKETING CAMPAIGN. WE'LL HAVE TOYS, CANDY, DOCUMENTARIES, VIDEO GAMES, STICKER BOOKS AND TRADING CARDS...
BUT ENOUGH ABOUT JESSICA LYNCH.
INTERVIEW OFFER
CBS

LETTERS TO THE EDI

War about WMD or Halliburton?

According to George W. Bush, Iraq's oil belongs to the Iraqi people. But on May 7, more information about a contract between Halliburton and the U.S. armed forces was released. It stated Halliburton could sell the Iraqis' oil.

The no-bid contract was worth $7 billion to put out oil-well fires and sell the oil. Dick Cheney was CEO of Halliburton from 1995-2000 and still gets a million dollars a year in pension from Halliburton.

This comes as a surprise to me, since the George W. Bush administration stated that the war was to get rid of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction and to free the people of Iraq from Saddam. Still we have found no WMD (maybe we could look at our own weapons, too), and the Iraqi people have been protesting their puppet government.

Also, from the time when Dick Cheney was the head of Halliburton, they did business with the so-called "axis of evil" – no, not Bush, Cheney and Rumsfeld — Iran, Iraq and North Korea. Halliburton also did business with Libya, Nigeria and Indonesia, three countries with poor human rights. (Source: Citizen Works. Go to citizenworks.org on the Web and click on the "End corporate war profiteering" link.)

During the same time span (1
2000) Halliburton allegedly "coo
the books." The Securities
Exchange Commission formali
an investigation into whet
Halliburton artificially inflated
enue by $234 million over four ye

If this latest war in the Middle
was not about oil, then what wa
about?? I don't know. Our soldi
continue to die in Iraq and w
they come home. (More than 9
Gulf War I veterans died from
War Syndrome after return
home.) At the same time our tro
die, the Bush Corporation gives
cuts to the wealthiest 1 percen
Americans, while the Americ
with the lowest income (34 perc
get no tax break at all, and Bush
the economy in a depression.

If you support Bush Cheney I
you are not supporting life but de

Robbie
Mon

Head Start proposa looks mighty costly

I was stunned to read
Thursday's front-page article on
proposed Head Start program
spend $853,000 for 20 children in
Lincoln School area — a plan to
ishly supply for those children w
their own parents should.

No family in Monroe (or the U.S
is so impoverished that they ca

OTHER VIEWPOINT

Jessica Lynch is more thar

Maybe it's best that Jessica Lynch doesn't remember what happened. The doctors say she doesn't recall the ambush and capture, the April days that transformed the private first class into a first-class war hero.

So Private Lynch, at least, had no part in the making of the Legend of Private Lynch. When the nonstop coverage began, she was a survivor being carried on a stretcher in and out of planes and hospitals. When producers "took meetings" for TV specials and docudramas, she was having her bones meticulously pinned back together.

Ellen Goodman
Washington Post Writers Group

When the big names of television tried to woo her with lockets and books and deals, when they tried to "get" her as if she were a charm for their bracelet, they didn't know that the star of the story couldn't actually tell the story.

There is something terrible about the alchemy that tries to turn a human into a symbol. In this case, the alchemists took a young soldier from the hollows of Palestine, W.Va., to the hollow world of myth-making. And now we are discovering the fool's gold.

Two Washington Post headlines bookmark the story of the story of Jessica Lynch. The first was on April 3: "She Was Fighting to the Death." The second was on June 17: "A Broken Body, a Broken Story, Pieced Together."

In the first rough draft of history, a 19-year-old supply clerk had fought fiercely, emptying her gun. She was riddled with bullet and knife wounds. As a prisoner of war, she was abused and finally rescued in a daring night raid. It became the defining story of the war.

In the revised draft of hist
emerging in bits and pieces, chao
well as courage, fear as well as br
ery, play a role. It was a Humvee a
dent that shattered her bones.
was never shot or stabbed. Her M
jammed and was never fired. If
was abused by her captors, they w
gone when the rescue team arriv

The original tale was, in the wo
of one Los Angeles Times repor
"the first feel-good story of the wa
But what felt good in April is n
prickly to the touch.

In June, everything about this w
seems to be up for revision — fr
the way it began, with declaration
weapons of mass destruction, to
way it hasn't ended. So Jess
Lynch has now become a *redefin*
story of the war, with skeptics ask
whether the Pentagon spun
media or the media hyped the sto

But weren't we all embedded — in the creation and adulation of a new war hero?

I confess that I was wary from the get-go of this story. I carry in my head the voice of my first city editor: "If the story is too good to be true, make some more calls." The team of Post reporters who wisely and care-
fully revisited the story still call
"irresistible and cinematic." B
there was something cartoonli
about Jessica, warrior and prison
of war.

The mythological Lynch was bo
Rambette and Damsel in Distress

For a military wrestling wi
women in its ranks, she was t
woman fighting ferociously — "S
did not want to be taken alive"
and the slight blond teenager w

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suicide

attempts, citing manufacturer confidentiality.

GlaxoSmithKline did not return a phone call Thursday, but the company last week said the rate of all "emotional side effects," ranging from mood swings to suicide attempts, totaled 3.2 percent of pediatric Paxil patients compared with 1.5 percent of those given dummy pills.

The FDA cautioned that it is still investigating and hasn't definitively concluded there is a suicide risk to pediatric patients.

"There is no definitive action or even decision about what ought to be done," said FDA's Dr. Russell Katz. But "we wanted to let people know" about the possible risk.

Why would Paxil cause such a side effect in children but not adults?

The FDA said it's not clear, but noted that childhood depression itself is different from adult depression, probably because of changes the child's brain undergoes as it grows. A number of adult antidepressants have failed to work in children. Plus, children often suffer different side effects from a variety of medications than adults do.

Study: Some shyness may be inherited

WASHINGTON (AP) — Shyness may be inherited, a study suggests. A shy child can learn to be more outgoing with age, but a physical reaction in the brain linked to a person's temperament does not change, the study indicates.

The study, appearing this week in the journal Science, conducted brain scans on 22-year-olds and found that those who had been classified 20 years before as inhibited or shy children had a distinctive reaction in their brains when confronted with novel images.

People who had been judged as toddlers to be inhibited showed in the scans that the amygdala structure in their brains responded much more actively to unexpected sights than did those who had been judged as children to be more outgoing, said Jerome Kagan, a researcher in the department of psychology at Harvard University.

"That is support for the notion that the reason they were shy, timid and reserved when they were 2 years old is because they had an excitable amygdala," said Kagan. This suggests that shyness is a temperament that can be inherited.

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Thursday
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high 89°

6B/Weather

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Evening News

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Local

Couple picked for 'Today' show marriage

An area couple will have fewer worries when it comes to their wedding this fall. For one, they won't have to pick a wedding date. NBC and the "Today" show will take care of that.

Chris Janowicz, a Bedford High School graduate, and Seneca Bowers, an Erie Township resident, were chosen to be married on the show. The announcement was made this morning on national television. They were among four final couples and were selected via voting on the Internet.

Ms. Bowers, who mentioned she was from Erie on this morning's show, decided to enter the contest on the advice of her friend, Gina Jacoby. Mr. Janowicz works at Precision Masking in Erie.

Learn about how Mr. Janowicz and Ms. Bowers met, read the story that appeared in Monday's Evening News or visit www.monroenews.com.

World

Iraqis kill six British soldiers

Iraqis gather today near the burnt British army vehicle, a day after attackers killed six British soldiers in retaliation for earlier civilian deaths.
Page 9A

Today's obituaries

Gerald Leo Hoffman, 66, of Temperance.

Wesley G. Ruff, 65, of Frenchtown Township.

Darrell M. Mosser, 63, of Rockwood.

Margaret (Peggie) Mockensturm, 58, of Milan.

Gary Lee Evans, 56, of Monroe.

Edward A. Rademacher, 45, of Monroe.

Floyd M. Edwards, 86, of Monroe.

Margaret Mary Stark, 79, of Toledo, formerly of Temperance.

Clarence J. Geiger, 77, of Ida.

Mary Ziesmer Strelecky, 87, of Petersburg.

Page 11A

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Entertainment 10A
Local calendar 4B
Lotteries 2A
Police 2A
Sports 1-5B
Stocks and Markets 2A
TV 7B

Spartan plans to sell

The area's grocery mix is about to change dramatically, but the details remain unclear

By CHARLES SLAT
Evening News staff writer

Spartan Stores Inc. said it has agreed to sell 20 of its remaining 26 Food Town stores in Michigan and Ohio, but isn't yet saying who the buyers are.

The Grand Rapids-based grocery distributor and retailer said it has entered into "definitive sales agreements" for the 20 stores and is "exploring options" for the remaining six. It did not say which six those are.

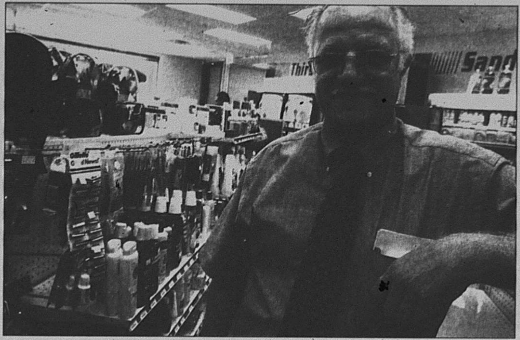
The future of the remaining stores in the Monroe County region still is unclear, though it appears the Kroger chain is acquiring the S. Monroe St. store and perhaps the Dundee and Milan stores. Stores in Rockwood and on S. Telegraph Rd. might end up operated by an independent grocer. The Temperance store is closing. Various rumors continue to circulate about stores in Lambertville and Frenchtown Township.

Jeanne Norcross, a Spartan spokeswoman, said clearance signs posted at various stores are just another indication that the company "is continuing to prepare the stores for a change." She said some store closings are planned so they can be inventoried in preparation for a transition. She said the disposition of the stores would be revealed soon.

Though Spartan said completion of the store sales depends upon satisfying certain contractual requirements and conditions, proceeds from the sales are expected to generate $25 million to $30 million and the money would be used to reduce outstanding bank debt.

Spartan has been dismantling the Food Town chain over the past several months, citing competitive pressures in the grocery business. It acquired Food Town from Maumee, Ohio-based Seaway Food Town Inc. in late 2000, then closed five of the 43 stores late last year. It shuttered another 13, most in Ohio, in April.

See SPARTAN, Page 11A



— Evening News photo by KIM BRENT

General manager Kal Faouzi says his employees have worked hard to make the Citgo station in Milan much more than a convenience store. With Food Town's impending closure, the station's inventory has expanded to include more items such as toiletries and non-traditional convenience store items.

Towns adapting to Food Town fallout

By SCOTT NEINAS
Evening News staff writer

MILAN — For all intents and purposes, Milan is a town without a grocery store.

The recent changes occurring at several Food Town stores across the county have resulted in empty shelves, empty parking lots and residents driving 40 miles round trip to get food.

"We have no choice, everything is 17 to 20 miles away," said Jeannine Emery of Milan. "Hopefully, Food Town won't be closed for long."

Spartan Stores Inc., which owns the Food Town stores, hasn't yet said what the plans are for several of its stores, which have stopped stocking shelves and taking bottle returns and personal checks. Grocers in the area say Kroger will take over most of the stores, but officials from Kroger and Spartan have yet to confirm that.

Residents are going to produce stands on the sides of roads for fruit, convenience stores for bread and milk, and as far as Saline and Ypsilanti for groceries.

The City of Milan is trying to do its part to help residents by reducing bus fares for those going to Saline to get

See FALLOUT, Page 11A

Owner of search dog faces charges

■ Sandra Anderson, with the help of her cadaver-sniffing dog, Eagle, was responsible for locating the former St. Antoine's cemetery.

By JOSHUA KENNEDY
Evening News staff writer

Federal prosecutors have charged Sandra Anderson, handler of Eagle, the cadaver-sniffing dog, with planting evidence.

Ms. Anderson, 43, of Sanford and Eagle, a German shorthaired pointer-doberman pinscher mix, have scoured Monroe County identifying the final resting places of the area's earliest settlers. Locally, the duo is most noted for having identified the former St. Antoine's cemetery off N. Custer Rd.

Charges were filed Monday in federal court alleging that Ms. Anderson planted bones and carpet fibers during a search for a missing 20-year-old Oscoda woman in the Huron National Forest. The charges also include witness tampering.

Ms. Anderson could not be reached for comment. She is the director of Great Lakes Search and Rescue of Michigan K-9 Unit in Midland. A woman answering the phone there this morning, who refused to be identified, said Ms. Anderson and Eagle are away conducting a search, but declined to say where.

The company claims to conduct as many as 200 searches for missing persons each year. Locally, Eagle and Ms. Anderson have been called on many times to verify – or deny – that human remains are buried at various sites.

In addition to the St. Antoine's site, the team has indicated there are human remains all around Loranger Square in downtown Monroe, Bone Hill in Dundee, the River Raisin Battlefield, a potter's field at Monroe County Community College and many other places.

Their findings at the St. Antoine's site — wedged between Cranbrook Estates and Frenchman's Bend — resulted in months of delay for developer Dan Rice who was in the midst of bulldoz-

See CHARGED, Page 2A

— Evening News file photo

Eagle, a cadaver-sniffing dog, and owner Sandra Anderson were at a search for human remains at the River Raisin Battlefield in April, 2000. Federal prosecutors have charged Anderson with planting evidence at crime scenes.

Hearing set on Holcim waste-burning plan

■ An informational meeting is set for July 15 and a public hearing is planned for July 22 on a proposal to use non-hazardous wastes as fuel for the cement plant.

By CHARLES SLAT
Evening News staff writer

State officials are moving forward on a plan that would allow Dundee-based Holcim (US) Inc. to burn various industrial wastes as fuel for its cement-making kilns.

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality has issued a draft permit that, if ultimately approved, would let the firm install equipment to burn material such as plastics, old oil-filter innards and a range of other items.

The one-of-a-kind permit would allow the plant to burn only non-hazardous wastes in its kilns and the material would have to be pre-tested before it could be used as a continuing fuel source, DEQ officials said.

"Every type of waste that comes into the plant has to be analyzed before it can be used," said John Vial, a permit engineer with the DEQ's Air Quality Division. "And we are requiring them to do some testing on the kiln itself."

A public informational meeting on the proposal is set for 6 to 9 p.m. July 15 at the Dundee Area Senior Citizens Center, 284 Monroe St., Dundee. A public hearing will be held at 7 p.m. July 22 at the same location.

Depending on the issues raised during the hearing and public comment period, the permit conceivably could be issued later this year, Mr. Vial said. "Obviously, it will be controversial," he said.

Some area residents have been objecting to the proposal since it first was put forth in November, 2001. A group protested the plan at the plant the last two Saturdays.

See HOLCIM, Page 2A

Trooper spooks big cat in Frenchtown

By RAY KISONAS
Evening News staff writer

State police Trooper Bret C. Smith was searching a Frenchtown Township field for a stolen ATV recently but found a fast feline instead.

The trooper, based at the Monroe post, said he was not an animal expert so he couldn't say if it was the cougar, but it was a cat and it was big.

"I started walking along a ditch line and I heard a shuffle, shuffle," Trooper Smith said. "Then it jumped out of the brush. Obviously, it startled me."

Several cougar sightings have been reported in recent weeks. Witnesses claim to have seen the big cat lurking in the fields and woods of Frenchtown Township. A Monroe County Animal Control officer said he spotted the cougar near N. Telegraph and S. Stony Creek Rds.

But Trooper Smith said he was 8 to 10 feet away when he saw the big cat the first time. It was the middle of the day and he was at the dead end of Dazarow Dr., which is off Stewart Rd. between N. Telegraph Rd. and N. Monroe St.

Trooper Smith said a large field behind a nearby neighborhood is split in half by a ditch that runs east and west. He was on duty and searching the area for a stolen all-terrain vehicle.

See CAT, Page 11A

JUN
25
2003

Doug Donnelly: city editor

IN THE COURTS

DISTRICT – VITALE

Sentenced

Tevis R. Marcum, 42, Ann Arbor, driving under the influence of liquor, unlawful blood alcohol level-second or subsequent offense. 1 year probation, 1 year in jail, credit for 1 day served, balance as court may direct. 30 days work program. $1,240 fines and costs.

▶ *Moroe court news — 6B*

Edward A. Pudlik, 27, 8525 Gigi St., Newport, driving with suspended license. 30 days in jail, credit for 1 day served, balance as court may direct.

David Sass, 46, 2982 Lakeview St., two counts violation of Frenchtown Township blight ordinance. 3 months probation. $150 fines and costs, each charge.

Emily M. Wood, 18, 1600 Northridge St., disorderly conduct. $200 fines and costs or 20 days in jail.

Plea entered

Joseph L. Toeppe, 24, 600 N. Roessler St., creating disturbance. Pleads guilty. $200 fines and costs or 20 days in jail.

Melissa D. Vallade, 20, 1220 Josephine Ct., Apt. 1C, driving with suspended license. $300 fines and costs or 30 days in jail.

Monique L. Whited, 32, 8180 Summerfield Rd., Petersburg, disorderly conduct. 3 months probation. $150 fines and costs or 15 days in jail.

Facing charges

Anthony R. Bijarro, 25, 3143 Cloverdale St., failure to stop after property-damage accident. Pretrial conference July 18.

Dismissed

Willie D. Yates, 35, Toledo, driving with suspended license-second or subsequent offense. Insufficient evidence.

POLICE BLOTTER

Robbery tried at motel

Monroe police are investigating an attempted armed robbery at Knights Inn, 1250 N. Dixie Hwy., Monday morning.

An employee told police that just before 4 a.m. a black male wearing a hooded sweatshirt and wielding a knife attempted to enter the motel's business office.

The employee told police the man threatened her and displayed the knife as he tried to open the locked office door before she called 911. Officers said the man never gained access to the building before fleeing the scene.

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** Includes selected holidays and editions.

FROM PAGE 1A

Holcim (cont.)

Another protest is planned for this Saturday.

Pamela Ackerman of Dundee was among those demonstrating. A member of a citizen advisory committee for the plant, she said she's concerned that scrap tires the plant already is burning is affecting the community.

"People who live closer to the plant say they can smell tires burning," she said. "If they can't control the tire smell, how are they going to control these alternative fuels?"

She said many people in the area suffer from asthma and she favors some public health survey to see if the incidence of respiratory problems is greater near the plant.

Christopher Lemon resigned from the advisory committee during its last meeting a few weeks ago. "I thought we were getting the runaround," he said. "I felt we weren't getting truthful answers."

He said members had raised questions about possible chemical bonding among the wastes during burning that would end up in the plant's emissions. "From our standpoint, there seems to be a lot of unknown factors that have not been looked at," he said.

And Jeff Gearhart of the Ann Arbor-based Ecology Center said his organization is opposing the permit due to the long list of substances that could be burned – a list of substances that haven't been used before as fuels in a cement plant.

Marian Smith, a Dundee resident for 30 years, hadn't heard of the plan, but didn't like it. "That doesn't sound good to me," she said. "I don't think that's a very good idea. If there was a way all that could be done safely so we couldn't breathe it, well, maybe."

But plant officials say the plan is safe and would help the plant cut fuel costs, remain competitive and reduce waste that goes to landfills.

"This is an important permit for the Dundee plant, as we work to ensure the plant remains competitive economically and environmentally," said Jeremy Luckin, manager of Holcim's Dundee plant. "The use of alternative fuels will allow us to address these two issues in a very proactive way. We appreciate the efforts of the MDEQ to evaluate our process and technology for using these wastes, and to respond to the concerns of area residents who want to be sure our operations are safe."

He said the extremely high temperatures and turbulence inside a cement kiln provides an ideal environment to destroy waste materials.

Using waste fuels should not increase overall air emissions from the plant, Holcim officials said. They said many alternative fuels and materials would burn cleaner than the fossil fuels, including coal, now used by the plant.

The Dundee plant already uses scrap tires and bottom ash from area power plants as part of its fuel mix. Under the proposed permit, waste oils, wood chips, non-chlorinated plastics, oil filter fluff and organic wastes from agriculture could be among the types of materials Holcim might use. Its proposal lists as many as 79 different kinds of wastes.

Holcim requested state approval to use a variety of alternative fuels in a single application, rather than through a material-by-material process, so it could respond more rapidly as these materials become available in the marketplace.

"They wanted the permit to be generic in nature," Mr. Vial explained. In that

sense, the proposed perm
dented in Michigan. "I w
say it is unique," Mr. Vial
He said the company wo
company to do "destruct
tests" on the material us
words, burn a small amou
analyze how much was inc
also test smokestacks to
the material was emitted t
The approval process
same reviews that mate
applications undergo to ens
any proposed materials w
public health and the envir
pany officials said.
"They are required to s
ance before they start bur
said Mr. Vial.
Before any potential wast
by Holcim, it would be eva
if it could be used. The ev
include computer modelin
air emissions, verification
posed fuel is classified as no
lab analysis to determine
composition, review and c
storage and handling rules
mination that it will not affe
of high-quality cement, c
cials said.
The Holcim plant make
tons of cement annually
construction industries.
about 200 people and has a
annual payroll.
The Dundee plant is amon
Holcim (US) Inc. operates
States. The company is w
by Holcim Ltd. of Switzer
the world's leading produce
and related construction m

Charged (cont.)

ing the former cemetery of the county's first French settlers when bones were found.

Forensic dentist John (Jack) LaBoe joined a committee of citizens concerned about the cemetery and recommended that Ms. Anderson and Eagle be brought in. Together, they identified and marked 45 individual graves on nearly one-acre of the 17-lot subdivision known today as Riveredge estates.

Reached today by telephone, developer Dan Rice, who spent considerable amounts of money verifying that the graves existed and double-checking the fact, said he's confident Ms. Anderson and Eagle were on the level.

"I saw them myself," he said, referring to the graves. "I know there's graves there."

If there were any second guesses, he said, it would be on the third lot. The cemetery and memorial park that stands there now incorporates the first three lots of the subdivision. Mr. Rice saw with his own eyes remains on the first two lots, he said.

But Ms. Anderson's word that Eagle found a few remains on the third lot was all the evidence he needed to decide not to develop that parcel, he said.

"I paid enough expense," he said, adding that had he wanted to verify the graves there he would have had to rehire an archaeological team to uncover the remains. "It wasn't worth it, but now I guess I wish I'd have checked."

He said he wouldn't spend any money to check now that the park has been dedicated. Dr. LaBoe, who knows Ms. Anderson through a personal working relationship, said the charges are a mystery.

"I'm a little surprised," he said. "I have

no idea what's going on. W
tion, her work is authentic
highest quality, and the last
world would it be criminal
reason for her to do it.
"She's been all over the
that dog," he said. "She's do
good."
Ms. Anderson and Eagle
the rescuers that scavenged t
World Trade Center after t
2001, terrorist attacks. They'
for mass graves in Bosnia a
and many other places aroun
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owner collectively carry as
years in prison and $250,0
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at Great Lakes Search and
this morning that the comp
ues to work throughout th
tion.

Public hearing tonight for federal clean up grant for Mason Run site

A public hearing will be held tonight by the City of Monroe's Community Development and Planning Department to hear comments on the proposed clean-up plan for the next phase of the Mason Run Subdivision.

The city has preliminary approval for a $1 million federal grant that will help pay for clean up costs on the acreage north of E. Noble Ave. that will be the site of the next 217 homes. The city's plan is to remove the parking lot, formerly used for Consolidated Packaging, and use it as a road base.

The parking lot is made out
ash and has low levels of co
nants, city officials said.
The hearing will be at 7 to
the first-floor conference ro
Monroe City Hall, 120 E. Fir

MEETINGS CALENDAR

TONIGHT

Monroe Mayor's Traffic Committee, 5 p.m., council chambers, city hall, 120 E. First St.

Monroe County Opportunity Program Board of Directors, 5:30 p.m., MCOP conference room, 1140 S. Telegraph Rd.

Monroe Office of Community Development, public meeting regarding remediation of the former Consolidated Packaging Corp. Northside Plant in the 900 block of Elm Ave., 7 p.m., Monroe City Hall first floor conference room, 120 E. First St.

Flat Rock Library Board of Directors, 7 p.m., municipal building, 25500 Gibraltar Rd., Flat Rock.

Bedford Township Planning Commission, 7 p.m., township hall, 8100 Jackman Rd., Temperance.

Milan Area Schools Board of Education, workshop, 7 p.m., administrative conference room, Milan High School, 920 North St., Milan.

Huron Township Board, 7:30 p.m., Country Meadows Mobile Home Park clubhouse, 3211 Will Carleton Rd., Huron Township.

THURSDAY

Lake Erie Transit, public hearing on bus routes, 10 a.m., council chambers, Monroe City Hall, 120 E. First St.

New Bedford Academy Board of Directors, 4 p.m., New Bedford Academy, 6315 Secor Rd., Lambertville.

Jefferson Schools Board of Education, budget workshop, 5 p.m.; regular meeting, 7, Jefferson Schools administration building, 2400 N. Dixie Hwy.

Monroe County Intermediate School District Board of Education, public hearing on budgets, 6 p.m.; regular meeting, 7:30, administration building, 1101 S. Raisinville Rd.

Exeter Township Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., township hall, 6158 Scofield Rd., Maybee.

Flat Rock Historic Preservation Commission, 7 p.m., municipal building, 25500 Gibraltar Rd., Flat Rock.

Luna Pier City Council, 7:30 p.m., 4357 Buckeye St., Luna Pier.

Frenchtown Township Planning Commission, special meeting on proposed master plan, 7:30 p.m., township hall, 2744 Vivian Rd.

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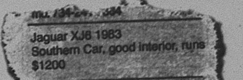

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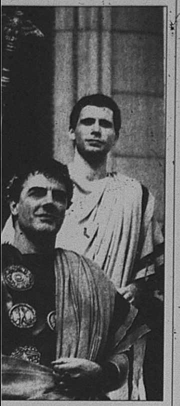

— AP photo by ERIK HEINILA

e Great (left) and Jeremy Sisto as Julius from TNT's "Caesar." The two-part mini- unday and Monday.

and comedic."

"My roots are in rep theater," explains the 48-year-old Noth, who, born in Madison, Wis., moved to New York in 1978 and studied with Sanford Meisner at the Neighborhood Playhouse, later attending the Yale School of Drama.

"I did 'Law & Order' for five years, then 'Sex and the City,'" Noth says, "and after playing those stationary characters, now I want to make a point of jumping around and doing as many different things as I can."

Let attorney explain obligations to son

Dear Abby:

My 18-year-old son, "Jeff," has a 17-year-old girlfriend, "Connie," who is pregnant — but not with his child. Jeff has decided he will sign the birth certificate to give the baby our last name. (The real father wants nothing to do with Connie or the baby.)

Dear Abby
Universal Press Syndicate

I have no say in this matter. Her parents know all about the pregnancy but don't see it as a problem. In fact, they have decided not to tell other family members that my son isn't the father.

When I try to warn Jeff about what he's getting into, he cuts me off and says, "It'll all be okay, Mom."

Abby, my son is making a lifetime financial commitment and can't begin to appreciate the whole picture. He assumes that Connie's folks will "take care of everything." I am at my wit's end.

— Frantic in Idaho

Dear Frantic:

Take your son to an attorney immediately. Let the lawyer explain what Jeff's obligations will be if he abets this deception. Your son appears to be idealistic and romantic.

However, he should not declare paternity for a child that is not his. It's unfair to the child — and lets the biological father off the hook.

Dear Abby:

I am a 19-year-old girl and have a problem with my parents. When I was younger, I could talk to them about anything and everything.

They respected my decisions and supported me whenever they could — until I reached junior high.

At that time, I noticed that I liked girls more than boys. When I told my mom and dad, they dismissed it and said it was just a phase. It wasn't.

I secretly dated one girl in ninth grade to find out if that's where my feelings were headed. Then I "came out" to my friends. They were cool about it and supported me 100 percent.

I told my parents when I was in the 10th grade and they exploded. Mom cried for hours; Dad kicked me out for a week. My parents have had no trust whatsoever in me ever since.

We don't talk like we used to — and whenever the subject of my sexual orientation comes up, my parents call me a slut, among other things. I've moved out three times, but I always go back because I don't have enough money to make it on my own.

I'm now dating a wonderful young woman and it's getting serious. I don't dare tell my parents because I'm afraid of their reaction.

— Desperately Seeking Love and Acceptance in Kansas

Dear Desperate:

I am sorry you are not getting the support you need from your family. They need to understand that sexual orientation is not a choice. Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG) could offer them some much-needed insight and support.

They can call the organization at (202) 467-8180 or go online to the Web site at www.pflag.org.

I have a different resource for YOU. Please contact The Trevor Project. It's a 24-hour toll-free hotline that promotes tolerance and provides support to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered youth.

The Trevor Helpline crisis line is the only 24-hour, 365-day toll-free line solely dedicated to counseling gay and questioning youth.

Call (866) 488-7386 or go online to www.TheTrevorProject.org.

ing. So, your side needs to take the next four tricks.

Since declarer can have at most three spades, the correct lead now is the spade queen, clarifying matters for partner. If declarer has the spade king or ace, the contract is unbeatable.

Here, you take five spade tricks for two down.

Thoughtlessly, I led the spade four. Worried that declarer had queen-doubleton, my partner won with the king and cashed the ace. I threw the queen in the hope my partner also had the spade jack, but to no avail.

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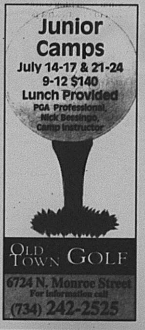

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Deaths

Gerald Leo Hoffman

Aug. 16, 1936-June 24, 2003

TEMPERANCE — Services have been set for Gerald Leo Hoffman, 66, of Temperance, who died Tuesday at Harborside Healthcare, Sylvania Township, Ohio.

Friends may call from 2 to 9 p.m. Thursday at Michael W. Pawlak Funeral Home. Services will be held at 10:15 a.m. Friday at the funeral home and immediately afterward at St. Catherine Catholic Church, Toledo. Burial will be in Toledo Memorial Park, Sylvania, Ohio.

Born Aug. 16, 1936, in Adrian, he was the son of Walter and Laura (Henning) Hoffman. He married Madalyn Bischoff April 25, 1959, in Temperance.

He was a mechanic for Fruehauf Trailer from 1955 to 1975. He then worked for St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center, Toledo, until taking a medical retirement in 1995.

Mr. Hoffman was a 1955 graduate of Blissfield High School and a member of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church.

Surviving are his wife; two sons, Myron of Temperance and Marvin of Erie; a daughter-in-law, Cheryl Hoffman of Toledo; three sisters, Mildred (Charles) Southward of Adrian, Ila (Harvey) Salenbien of Blissfield and Katherine (Charles) Elmore of Tecumseh, and four grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a son, Michael.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Humane Society of Monroe County.

Wesley G. Ruff

Nov. 12, 1937-June 21, 2003

FRENCHTOWN TOWNSHIP — Wesley G. Ruff, 65, of Frenchtown Township died Saturday.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday at Obarzanek Funeral Home, Detroit Chapel. Cremation will take place, under the direction of Meadowcrest Crematory.

He was born Nov. 12, 1937, in Detroit. He married Patricia Fike May 14, 1974.

Mr. Ruff worked for General Motors' old Fleetwood factory, Detroit.

He was a member of Livonia Lodge 586, Free & Accepted Masons.

Surviving are his wife; two daughters, Ginger DeBerry and Crista Schofield; two brothers, Walter (Dolores) and William; three sisters, Shirley Richards, Vera Rafferty and Eva (George) Musko; six grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by two sons, Jimmy and Wesley Jr.; a son-in-law, Billy DeBerry; a sister, Mary Reid, and two brothers-in-law, Silas Richards and Harvey Reid.

FROM PAGE 1A

Fallout (cont.)

groceries. Those trips will cost the same as if riders were staying in Milan. The lower fares will stay in effect until a new grocery store opens in Milan.

Gas stations and convenience store owners are adapting, adding more food to their shelves in an effort to retain a larger customer base.

Marwan Swoeilam, manager of the Citgo gas station on Carpenter Rd. in Milan, said he began adding products to the store in March. One can find baby food, eggs, milk, toothpaste, cake mix and soup next to motor oil and coffee machines.

"Everybody's satisfied. They're coming back for more," Mr. Swoeilam said. "And price wise, we'll beat Kroger prices."

South of the gas station, at the Little Store on Dexter St., Bob Wallace, the owner, turns people away who try to return bottles and cans. Food Town quit accepting them Monday.

"I'm a one-man operation. People come in with garbage bags full of cans and who's going to watch the store?" he said, adding that he accepts bottles and cans from his regular customers.

It's the same story in Dundee, where Food Town is the village's only large-scale grocery store. Now the store has mostly empty shelves.

Meanwhile, across the parking lot, at the Perky Pantry gas station, Sandy Kolasinski barely has time to talk as she takes care of a steady stream of customers buying cigarettes, beer and lottery tickets and returning bottles. She's had to order extra pop, milk, beer and other products to keep up with demand.

Asked if she's busy, she gives a long look followed by a nod.

"The last couple weeks, with the MIS race, the Mayfly Festival and now Food Town closing, yes, it's been busy," she said.

Charles Taylor of Dundee, a former Food Town shopper, is changing his shopping habits.

"Every time I go shopping I end up going to Monroe now," he said. "There's nothing here."

Randy Montri, manager of the Hi-Lite Supermarket at W. Dunbar and S. Telegraph Rd., said shopping will return to normal when another grocery chain takes over "a lion's share" of the Food Town stores. But since the Food Town on S. Monroe St. has been running out of food, his store, which is supplied by Spartan, has thrived. He's had to hire more workers to keep pace with the customers.

"It gets a little busier every week," he said. "Luckily we were able to hire some people. School got out just in time for us."

> *"Everybody's satisfied. They're coming bak for more. And price wise, we'll beat Kroger prices."*
>
> **— Marwan Swoeilam,** manager of Citgo gas station in Milan

Spartan (cont.)

The status of the remaining Food Town stores was discussed briefly in the company's fourth quarter and year-end earnings report issued late Tuesday.

That report shows that the company lost $20.9 million in its fourth quarter ending March 29, compared to a loss of $5 million for the same period a year ago.

It brought the company's loss for the year to $34 million, compared to earnings of $12.8 million in the prior year.

Spartan officials also said it recently eliminated 11 percent of its corporate staff, a move expected to cut $8 million in expenses a year starting in the second quarter.

"Our fourth-quarter results were disappointing, but do not reflect the numerous and substantial fundamental changes made to our business model beginning late in the fourth quarter," said Craig C. Sturken, Spartan Stores' president and chief executive officer. "During the quarter, we continued to make steady progress reducing our working capital and long-term debt balance."

"We are very encouraged and pleased with the early retail sales results for our fiscal 2004 first quarter. These results indicate a positive sales trend and our store-level customer counts also continue to increase. These trends have continued through virtually all of our first-quarter reporting period, giving us confidence that our basic operational changes are producing the desired performance improvements. Our preliminary first-quarter sales are an important and promising indicator because it demonstrates swift progress despite the difficult competitive and economic climates.

"It has been a difficult year for Spartan Stores and particularly disappointing because we fell well short of our original performance expectations," he added. "Nonetheless, we have been aggressively implementing new marketing and merchandising programs, making managerial and organizational changes, and developing new performance measuring and feedback systems that are leading to immediate and quantifiable performance improvements.

Cat (cont.)

He said he started walking along the ditch line when he heard something in the brush. Suddenly, the big cat leaped out in front of and away from him.

"I walked up on it," Trooper Smith said. "I didn't expect to see anything like that."

The trooper watched it jump three times before it disappeared. The first time he saw it the cat was less that 10 feet away. Then with every leap, the cat distanced himself from the trooper.

"Then it was gone," Trooper Smith said. "Every one of its movements was away from me."

The officer said the cat was in a field that is adjacent to residential back yards. The closest it came to a back yard was about 50 feet, the trooper estimated. After the sighting, the trooper called central dispatch to report it.

Monroe County animal control officers arrived, some armed with tranquilizer guns, and searched the area, but the cat was gone.

The recent sightings have stirred a debate between two state agencies that have differences of opinions on cougars in Michigan. The Wildlife Conservancy, based near Lansing, believes cougars live in the Michigan wild, included Monroe County.

Officials with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources believe that if any cougar lives in Michigan, it was probably a pet that was released. They also have said that most sightings are probably that of a bobcat.

Trooper Smith described the cat he saw as being maybe 50 pounds and tannish/gray in color. It had a long tail with what appeared to be black rings on it. Its face looked like a cat, and its ears had black tips.

"It wasn't a house cat, it wasn't a dog and it wasn't a rabbit," the trooper said.

Trooper Smith said he does not want to come between the agencies and does not want to try to prove that cougars exist in Frenchtown Township. But he also didn't believe all the recent talk of a big cat living in the Monroe County wild – until now.

"I was the biggest skeptic on the market," he said. "Now I'm a believer."

Margaret Mary Stark

July 23, 1923-June 24, 2003

TOLEDO – Services have been set for Margaret Mary Stark, 79, of Toledo, formerly of Temperance, who died Tuesday in her home.

MARGARET M. STARK

Friends may call from 5 to 8 p.m. Thursday and from 2 to 8 p.m. Friday at Bedford Funeral Chapel, Temperance. Services will be held at 8:45 a.m. Saturday at the funeral home and at 9:30 at St. Anthony Catholic Church, Temperance. The Rev. Daniel Nusbaum, her cousin, will officiate. Burial will be in St. Anthony Cemetery, Temperance.

Born July 23, 1923, in Toledo, she was the daughter of John and Anna Mary (Nusbaum) Quinn. She married Raphael D. Stark Nov. 29, 1945, at St. Anthony Catholic Church. He died Feb. 18, 1974.

For many years, the Starks lived in Temperance, where Mrs. Stark was a custodian for Bedford Public Schools. For 10 years, she was a cook for the Bedford Area Senior Citizens Center, retiring in 1986. During World War II, she worked for American Propeller and Willy's Jeep, Toledo.

She was a member of St. Anthony Catholic Church and its Christian Mothers, Radio Emergency Associated Communications Team and Aerie 197, Fraternal Order of Eagles. She enjoyed shopping, cooking, baking, bingo, playing cards with friends and traveling across the country.

Surviving are five daughters, Margaret Mary (Raymond) Kastel of Robertsdale, Ala., Shirley Ann (Ernest) Sizemore of Virginia Beach, Va., Donna Marie Stark and Lora Lee (Richard) Egner, both of Temperance, and Joyce Teresa (Kenneth) Berkel of Toledo; a brother, Floyd of Blissfield; 10 grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by three brothers, Howard, Raphael and Paul; three sisters, Jackie Quinn, Catherine Decker and Rose Zalewski, and a great-grandson.

Memorials may be made to St. Anthony Catholic Church or School.

Darrell M. Mosser

Nov. 13, 1939-June 23, 2003

ROCKWOOD – Services have been set for Darrell M. Mosser, 63, of Rockwood, who died at 4:20 p.m. Monday in his home. He had been ill for years.

Friends may call from 6 to 9 tonight and from noon to 9 p.m. Thursday at the Ford Chapel of Allore-Martenson Funeral Home, where services will be held at 10 a.m. Friday. The Rev. Marc Gawronski, pastor of Rockwood's St. Mary Catholic Church, will officiate. Burial will be in Michigan Memorial Park, Huron Township.

Born Nov. 13, 1939, in Detroit, he was the son of Fred and Margaret (Miller) Mosser. He married Rhonda Denman July 8, 1998.

A diesel mechanic, he worked for E&L Transport, retiring in 2000.

He was a member of Teamsters and International Mechanics Association.

Surviving are his wife; four sons, Anthony of Michigan, Todd of Sterling Heights and Darrell and Terry, both of Rockwood; a daughter, Kimberly of Michigan; four brothers, Donald (Lillian) of Plymouth, Fred (Jeanna) of Belleville, Michael (Karen) of Bloomfield and Robert (Janet) Grinsby of Southgate; five sisters, Gayle (Gordon) Williams of Dearborn, Marilyn (Larry) Manspeaker of Clearwater, Fla., Margaret (David) Gilbert of Canton, Christine (Victor) Cassinski of Detroit and Gwen (Dale) Zamecki of Southgate, and nine grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Fredrick and Carl.

Mary Ziesmer Strelecky

PETERSBURG – Mary Ziesmer Strelecky, 87, of Petersburg died at 3 this morning in her home.

Services are pending at Cover Funeral Home, Dundee.

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Edward A. Rademacher

July 3, 1957-June 23, 2003

Services have been set for Edward A. Rademacher, 45, of Monroe, who died at 9:15 a.m. Monday at Mercy Memorial Hospital.

EDWARD A. RADEMACHER

Friends may call from 5 to 9 today and from 1 to 9 p.m. Thursday at the Ford Chapel of Allore-Martenson Funeral Home, Rockwood, where services will be held at 1 p.m. Friday. The Revs. Francis Weingartz, pastor of St. Charles Catholic Church, Newport, and Cletus Snellenberger, an Assembly of God pastor, will officiate. Burial will be in Mount Hope Cemetery, Port Huron.

Born July 3, 1957, in Port Huron, he was the son of John C. and Vernice "Bunny" (McWilliams) Rademacher.

He worked in maintenance a Detroit Edison's Monroe power plant for 27 years.

Mr. Rademacher was a 1976 graduate of Monroe Catholic Central High School and enjoyed fishing, hunting and boating.

Surviving are his mother and stepfather, Walter Cerulla, of Wyandotte; two daughters, Chelsea Rademacher and Tess Rademacher, both of South Rockwood, and a brother, John C. (Karen) of St. Clair.

He was preceded in death by his father Jan. 26, 1970.

Memorials may be made to a Monroe Bank & Trust account for his daughters.

Gary Lee Evans

June 17, 1946-May 21, 2003

Gary Lee Evans, 56, of Monroe died May 21 at University of Michigan Hospital, Ann Arbor.

Cremation has taken place. A private memorial service will be held. Nie Funeral Home, Ann Arbor, was in charge of arrangements.

Born June 17, 1946, in Toledo, he was the son of Clyde and Marguerite (Johnson) Evans.

He was the manager of Philadelphia House. He also had been a transportation clerk in the sugar industry.

Surviving are his mother of Florida; two brothers, Robert of Lambertville and Michael of Florida, and a sister, Linda Saunders of Canada.

He was preceded in death by his father in 2001.

Memorials may be made to the University of Michigan Cancer Center, Philadelphia House or the charity of the donor's choice.

Clarence J. Geiger

IDA – Clarence J. Geiger, 77, of Ida died at 3:55 this morning at St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center, Toledo.

Services are pending at Rupp Funeral Home, Monroe.

Floyd M. Edwards

Oct. 2, 1916-June 23, 2003

Services have been set for Floyd M. Edwards, 86, of Monroe, who died at 9:25 a.m. Monday at Mercy Memorial Nursing Center, where he had been for a year. He had been in poor health since 2001 and seriously ill for two weeks.

FLOYD M. EDWARDS

Friends may call from noon Saturday until 1 p.m. services at Second Missionary Baptist Church. The Rev. Carl J. Curry, pastor of the church, will officiate. Burial will be in Roselawn Memorial Park, LaSalle.

Born Oct. 2, 1916, in Seminole, Okla., he was the son of Rescue and Ollie (Fay) Edwards. He married Nancy Black in 1952 in Monroe. She died Feb. 5, 2001.

A crane operator, he worked out of Livonia Local 324, Operating Engineers, until retiring.

He came to the Monroe area from Flint in 1953.

Surviving are two brothers, Lloyd of Oklahoma and Standley of Richmond, Calif., and a sister, Frances Edwards Green of Pontiac.

In addition to his wife, he was preceded in death by two brothers and a sister.

Memorials may be made to the charity of the donor's choice.

Margaret (Peggie) Mockensturm

May 28, 1945-June 23, 2003

MILAN – Margaret (Peggie) Mockensturm, 58, of Milan died Monday morning in her home following a long illness.

Cremation has taken place. A memorial service will be held. Ochalek-Stark Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Born May 28, 1945, in Pittsburgh, she was the daughter of Clyde and Catherine (Kellner) King. She married Gary Mockensturm Dec. 5, 1964, in Pittsburgh.

She worked at the University of Michigan for 12 years. Prior to that, she was a bank teller at an NBD in Milan.

She was a member of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church and its Altar Society. She volunteered at Paddock Elementary School and enjoyed cross-stitching, knitting, sewing and quilting.

Surviving are her husband; two sons, Eric (Rita) of State College, Pa., and Lee (Jen) of North Potomac, Md.; two brothers, Mike (Donna) of Shirley, Mass., and Allen (Rosie) of Dundee; a sister, Charlotte (John) Reith of Pasadena, Calif., and three grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a sister, Joan.

Memorials may be made to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Superior Township, or the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

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In Health & Beauty Care Dept.
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Deaths

Robert L. Southworth

Aug. 22, 1925 – June 20, 2003

CARLETON — Robert L. (Bob) Southworth, 77, of Carleton died at 4 p.m. Friday at Oakwood Hospital, Dearborn. He had been ill for four months.

ROBERT L. SOUTHWORTH

Friends may call from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. today and from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. Monday at Arthur Bobcean Funeral Home, Carleton. He will lie in state from 9 a.m. until services at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Carleton United Methodist Church. The Rev. Robert D. Brenner will officiate. Burial will be in Roselawn Memorial Park, LaSalle.

Born Aug. 2, 1925, he was the son of Benjamin and Augusta (Winkleman) Southworth. He married Muriel Gabriel Feb. 2, 1946, at the former Evangelical Church (now United Methodist Church). The Rev. Arthur Burch officiated.

He served as Ash Township's electrical inspector for 43 years before retiring July 31, 2002. He was also a maintenance electrician at the Monroe Stamping Plant, Ford Motor Co. for more than 27 years, retiring in January, 1991.

He served in the Navy on a Destroyer Escort during World War II.

He was a 1944 graduate of Carleton High School and a member of Carleton United Methodist Church. He was a member of the River Raisin Woodcarvers in Monroe and a lifetime member of Carleton Post 4093, Veterans of Foreign Wars.

He enjoyed woodcarving, spending time at Lake Columbia in Brooklyn, Mich., and spending time in his mobile home in Fort Myers, Fla.

He is survived by his wife; a son, Thomas (Deborah) of Novi; three daughters, Judith (Alex) Allie of Novi, Cheryl Southworth of Monroe and Tina (Peter) Youngblood of Wyandotte; two brothers, Claude of Carleton and Clayton of Monroe; a sister, Marion Whitaker of Carleton, and six grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by four brothers, Floyd, LeRoy, Wayne and Benjamin.

Memorials may be made to the Carleton United Methodist Church or the American Cancer Society.

Rena Thompson

Nov. 23, 1906 – June 21, 2003

PETERSBURG — Rena Thompson, 96, of Petersburg died Saturday at Saline Evangelical Nursing Home, where she had been for two weeks.

RENA THOMPSON

Friends may call from 2 to 9 p.m. Monday at the Capaul Funeral Home, Ida, where services will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday. The Rev. John Mehl, pastor of Petersburg United Methodist Church, will officiate. Burial will be in Pleasant View Cemetery, Petersburg.

Born Nov. 23, 1906, in Toledo, she was the daughter of Joseph and Etta (Lewis) Evou. She married Orin Thompson Sept. 23, 1927, in Toledo. He died Jan. 22, 1984.

She was a member of Petersburg United Methodist Church, United Methodist Women and Petersburg-Summerfield Senior Citizens.

She is survived by a son, Dale (Pat) Thompson Sr. of Dundee; three daughters, Donna Henry of Petersburg, Shirley Toepfer of Stockton, Ill., and Marilyn (Bob) Blunt of Sebewaing; 13 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren, and a great-great granddaughter.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by two brothers.

Memorials may be made to Petersburg United Methodist Church or Home Care and Hospice of Michigan.

Charles G. Jackson Jr.

July 1, 1964 – June 19, 2003

Charles G. Jackson Jr., 38, of Monroe died at 8 p.m. Thursday in his home.

CHARLES G. JACKSON JR.

Friends may call from 1 to 9 p.m. Monday in the Ford Chapel of the Allore-Martenson Funeral Home, Rockwood, where services will be held at 7 p.m. The Rev. Locklear, pastor — of Woodhaven Freewill Baptist Church, will officiate.

Born July 1, 1964, in Poplar Bluff, Mo., he was the son of Charles and Beverly (Myers) Jackson Sr. He married Suzanne Parker June 5, 1994.

He was employed as a carpenter and was a veteran of the Navy.

He is survived by his wife; his parents, Beverly (James) Read of South Rockwood; a stepdaughter, Stephanie (David) Wood of Monroe; three brothers, Travis and Trampas Read, both of South Rockwood, and Gary (April) Jackson of Kennett, Mo.; two sisters, Theresa (Jeff) Stone and Deanna Jackson, both of Kennett, Mo., and two grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his father and a brother, Robert Lynn Read.

Funerals

Ghislaine M. Bartolo

Ghislaine M. Bartolo, 71, of Tipton, formerly of Monroe County, was survived by a daughter, Bettina (Greg) Pearch of Monroe.

The information was incorrect in Saturday's Monroe Evening News.

Playwright George Axelrod dies at 81

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Playwright George Axelrod, who anticipated the sexual revolution with "The Seven Year Itch" and "Will Success Spoil Rock Hunter?" and later wrote screenplays for such films as "Breakfast at Tiffany's" and "The Manchurian Candidate," died Saturday. He was 81.

Obituaries published by *The Evening News* in its news columns are provided free of charge as a public service. Parties desiring specifically worded obituary announcements may place them through paid advertising. The notices are boxed and when possible appear on the same page as obituaries.

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850 McCord Rd.
Milan, MI -
531 W. Main St.
Monroe, MI -
3833 N. Dixie Hwy.
850 S. Monroe St.
Perrysburg, OH -
132 E.S. Boundary St.
Rockwood, MI -
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1300 Michigan Ave.

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or debit cards and Food Stamps accepted.
All sales final... while supplies last!
Sale prices will scan at register.

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SAVE 75% OFF
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Discount effective 6/22-28, 2003
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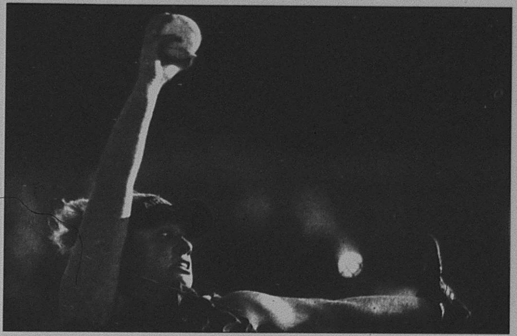
*75% off excludes liquor, beer, wine, tobacco, cigarettes, gift cards, milk, bread, eggs, phone cards, stamps, lottery tickets, money orders and other services.
Cash, checks up to the amount of purchase, credit or debit cards and Food Stamps accepted. All sales final...while supplies last!
Sale prices will scan at register.

SPORTS
The Monroe Sunday News
Ron Montri: sports editor
phone: 242-1100, ext. 282
e-mail: sports@monroenews.com

EVENING NEWS ALL-STAR GAMES

Pitching carries Blu



-Evening News photo by KELLY GLASSCOCK

Jenna Thiede of Airport delivers a pitch for the Blue team in the 15th annual Monroe Evening News All-Star Softball Game Saturday at Monroe High. Thiede combined with Ashley Seyfried of Dundee and Monroe's Ann-Marie Cebina for a three-hitter as the Blue beat the Red 2-1.

- Three pitchers co
on a three-hitter as
beat the Red 2-1 S
inthe 15th annual
News All-Star Softb

By **NILES KRUGER**
Evening News sports writer

Jenna Thiede was tire

Ashley Seyfried was n

Ann-Marie Cebina wa

But you would have ne
by the way they pitch
night in the 15th ann
Evening News All-Star S
at Monroe High.

Those three pitchers co
three-hitter as the Blue
win over the Red.

"All three threw extr
said Airport coach Jo
head coach of the Blue.
have three pitchers like t
give them even innings
do the job. They've don
teams all year. In the Al
you just show them off."

The trio certainly put

Thiede, the Airport ace
County Region Player
threw the first two inni
last. She surrendered

See **SOFTBA**

ALL-STAR NOTES

Tribute draws emotion from retiring coach

Brian Cousino didn't want to cry.

But he couldn't help himself as a tribute to the retiring Ida coach was read before the 15th annual Monroe Evening News All-Star Softball Game and he was presented with a large cake.

BRIAN COUSINO
A tribute to the Ida coach was read before the game and he was presented with a large cake

"What a great night," said Cousino, who assisted **John Warren** of Airport with the Blue team. "Not many people get to win their last game."

Cousino originally declined an invitation to coach in the game, but was convinced to join Warren's staff.

"It's hard to say no to John," Cousino said. "He knows how to push my buttons."

Cousino and Warren are undefeated as a coaching tandem in four All-Star games.

But Cousino wanted the focus on the players, not the retiring coach.

"This was a great ballgame," he said. "Nobody was bored stiff. No one was sleeping in the stands."

◆ ◆ ◆

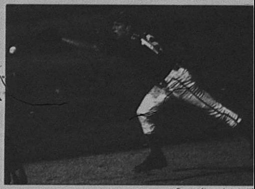
The four umpires of the baseball game had a combined total of more than 100 years of service.

See **ALL-STAR NOTES,** Page 3B

Besedich saves National sq

- Drew Besedich of Monroe was named MVP of the fifth annual Evening News Senior All-Star Baseball Game.

By **RON MONTRI**
Evening News sports editor



- Evening News photo by KE

American shortstop Don Fecay stretches for the ball during Satur
News All-Star Baseball Game. Fecay had a hit and scored t
the National team beat the American All-Stars 10-8.

CARLETON – Drew Besedich was in a jam.

He was called upon to put out the fire and promptly walked the first two batters he faced. But Besedich was nearly perfect the rest of his three-inning stint and helped the National team outlast the Americans 10-8 in the fifth annual Evening News Senior All-Star Baseball Game.

Besedich came in after the Americans had already scored four runs. He got out of the jam without giving up another run and allowed only one harmless base hit the rest of his three innings. He also had a single, a sacrifice fly and scored a run to earn Most Valuable Player honors.

Not bad for a guy who won just one game during the regular season at Monroe.

"I get nervous when I first came in, but once I get my fastball over, everything flows," Besedich said. "This is the best I've pitched all year."

He hadn't stepped on the mound since Monroe was eliminated from the state tournament May 31, but Besedich struck out four and allowed only a single by Jefferson's Nate Golden.

"Maybe he only won one game for us, but he was around the plate and had some hard luck. He pitched well against Belleville (the Mega Red champion), but the game went 15 innings and he didn't get a decision," said Bubba Bezeau, who coached Besedich on Monroe's team and also was in charge of the National All-Stars.

Asked if he was concerned after Besedich walked the first two men he faced, Bezeau said, "He was going to finish his three innings. He threw in relief for us a couple of times and did a good job. He's just one of those kids
the ball."

"I know this is a fun
don't like to lose at
Besedich said. "There
good all-around ath
This isn't really a serio
only had one practice,
competitive to noncha

Bezeau was thank
Besedich come thro
clutch. His team had
lead, but the America
got back in the game
when New Boston H
Fecay singled, Ida's

See **BASEBAL**

T-Wolves embracing Monroe County flav

BY **JEFF MEADE**
Evening News sports writer

Chad Shilliday had the seven-year itch.

The former Ida star has rejoined the Southern Michigan Timberwolves after playing one season for Monroe County's minor league football team in 1996.

CHAD SHILLIDAY
Former Ida star rejoins Timberwolves after seven years away

Shilliday, 31, will start at defensive end and be one of four team captains when the T-Wolves open their season Saturday with a non-league game against the Motor City Cougars.

He had knee surgery the day after Christmas and is anxious to test it in game conditions. The 6-foot-7 lineman was an All-Stater in basketball who went on to play the sport at Hawaii-Pacific University.

"It's going to be fun playing again," said Shilliday, who has shaved his head. "I'm trying to follow (fullback) Greg Washington who's 42. I work with him at the federal prison in Milan.

"I love football. I love playing here. This (Navarre Field) is where my dad (Hugh Shilliday) played in high school for Monroe High. I think it's special for him to come back here when I play."

Shilliday is one of the older players on a team that has taken on an even more Monroe County Region flavor. Last year a record 10 Region gridders suited up for the T-Wolves. This season the number is 14.

"It's fantastic," said general manager Scott Beard during Saturday's media day at Navarre Field. "We're trying to show that it's Monroe County's team. Here we are in Monroe. Let's give the Monroe County kids a chance to keep playing football."

The Region alumni include eight rookies – cornerback Bronson White (St. Mary Catholic Central); linebackers Scott Sergent (Bedford), Charles Smith (Airport), Eric Hephner (Summerfield) and Jared Philbeck and Aaron Coch (both Monroe); tight end Jim Green (Summerfield) and defensive lineman Mark Flotow (Ida).

Linebackers Rich St. Bernard and Dominic Petruso of Monroe High return for their second seasons. Also back is offensive lineman Spencer Whalen (Gibraltar Carlson), the only original member of the team to play all 10 seasons, defensive lineman Joshua Jones (Airport) and running back Mickey Ford-Walk (Monroe).

Such familiar as James Worthy, Mark Thompson, Jet White, Keith Watkins and Ralph Harris also return, but overall the team looks leaner and younger.

"They're all young," said head coach Brad Bentley. "I feel like a father this year instead of a coach. This is probably the youngest, fastest team I've had in a long time. We're a quicker team this year."

The Timberwolves will open their 10th season playing in a new-look Mid-Continental Football

The Racine Raiders,
Bombers, Kane County
Milwaukee Marauders h
the MCFL to join the n
American Football League.
them are the Detroit S
Michigan Twisters an
County Steelmen.

That makes the MCFL
team league with the
Mustangs, Cleveland Lions,
Bulls,. Ohio Swarm
Timberwolves returning.

"I like the new look," Be
"There aren't the overnight
that we used to have to
games are closer to home. T
guys won't have to be takin
from their jobs or being a
their family all weekend."

The Timberwolves starte
5-1 but struggled to a 6-6 finis
of injuries and player defe

"This year's team is a l

See **T-WOLVES**

low to be submitted

ar and early this he board had to a vote because l commissioners turned in scor- sheets rating ective candi-

Chairman Dale said it doesn't matter when s long as it gets

no problem with enever," he said, in his review of idates on time. problem with ever. If you ask

was sent to the requesting that r to the board's an June 13. Mentel said that e memo and the tardiness. She ve the form sub-

s Mell, who did- n form last year g that the pro-

"It's needless paperwork," he said. "I think it's silly."

Mr. Mell said the process of tallying individual assessments of Mr. Londo's performance annually misses the oversight the panel is charged with.

"I think he's evaluated every day," he said. "If something needs doing that we don't agree with we should be speaking up at that time and setting things straight."

Commissioner David Scott, who along with Commissioner Pearl Albert-Green and Mr. Roe were the only ones to turn in their evaluations so far, said the board should consider doing the reviews every two years instead.

"It is important to do," he said. "(Mr. Londo) evaluates his managers. But my reviews haven't really changed that much over the years. Charlie has been very consistent through the years. His financial expertise is bar none. He has kept the county in strong economic condition.

"But I think evaluating the administrator every two years would be fine," he said.

The panel plans to tabulate the reviews and discuss them at its July 8 meeting.

ALENDAR

.m., Rockwood City wood.

y Board, 7:30 p.m., irst St.

Board of Trustees, andidate, 7:30 p.m., oom 173, 1555 S.

pendence Agency Monroe County ee room, Monroe Second St.

eeting, 9 a.m., town- l., Maybee.

a.m., South County 9 Lewis Ave., Temp-

lopment Corp., 10 missioners commit-

tee room, Monroe County Courthouse, 125 E. Second St.

Ohio Rail Development Commission, public meeting about high-speed passenger trains between Detroit and Toledo, 1:30-3:30 p.m., Monroe County Community College administration building, room 173, 1555 S. Raisinville Rd.

Brownstown Township Board, work session, 6 p.m., Brownstown Township Police Department multipurpose room, 21313 Telegraph Rd., Brownstown Tow-ship.

Bedford Township Economic Development Corp., 7 p.m., township hall, 8100 Jackman Rd., Temperance.

Frenchtown Township Planning Commission, public hearings and regular meeting, 7:30 p.m., township hall, 2744 Vivian Rd.

Brownstown Township Board of Appeals, 8 p.m., Brownstown Township Police Department multipurpose room, 21313 Telegraph Rd., Brownstown Township.

rmance once again

i said. "We've

wo production 20 men to set ve finished the urs. However, ve, watching as roof they had akers costing were covered

sing a speaker or getting elec- y," audio engi-

between 8,000 audience. City s at 9 a.m., ask-

ing whether the event would go on. Most people were told yes, according to John Vandegrift.

Joe Lybik, director of personnel, parks and recreation, said that it was the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's decision to cancel, not the city's. The city wasn't responsible for notifying people of the cancellation, around 5 p.m. The show was scheduled to start at 8:30 p.m.

"We notified employees as best we could," Mr. Lybik. "I don't know how else we could've let people know. You need to talk to the people who promoted it."

Officials from the symphony said they hope to reschedule the performance.

oncustodial parents get reak in child support plan

ANSING (AP) — The state reme Court is consider- a major overhaul of higan's child support s that would give a finan- break to parents who for their children less a third of the time.

a public hearing rsday, the court will take uments from parents, yers and county court offi- s on the most significant d support proposal in 15 s.

e revisions would apply any of the 837,364 active t orders affecting the par- ng duties of divorced ers and mothers.

der current guidelines, nts get a break on the unt of child support they if their children spend at t 128 nights with them.

e Sicoli, 38, of Dearborn ghts has his children 96 ts a year but now gets no k on the $1,152 a month he to his ex-wife.

t would give me such a ncial relief because, with mount of child support I trying to maintain a sec- home is very, very diffi- " the mechanic told The oit News. "I am always e hole."

me men's rights advo- s hail the proposed ges as a measure of progress toward divorce equity. At least three-fourths of all parents paying child support, mostly men, would become eligible for the reduction. Fewer than 20 percent are eligible under current guidelines.

Some women's advocates oppose the changes, saying that nights spent with fathers do not decrease the children's basic needs.

"The kid still needs a place to live and the utilities paid there," said Leslie Sorkhe, chapter development director for the Association for Children for the Enforcement of Support, a child support advocacy organization.

Kelly Duncan, 34, a Detroit teacher's aide, said the father of her 11-year-old son pays her child support but it does not cover all the costs of raising Jaron Dawkins. She says the new law would be a bad idea.

"The money I get for child support helps pay the bills, and it doesn't matter if (the father) sees him 10 days a year or 100," she said

Murray Davis, founder and director of the Southfield-based DADS of Michigan, said the revisions go only part way toward treating men and women equally when marriages end.

MARKETS

Market reverses 3-month ascent

NEW YORK (AP) — Profit warnings from Eastman Kodak and Clorox unnerved Wall Street today, prompting investors to cash in profits from two days of gains.

In the first hour of trading, the Dow Jones industrial average was down 45.73, or .5 percent, at 9,277.29, following a two-day win of 205.90, nearly all of which resulted from a big rally on Monday.

	Closed Tues.	10:30 today
Air Gas	19.05	18.81
Aquila	2.61	2.54
AT&T	20.05	19.97
BP	44.05	44.81
Charter Commun.	3.44	3.67
Citigroup	45.56	44.64
CMS Energy	8.45	8.48
Comerica	48.07	47.28
CSX	30.59	30.44
DaimlerChrysler	34.82	34.81
Dana Corp.	11.65	11.60
Delphi Automotive	8.91	8.90
Dow Chemical	31.80	31.76
DTE Energy	40.48	40.51
Eastman Kodak	31.99	28.45
Elder Beerman	5.20	5.35
Fifth-Third Bank	60.02	59.76
FirstEnergy	37.64	37.63
Foot Locker	13.44	13.26
Ford Motor	11.68	11.56
General Electric	31.20	31.13
General Motors	39.14	38.51
IBM	84.30	83.87
International Paper	38.23	37.90
Jefferson Smurfit	13.86	13.74
Key Corp.	26.70	26.35
Kmart	21.77	21.25
La-Z-Boy Incorporated	23.69	23.33
Lear Seating	47.56	46.69
Libbey Inc	24.74	24.61
Lowe's	45.21	45.17
Micron Tech	13.05	13.11
Monroe Bank & Trust	17.75	17.76
Morgan Stanley.	49.67	47.20
National City	33.90	36.27
National Steel	.02	.02
Owens Corning	.55	.56
Penney, J.C.	17.86	17.62
PepsiCo	44.88	44.89
Pfizer	36.18	36.69
Rite Aid	4.38	4.38
Sears Roebuck	33.15	33.36
Spartan Stores	2.75	2.62
Sysco Corp.	30.80	30.85
Tenneco	4.00	4.02
United Industrial	14.87	15.00
USX	17.84	17.71
Verizon Commun.	39.97	39.78
Viacom	46.71	46.51
Visteon	6.98	6.94
Walmart	54.97	54.76
Worthington	16.05	15.11

(Courtesy of Morgan Stanley)

Local cash grain

Ida Farmer's Co-Op Co.

	Tues. 9 a.m.	Wed. 9 a.m.
No. 2 White Wheat	$2.73	$2.78
No. 2 Red Wheat	$2.93	$2.98
Corn	$2.30	$2.32
Soybeans	$5.98	$6.06

2003 crop prices

No. 2 Red Wheat	$2.93	$2.94
Corn	$2.06	$2.08
Soybeans	$5.26	$5.33

Prices are subject to change.

Eggs

Midwest dozen egg prices for Tuesday: Extra large 62-71, large 61-69, medium 50-58.

LOTTERIES

Multi-state Lottery

Mega Millions
27-31-34-40-52

Mega Ball
1

MICHIGAN LOTTERY

Tuesday Daily
Midday 3-0-4
Evening 2-1-7

Tuesday Daily-4
Midday 7-5-2-9
Evening 9-5-0-3

Tuesday Rolldown
5-9-14-17-25

Tuesday Keno
1, 4, 6, 7, 13, 21, 23, 28, 34, 37, 40, 42, 49, 52, 55, 57, 63, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75

Tuesday Change Play
T-A-7-2-5-4
N-R-2-5-8-7
V-B-8-4-4-7
N-W-5-4-7-3
E-C-5-7-4-9
H-M-2-7-8-1

OHIO LOTTERY

Tuesday Pick 3
Midday 7-4-1
Evening 8-7-0

Tuesday Pick 4
Midday 6-5-7-6
Evening 3-4-9-1

Tuesday Buckeye 5
3-16-18-21-28

Doug Donnelly, city editor

— Evening News photo by BRYAN BOSCH

Shirley Fossett, a resident of the Flat Rock Towers Senior Citizen Apartment, laughs with other residents while decorating lunch boxes in preparation for next month's Teddy Bear Picnic. Last year 130 children participated in the annual event.

Teddy bear fun

Senior citizens lend a hand in preparing for July children's picnic

By CLAIRE CUMMINGS
Evening News staff writer

FLAT ROCK — One group of Flat Rock senior citizens is proving that age is not a factor when it comes to some good old-fashioned fun, even if it does involve teddy bears.

On Monday, the seniors decorated lunch boxes for the city's fifth annual Teddy Bear Picnic. The event has become a popular attraction, entertaining 130 children and parents alike at Huroc Park, on the Huron River. The July 16 picnic is meant for children, who are encouraged to bring their favorite teddy bear to a day including a lunch, a kid's music concert and a train ride in the park.

This is the first year that the seniors are involved in the event.

"We are trying to do intergenerational (activities)," said Flat Rock Recreation Department Director Joan Pawlukiewicz, who has been with the program for three years.

The lunch boxes are made of cardboard, which the seniors decorated by sponge painting teddy bears and hearts. Although it was an activity out of the ordinary for some, they were all very proud of their work.

"I'm not really a craft person, but I love the social part, that's why I joined," said Shirley Fossett, a resident of Flat Rock Towers Senior Apartments.

Mrs. Fossett's daughter, Cindy Lang, also attended the decorating as a visitor, as she does many of the events that take place at the senior center.

"I like the people in the building and I just love arts and crafts," Mrs. Lang said. "It's fun and it gives me something to do everyday to get out of my apartment."

The recreation department provides a craft class to the seniors twice a month.

This particular morning, however, reverted the seniors to their own childhoods, with a near paint fight between Mrs. Fossett and Mrs. Lang — all in good fun of course.

The seniors will also pack the lunch boxes, closer to the picnic day, with sandwiches and crackers that incorporate the teddy bear theme. They are even showing an interest in seeing the final product.

"They have already asked if they can come over to the picnic, so they can see their work in progress," Mrs. Pawlukiewicz said.

The event is funded through the Flat Rock Parks and Recreation Department and all proceeds go back into their fund, in order to put on other activities.

"It's a nice event. It's one of our classes that we do have to put a stop on because we do fill to capacity every year," the director said.

▶ The picnic will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on July 16. The cost for children is $4.

For more information, visit the recreation Web site at www.flatrockmi.org/City_depts/Recreation.

Whitman rezoning request strikes out

By IAN C. STOREY
Evening News staff writer

BEDFORD TOWNSHIP – The Whitman Ford Inc. request to rezone 20.1 acres of property for commercial use behind its car dealership on Lewis Ave. struck out Tuesday night.

Trustee Dennis Steinman cast the lone vote in favor of the request as the other six members of the township board cited the incompatibility of rezoning the property, consisting of residential and restricted commercial use, to a C-3 designation, which would allow for a general commercial district.

Earlier, both the township's and the county's planning commissions advised the board against the rezoning request, citing concerns of having a commercial district so close to the Indian Acres residential subdivision.

In April, Whitman Ford President Jon Whitman said the request to rezone a portion of the property behind the Whitman Ford's facility on Lewis Ave. near Sterns Rd. would be for future expansion of the family's car dealership, which has been on the site for nearly 30 years.

But township officials argued that the findings of both planning commissions were hard to ignore, especially after repeated refusals by the Whitman family to consider working on a compromise that would rezone a portion of the property but still leave a buffer zone to protect the residents of Indian Acres.

"According to the information from Monroe planning and our planning, people that are supposed to know this stuff, that is not a good place to put C-3," said Trustee Medford Barr.

Attorney Zora Johnson of Dykema-Gossett in Detroit, representing the Whitman family, said the board had no legitimate reason to deny the Whitman request because past precedents of the township's public records designating the property as being commercial.

"We believe the proper way is for the board to view this request is as a rezoning from C-2 to C-3. We believe the actual zoning designation of this property is C-2," Ms. Johnson told the board. "This is based on the official public records of Bedford Township, including the zoning map as it existed for nearly 10 years until it was changed in September of 2001. The property has also been assessed as a commercial zoned property as late as 2003."

Clerk Robert Schockman said he did agree that zoning mistakes had been made in the past, but no matter how he approached the issue he could not justify voting in favor of the rezoning.

"Mistakes were made. The township's assessing department on the zoning map 10 years ago started showing this property as C-2. There is no doubt in my mind about that," he said. "But no one sitting here today had anything to do with that ... I asked professionals at Eastern Michigan, the University of Toledo. I could find no one to say it is good to put R-2 next to C-3. Nobody would say it."

Last week, Mr. Whitman said that if the township denied his request he likely would pursue the matter in court. On Tuesday night, he expressed those same sentiments to the board. He estimated a lawsuit could cost his family $100,000, and the township likely the same or more, but said it was perhaps a small price to pay to keep his and other businesses in Bedford.

"After tonight's decision, you will confirm that long-time businesses like ours have no future in Bedford. Or maybe, more specifically, our family and business have no future in Bedford," he read from a prepared statement.

"We believe that under your leadership no good deeds go unpunished ... We are forced into a legal challenge for what we think is our very survival and, secondarily, the future of all businesses in Bedford," he said.

But the threat of a lawsuit didn't detract the board from falling in line with the recommendations it received, despite the concerns of some area businessmen and residents in the audience who applauded Mr. Whitman after his statement.

"You are our board members. I feel you've let our citizens down again," Temperance resident Kevin Wexler told the board.

"When are you going to learn that successful businesses do need to expand in order to compete and stay in business? If we keep making it harder for our businesses to stay here in Bedford with no incentives and we make the ordinances tougher, we are going to make it so the businesses move right out," he said.

Though in the minority Tuesday night, several residents against the rezoning plan thanked the board for following the township's master plan and not caving to pressures.

"Thank you for standing tough," said Judy Frankowski, an Ashland Dr. resident and one of the founding members of Bedford Watch, a neighborhood group that has been a vocal critic against a Wal-Mart at the site and a complete rezoning of the property.

"I have no problem with them expanding, but I think there needs to be a compromise. I appreciate your thoughtfulness and for following the plan," she said.

Monroe National Guard deployed to Middle East for duty

The 20 National Guardsmen and women of the Monroe-based 156th Signal Corps Battalion, Detachment 1, Company B, have been deployed to the Middle East.

Media specialists at Fort Riley, Kan., where the reservists were sent in April, confirmed Tuesday that the 156th – a group of communications specialists – joined another National Guard battalion and was shipped over seas.

The 156th members joined the Cedar Rapids, Iowa-based 234th Signal Battalion. Together the units create a force of almost 600 soldiers. They left Fort Riley to support Operation Iraqi Freedom, and will support efforts "to identify, locate and hold accountable terrorists and those who support and harbor them," according to Fort Riley officials.

The Monroe troops had been stationed at the Kansas base preparing for deployment since April. There are 67 soldiers within the 156th ranks.

Officials mostly silent on future of Food Town

BY EVENING NEWS STAFF

As rumors of Food Town's fate continue to swirl around the state and Monroe County, officials within the company remain mute on details.

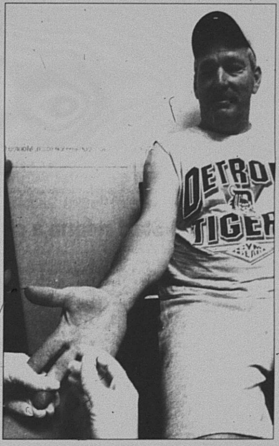
The Food Town stores, owned by Spartan Stores, have issued another statement regarding the chain with stores in and around Monroe County.

"Spartan Stores is continuing its discussions with various purchasers, and preparing our stores for change. We are working closely with our associates during this process and we are continuing to provide our customers information on future store operations through our ads and in-store information," the entire statement says.

Many of the Food Town stores across the county have stopped ordering perishables, cut things like video rentals and film processing and have drastically slashed prices in an effort to sell down overhead as the Spartan Stores-owned chain continues to dissolve. Employees at some area locations have told The Evening News about impending sales or closures, some which are expected within a week, but store officials will not confirm any of those discussions. Store managers say they cannot comment on the future of the Food Town locations.

Two weeks ago Monroe County residents learned that the chain will close the Temperance store. The company has announced some other Food Town closings, in Toledo and other areas of northwest Ohio, as well.

Check up



— Evening News photo by VALERIE TOBIAS

Matthew Schmeling of Frenchtown Township gets his cholesterol checked during a free heart fair at the office of Frenchtown cardiologist Dr. Prem Ghal Tuesday. More than 60 people stopped in for a free blood pressure and cholesterol screening. Mr Schmeling, who recently quit smoking, had never had his cholesterol checked before. "I've never been one to go see a doctor. I just want to make sure I'm okay," he said.

Senate sends supplemental budget bill to Granholm

LANSING (AP) — The state Senate on Tuesday gave final approval to a spending plan for the current budget year that would restore 34 road projects delayed by Gov. Jennifer Granholm.

The supplemental budget bill unanimously cleared the Senate without debate.

It's unclear at this point whether Gov. Jennifer Granholm will sign the bill. Her administration said last week that the governor would veto all 34 projects to emphasize the importance of repairing existing roads rather than new construction to save money.

However, the governor also has said for several weeks that she would consider approving some of the projects if supporters could prove their merits.

On Monday, she said some Detroit-area projects may be on that list.

Oakland County Executive Brooks Patterson "has made a very compelling case for some of the projects," she said while joining some Southfield residents for the city's first Mayor's Walk of the summer.

"We need to repair what we've got, but I'm willing to talk one-on-one about projects that deal with things like safety issues."

The news pleased county officials.

"We think we can make a case for all 10 in Oakland County, but at least she's looking at some of them," Craig Bryson, spokesman for the Road Commission of Oakland County, said.

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano said he plans to stress the importance of expanding the I-75/I-96 Ambassador Bridge gateway, among others, as key arteries to Canada.

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A tradition of community service since 1825
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THOMAS J. CHULSKI, editorial page editor
SHIRLEY HYDEN, business manager

OUR VIEW

Say what! Cougars?

Area residents in recent years have just been getting used to the idea that coyotes abound hereabouts. Now comes the jaw-dropping news that an animal control officer has sighted what he says was a cougar only 85 yards from the corner of N. Telegraph and S. Stony Creek Rds.

That's cougar, as in mountain lion. Monroe County Animal Control Officer Ron Stumpmier said he spotted the animal recently. Not only that, the agency has the molds and photos of the paw prints to prove it.

Or does it? According to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, that kind of evidence is not good enough. The DNR's press secretary says, in effect, "Show us the cougar."

That's a puzzling position to take, but it's consistent.

Although cougars in Michigan were believed to have been wiped out about a hundred years ago, there have been numerous reported sightings in recent years, mostly in the Upper Peninsula and the northern Lower Peninsula. A nonprofit group called the Michigan Wildlife Conservancy says it has compelling DNA evidence from several counties. It estimates perhaps 50 to 80 cougars live in Michigan, and claims that "conservatively" more than 10,000 people have seen them.

Nevertheless, DNR officials insist either that what people are seeing are not cougars, or, if they are, the animals are escaped or released pets. The DNR insists emphatically that there are no wild breeding cougars in Michigan. One wonders how the agency can be so certain in the face of so many reported sightings and even DNA evidence.

The DNR's secretary, Brad Wurfel, says, "Nobody has been able to capture a cougar. It's as sexy as Elvis and Bigfoot."

Mr. Wurfel makes the reported cougar sightings sound like a fabled local hoax, the Monroe Monster. But in this case a trained local animal control officer has identified the beast as a cougar and has offered paw-print molds and photos. Dr. Patrick J. Rusz, head of cougar research for the Michigan Wildlife Conservancy, has seen this evidence and confirms it. And what about all that DNA evidence from around the state?

It looks as if the DNR at least needs to take the possibility of wild cougars in Michigan more seriously.

In any event, area residents certainly do not need to panic, even if that is indeed a cougar that's been spotted in Frenchtown Township. Cougars are not believed to pose a great danger to people, but residents in the vicinity might want to keep an eye on their pets and livestock.

But if anyone does see the animal, a word of caution: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service officials say that, if there are cougars in Michigan, they are an endangered species and it would be illegal to kill them except to defend oneself or another person.

In other words, the DNR wants to see one before admitting to any wild cougars, but anyone bagging a cougar and offering the carcass to the agency could be in trouble. Sounds like a Catch-22 to us.

▶ **To the point**

DNR officials are a little too ready to dismiss evidence of cougar sightings here and around Michigan.

GUEST EDITORIAL

Commentaries from other newspapers do not necessarily reflect the views of The Monroe Evening News' editorial board.

Give Head Start reform a chance

From THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR

Since 1965, the federal Head Start program has helped preschoolers in poor and at-risk families get an educational leg up. ... Head Start now has a yearly budget of nearly $7 billion, and it assists nearly 1 million children.

Yet it reaches only about half of the kids it should, according to studies. And Head Start children still enter school with lower math and verbal skills than more-affluent pupils. ...

Based on that reasoning, the Bush administration argues that states can better determine how best to help needy kids and hold local Head Start programs more accountable, using federal block grants.

A GOP bill in Congress, sponsored by Rep. Mike Castle, R-Del., extends the Head Start program five years and adds $203 million more than the current funding for next year. Further, qualifying states can coordinate Head Start programs with their own early-childhood programs if they promise not to cut their own funding for early childhood education. The bill also sets higher standards for measuring Head Start teachers. ... All Head Start teachers will need at least a bachelor's degree by 2008. ...

But opponents, many of whom have a stake in the current federal way of running Head Start, charge the bill would lead to a dismantling of the program. ...

Such outcry is overblown, although it has caused Rep. Castle to amend his bill. Under the new version, only eight states would initially qualify to carry on Head Start on their own.

Such a limited pilot should prove a useful experiment to find better ways to make Head Start work better. At the least, it can show how a better coordinated effort to help at-risk kids can eliminate the patchwork approach too prevalent today.

How to contact the officeholders

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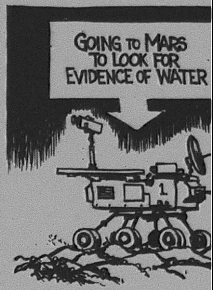
GOING TO MARS TO LOOK FOR EVIDENCE OF WATER

LETTER

'Gun issue' is important for all

Thank you for publishing Dean Cousino's article on the Michigan Coalition for Responsible Gun Owners' meeting in your June 9 issue, on the front page no less. Although some folks might think that the "gun issue" is important to only a small minority, that's demonstrably untrue.

There are quite a number of sportsmen's clubs in Monroe County, with several thousand members. The shooting sports have more participants than many other activities.

Although many people don't actually exercise their right to arms under the federal and state constitutions, that doesn't mean those rights aren't important to them. Not everyone owns a printing press or radio station, but the right of free speech is no less important than to those who do.

I'd like to urge anyone who is interested in the subject to attend a future meting of MCRGO or stop by our booth at the Monroe County Fair. If you're unfamiliar with firearms and would like to learn a bit, ask your friend or neighbor who shoots to take you to the range.

Jim Dunmyer
Temperance

Bush hasn't earned title of president

As an American citizen exercising my fundamental freedom of expression, I feel I am compelled to comment on how much has changed since George W. Bush assumed the highest office in our great land. I heard his campaign rhetoric of what he wante how he w better – th issues, the other pro administ

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Democrats show h

"When I am president, there will be no John Ashcroft trampling on our civil rights." — **Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass.**

"We can't, in the effort to protect ourselves and fight terrorism, let people like John Ashcroft take our rights away." — **Sen. John Edwards, D-N.C.**

"In my administration, there will be no John Ashcrofts at the Justice Department." — **Sen. Bob Graham, D-Fla.**

To hear Sens. Kerry, Edwards and Graham tell it, Ashcroft is the second coming of Hermann Goering. His Justice Department, they suggest, the latter-day equivalent of the Gestapo, is rounding up perfectly law-abiding citizens and throwing them into prison without due process.

Joseph Perkins
Newspaper Enterprise Association

The instrument of Ashcroft's tyranny, according to the Democratic presidential hopefuls, is the USA Patriot Act. The law was enacted following the Sept. 11 terror attacks. Its aim is to give federal law enforcement agencies the surveillance and investigative tools they need to deter future terror attacks.

For all their demagoguery about Ashcroft, about his Justice Department, about the Patriot Act, Sens. Kerry, Edwards and Graham seem to forget that they each voted for the law.

In their quest for votes in next year's Democratic primaries, the three presidential wannabes have obviously decided to exploit the public's unfou Act. Fear media rep

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— Evening News photo by VALERIE TOBIAS

emergency scenario in a Monroe Middle School... aining Wednesday. The training is a cooperative nent and Monroe Public Schools.

State bills propose bumping up service fees

By JOSHUA KENNEDY
Evening News staff writer

Soon, it may cost more to be a licensed driver in Michigan.

A package of bills aimed at increasing fees paid by Michigan residents for various state services has cleared the Senate and is on its way to the House of Representatives. One of the most visible fee increases proposed will occur at the secretary of state's office where drivers may be charged more money to register for a license.

Under one of the seven bills that cleared the Senate Thursday, the fee for an original driver's license would rise from $13 to $25. Renewals would cost $18 instead of $13; a chauffeur's license would cost $35 instead of $21, and a registration service fee would be $8 instead of $5.

Other increases would be charged for state identification cards, pesticide applicator fees, pet shop fees and horse riding stable fees under a package of increases that passed the state Senate Thursday.

Gov. Jennifer Granholm has proposed raising $125 million in new or higher fees to help balance the state's budget for the fiscal year that starts Oct. 1. The Senate package contains nearly $70 million toward that total.

"Our figure was a lot lower than what she had proposed," said Sen. Beverly Hammerstrom, R-Temperance. "And we also looked at other ideas like increased fees for registrations for bad drivers and people who register late."

See STATE, Page 9A

Few likely to escape higher taxes or fees

■ Nationwide, state governments are wrestling with the worst budget crisis in a half century and the consequences of their decisions.

By ROBERT TANNER
AP national writer

Fines, fees, surcharges, taxes: Whatever you call it, the bottom line is that cash-strapped states are seeking billions of new dollars from their citizens, enough to potentially double the load of new taxes this year and erase much of the windfall American taxpayers enjoyed in the 1990s.

An Associated Press analysis of budget work in all 50 states found many trying to target their tax hikes or increase fees — allowing politicians to make claims that they did not raise income taxes. But the states that have raised across-the-board taxes such as income, sales or property taxes will get more money.

The targets? Smokers, drinkers, gamblers. Drivers and traffic offenders. Businesses small and large.

But, in the end, few will escape the pain as states confront billion-dollar gaps between the amount of money they gather and the amount they

See TAXES, Page 9A

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Rezoning for dealership angers neighbors

By SCOTT NEINAS
Evening News staff writer

MONROE TOWNSHIP

The rezoning of a one-acre parcel at S. Dixie Hwy. and Kay Dr. has angered residents who say a car dealership is encroaching on their neighborhood.

The Monroe Township Board in April rezoned commercial and residential property on S. Dixie Hwy. to a more intensive commercial zoning, paving the way for the Ralph Thayer car dealership to expand its operations across Kay Dr.

Residents on Kay Dr. opposed the rezoning, saying buffer zones between the dealership and their neighborhood have fallen by the wayside.

Ron DuMoulin, a Kay Dr. resident, said he plans to file a lawsuit against the township to overturn the rezoning.

"We have a quiet subdivision, it's a neighborhood full of kids. There'll be additional traffic, all the lights, all the noise. Do I want to seem them expanded? Absolutely not," Mr. DuMoulin said.

Ralph Thayer, who has owned the dealership for 30 years, said the expansion plans would have to be approved by the township. He said that as a result of the expansion, the neighborhood will be more insulated from the dealership than it was before.

"The township has made it very clear to us that we're to address these concerns," he said. "We can solve the issues they're talking about."

Monroe Township officials said they had no choice but to approve Mr. Thayer's rezoning request. The S. Dixie Hwy. corridor is classified as commercial in the master plan. To deny the zoning would be going against the township's own plans for the area's land use, according to township Supervisor Alan Barron.

The township still controls to a large degree what the expansion will look like when the dealership turns in its official blueprints, or site plan, for the project. The township has to approve the site plan before construction can start.

"The noise, the traffic, the trucks, all that can be addressed during the site plan review," Mr. Barron said.

Mr. Thayer said his plans for the project include barriers that will shield the neighborhood from the lights and noise. A berm, or hill, with trees on top could be put up along the property's border with the neighborhood to insulate it from lights and sound.

The dealership has already purchased a soundless paging system, Mr. Thayer said, and new lighting technology will greatly reduce the amount of light that reaches homes.

Mr. DuMoulin said the township board ignored the neighborhood's concerns when residents protested the rezoning at last month's board meeting.

"They just gave us lip service," he said. "They paid no attention to the residents."

One of Mr. DuMoulin's concerns was about two pieces of property behind the dealership that were zoned residential. He said when the neighborhood was mapped out in the 1950s, that land was made residential to serve as a buffer zone between the neighborhood and the dealership. Now, cars can be parked within a stone's throw of the neighborhood and the buffer zone is gone. Mr. DuMoulin said cars have been parked there for years anyway.

"The township failed in its responsibility to enforce its own ordinances," he said.

Mr. Barron said the board reviewed the rezoning thoroughly before making its decision.

"The neighbors have a right to peace and quiet, but Mr. Thayer has a right to use his property as well. It's a tough one," he said.

Officials mum on changes at area grocery stores

■ Officials at Farmer Jack, Spartan refuse to discuss immediate plans

By EVENING NEWS STAFF

The future of Monroe County's grocery stores continue to evolve. This week, the changes involve Food Town and Farmer Jack.

Farmer Jack stores across the metropolitan Detroit area – including the store at 407 S. Telegraph Rd. in Monroe — will close Thursday for 24 hours.

Officials from the company would not return phone calls, but media reports indicate the stores will undergo pricing changes as well as uniform alterations for employees and other things. The stores will reopen June 26 after the changes. An employee answering the phone at the Monroe Farmer Jack said the store would close for one day Thursday, but refused to elaborate.

As for Food Town, rumors of its future in the county continue to spread, but company officials are quiet on any details. In recent weeks, many of the Food Town stores across the region have stopped ordering perishables and have drastically slashed prices in an effort to sell down overhead as the Spartan Stores-owned chain continues to dissolve.

Last week Monroe County residents learned that the chain will close the Temperance store and rumors abound about the remaining stores across the area. Employees at a variety of locations have told The Evening News about sales and pending sales of their locations, but could not confirm any of those details. This morning, company officials refused to comment on the changes and instead issued the following statement to inquiry:

"Spartan Stores is in the process of preparing its remaining stores for change, and because of the complex and confidential nature of the process, we are not able to provide any information at this time."

Jefferson hires fail to win approval

By RAY KISONAS
Evening News staff writer

The hiring of several potential Jefferson Schools employees is on hold after the board rejected one proposal and the superintendent pulled two others Thursday.

Board members were expected to vote on the hiring of two administrators, but Supt. Thomas Emery removed the suggestions from the agenda before a vote could be held.

Nancy Hadley, the business director with Flat Rock Community Schools, pulled her name for consideration for a similar position at Jefferson Schools, said President Richard McDevitt.

Another potential administrator was W. Scott Knapp, an employee of a school district in the Detroit area. He was on the agenda to be hired as the director of support services, a position recently held by Allen Sander. But Mr. Emery asked the board to remove that item off the agenda because he wanted the position re-evaluated. The district faces a possible reorganization.

Also Thursday, the board defeated a motion that would have filled an assistant principal's position and left an administrator's job vacant that could have been dissolved to save money.

Mark Hall, who has been assistant principal at Jefferson Middle School, will become a counselor. His position would have been filled by Judy Meinke, director of career and technical education, and her current post would be vacated.

But that did not happen. The board voted 4-2 against the move. Trustee James Mooney questioned how the assistant principal's job at the middle school could be filled without pursuing other candidates.

"I don't understand what's going on," he said. "There will be no job posting?"

A union member in the audience said the Jefferson Education Association was aware of the hiring proposal and was willing to accept it.

Mr. Emery said positions need to be filled and several remain vacant. He also added that some jobs will be combined or eliminated to save money.

"We have to do things the best we can as we can," he said. "Many people will have multiple assignments."

Vice President Jeff Grodi and Trustees Jeff Andring, Robert Polk and Mr. Mooney voted against the job shift proposal. Mr. McDevitt and Trustee William VanDaele voted in favor of it. Trustee Bonnie Reaume was absent.

Since it failed, Mr. Hall will be counselor, the assistant principal position at the middle school remains vacant and Ms. Meinke remains in her current position.

Several positions continue to remain open including transportation director. Mike Howard, who has been with the district about 20 years, has retired. His retirement was accepted Thursday with kind words from several board members.

FIA may get more say over abuse complaints

LANSING (AP) — The state House on Thursday approved a bill supporters say will lead to better investigations into complaints of child abuse and neglect.

The measure would give the Office of the Children's Ombudsman subpoena powers to get documents from the state Family Independence Agency and other agencies that place children in foster or adoptive homes.

The legislation is named for 2-year-old Ariana Swinson, who was fatally beaten by her parents in January, 2000, after being removed from her foster family and returned to her biological parents.

Ariana's foster mother, Valerie McDaniel of Monroe, was in the House balcony when the legislation was approved. McDaniel said it's important to let people know the ombudsman's office can help.

"It gives people more knowledge that this office exists so they have somewhere to turn to," she said. "We weren't informed that this office even existed."

Under current law, the state Children's Ombudsman is responsible for investigating the actions and policies of the Family Independence Agency but does not perform field investigations into potential cases of child abuse and neglect. That responsibility falls to the FIA.

While the current law limits who can file a complaint with the ombudsman, the legislation would allow anyone to ask for an investigation of the FIA or other child placement agency.

HURON TOWNSHIP

Supervisor has surgery on arm, shoulder

Huron Township Supervisor John Mitchell returned home from Oakwood Hospital and Medical Center in Dearborn after undergoing surgery Tuesday on his arm and shoulder that he broke in fall outside his home June 2.

He will be off work for several weeks and have to undergo therapy on the arm and shoulder, said his wife, Shirley.

"The doctor told him it would take him two to three weeks just to get back on his feet," Mrs. Mitchell said this morning. "He's still all bandaged up."

The 65-year-old Mr. Mitchell separated his shoulder and broke his right arm when he fell from a ladder while sawing a tree limb outside his home. He fell about 15 feet to the ground and the limb fell on him.

Clerk Dawnette Bowers chaired Wednesday's township board meeting in his place. She is assuming some of his duties as chief executive until he is healthy again.

It's been a difficult week for Mrs. Mitchell as well. Her mother, Dorothy H. Lucas of Allen Park, died Wednesday morning and was buried Thursday.

POLICE BLOTTER

Engine parts for boat stolen

Monroe police are investigating the larceny of nearly $5,500 worth of boat engine parts from a local marine repair business.

Officers were called to Lake Erie Marine Repair, 1733 E. Front St., after its owner discovered that a boat he was working on at his shop was missing both its upper and lower out-drive engines, valued at $2,444 and $2,844; respectively, and a propeller worth $200.

Police said the incident occurred sometime after 4 p.m. Wednesday.

The owner told police the boat was brought in for repairs June 3 and was parked next to the business. He said that work began on the vessel Wednesday, but when he returned Thursday afternoon to finish the job the parts were missing.

ERIE TOWNSHIP

Two named to Erie planning commission

There will be two new faces on Erie Township's planning commission after the township board Tuesday unanimously approved replacements for vacated seats.

According to Supervisor Dan Bonkoski, residents Paul Mikels and Larry Guinn will be sworn in at commission's next regular meeting scheduled for next Tuesday.

MARKETS

Consumer report fuels stock drop

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks slid in early trading today after a report from the University of Michigan indicated a sharp decline in consumer sentiment for June.

Michigan's widely-watched index of consumer sentiment fell to 87.2 in mid-June from May's reading of 92.1, Dow Jones Newswires reported. The reading was far below the level of 93 that market watchers had been expecting.

The Dow Jones industrial average was off 72.06, or .78 percent, at 9,124.49 in the first hour of trading.

Broader market indicators also were lower. The Nasdaq composite index fell 17.38, or 1.05 percent, to 1,636.24.

	Closed Thurs.	10:30 today
Air Gas	18.50	18.46
Aquila	2.70	2.67
AT&T	21.53	20.86
BP-Amoco	44.58	44.33
CMS Energy	8.30	8.11
CSX	31.33	30.99
Charter Commun.	3.06	3.03
Citigroup	44.07	43.86
Comerica	49.04	48.03
DTE Energy	41.71	41.30
DaimlerChrysler	33.42	32.79
Dana Corp.	11.75	11.13
Delphi Automotive	9.59	8.60
Dow Chemical	32.05	31.84
Eastman Kodak	31.11	31.17
Elder Beerman	5.26	5.33
Fifth-Third Bank	59.25	58.99
Firstenergy	37.44	37.51
Foot Locker (Woolworth)	13.40	13.30
Ford Motor	11.27	10.87
General Electric	31.07	30.77
General Motors	37.12	36.25
IBM	83.95	83
International Paper	38.75	38.05
Jefferson Smurfit	14.44	14.09
Key Corp.	26.67	26.45
Kmart	.10	.10
La-Z-Boy Incorporated	23.09	22.80
Lear Seating	45.01	42.51
Libbey Inc.	23.85	23.80
Lowe's	44.75	44.35
Micron Tech	13.53	13.10
Monroe Bank & Trust	17.71	17.98
Morgan Stanley	48.94	48.50
National City	34.30	34.06
National Steel	.02	.02
Owens Corning	.61	.60
Penney, J.C.	18.36	18.18
PepsiCo	44.60	44.70
Pfizer	33.52	33.09
Rite Aid	3.98	3.97
Sears Roebuck	32.56	32.14
Spartan Stores	2.76	2.76
Tenneco	4.15	3.79
USX	16.84	16.74
United Industrial	14.45	14.25
Verizon Commun.	39.79	39.06
Viacom	46.52	46.28
Visteon	7.22	7.84
Wal-Mart	55.03	54.52
Worthington	15.90	15.99

(Courtesy of Morgan Stanley)

Local cash grain

Ida Farmer's Co-Op Co.

	Thur. 9 a.m.	Fri. 9 a.m.
No. 2 White Wheat	$2.88	$2.95
No. 2 Red Wheat	$3.08	$3.15
Corn	$2.34	$2.36
Soybeans	$6.22	$6.18

2003 crop prices

No. 2 Red Wheat	$3.08	$3.15
Corn	$2.11	$2.13
Soybeans	$5.46	$5.43

Prices are subject to change.

Eggs

Midwest dozen egg prices for Thursday: Extra large 62-71, large 61-69, medium 50-58.

LOTTERIES

MICHIGAN LOTTERY

Thursday Daily
Midday 6-0-9
Evening 9-8-7

Thursday Daily-4
Midday 2-3-7-0
Evening 7-6-9-0

Thursday Rolldown
6-8-12-13-29

Thursday Keno
10, 11, 12, 14, 20, 21, 23, 24, 30, 33, 34, 40, 43, 44, 47, 51, 61, 66, 67, 73, 75, 78

Thursday Change Play
T-V-0-7-4-4
S-S-7-2-8-7
P-A-5-0-3-0
E-B-7-1-8-6
H-S-9-9-9-3
C-M-2-2-4-5

OHIO LOTTERY

Thursday Pick 3
Midday 2-6-6
Evening 6-1-0

Thursday Pick 4
Midday 4-4-7-0
Evening 2-9-6-4

Thursday Buckeye 5
4-16-21-23-34

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Jefferson faces $3.6 million shortfall

By RAY KISONAS
Evening News staff writer

Even if Jefferson Schools trims the anticipated shortfall of $2.8 million from its budget, the district still would need to cut another $886,000 to balance the books.

Despite that looming debt, the board of education might decide not to reduce staff or programs and pass a budget with a huge deficit. Or it can transfer money from its savings account, reducing it to virtually zero.

These were some of the ideas discussed during a board workshop Thursday. Supt. Thomas Emery submitted a revised budget for 2003-04 that called for reductions of more than $2.8 million. And it still was $886,738 in the red.

No decisions were made, but the board must make up its mind on what to do within the next two weeks because the state requires districts to submit balanced budgets by the beginning of July.

"Where do we want to end up in two weeks?" Mr. Emery asked the board.

"I don't think we should sit here and think about the short term," Trustee Jeff Andring answered. "If we continue to take money out of the bank we're in deep trouble."

A school can go bankrupt. If it operates with a deficit two years in a row the state can take over and do what it takes to balance the books.

> "I feel we're further behind than we were. I was hoping that we would have a concise direction. At this point and time, we're not anywhere near that."
>
> — Richard McDevitt, Board president

Board President Richard McDevitt said after the meeting that he was disappointed in the lack of progress made at the budget workshop.

"I feel we're further behind than we were," he said. "I was hoping that we would have a concise direction. At this point and time we're not anywhere near that."

For the time being it appears the board is intent on keeping staff and programs as is. At its regular meeting after the budget workshop, the board refused to lay off three teachers and reduce the hours of several others.

Mr. Emery recommended the layoffs and the reductions, but both motions died because of a lack of support. The board also unanimously agreed to spend more than $51,000 to upgrade the math curriculum for the elementary students.

It was an unusual display of unity from a board that has been divided on many past issues.

"On fiscal issues, I think the board supports each other," Mr. McDevitt said after the meetings. "I think it's very good that we don't want staff reductions."

However, he said he felt some board members would rather not make any decisions and instead leave the difficult decisions for the new board. Two new members are joining in July.

Several budget reduction ideas were discussed, including privatizing the transportation department. The district could save an estimated $800,000 to $1 million if it sold its fleet of buses and contracted student transportation to a private firm.

But there was skepticism to that idea and several concerns, including a lack of local control and getting stuck with a bad deal.

"You could end up in an almost unbreakable partnership," Mr. Emery said. "And some companies have gone bankrupt."

Other money-saving ideas included the elimination of bus aides and a freeze of bus purchases. But Vice President Jeff Grodi did not like that idea either. He believes that in the long run, not buying buses on a regular basis will require mass purchases, like this year when the board bought six new ones to upgrade the fleet.

"You've got to have buses," he said.

The board brainstormed other ideas on how to save money, including changes at the recreation center. They talked about everything from reducing clerical support to expanding its usage to other districts or firms to selling the building, then leasing it back.

But none seemed to gain much support. In the end, the board asked Mr. Emery to create a list of possible cutbacks and how much each reduction would save. The board then could vote on each reduction. Mr. Emery said he will make a list that should total about $3.6 million reductions.

The board then will decide what should be cut. Indications are that board members are unwilling to cut teachers or programs.

When the board decided against laying off the three teachers Thursday, then approved the math curriculum update, it received a round of applause from the audience.

ERIE TOWNSHIP

Erie changes bid process for projects

Erie Township Supervisor Dan Bonkoski will have more room to operate in developing township projects after the township board voted Monday to change the process of seeking bids from contractors.

Under the new rules, the township will not have to advertise or ask for sealed bids for projects estimated to cost less than $200,000. Anything at or over that amount will still have to go through the old process.

"A lot of times we have $50,000 or $60,000 projects and have to go through the sealed bid process," said Mr. Bonkoski. "We had to change the rules just to streamline the process. We are still going to get bids, but not be so technical about the lower expenditures."

According to Mr. Bonkoski, in 1993 the board adopted the $20,000 minimum after a state mandate required townships to pass the measure or prepare to lose state revenue-sharing, but a year later the attorney general rescinded it.

Mr. Bonkoski said it wasn't until recently that township officials found out from the Michigan Townships Association that the sealed bid process wasn't necessary anymore.

Now the supervisor will be able to approach potential contractors and ask them to submit bids for the "smaller" projects before taking his recommendation to the board. Mr. Bonkoski said since projects estimated to be more than $200,000 account for a good number of the township's operations, there would still be instances where the sealed bid process would apply.

"There is no question that on the big projects I am going through the whole process, but for the smaller contracts we have enough checks (and balances)," he said. "Even if we get the bids, the board still has to approve it. I couldn't spend the money without their approval. The process we had was sort of redundant."

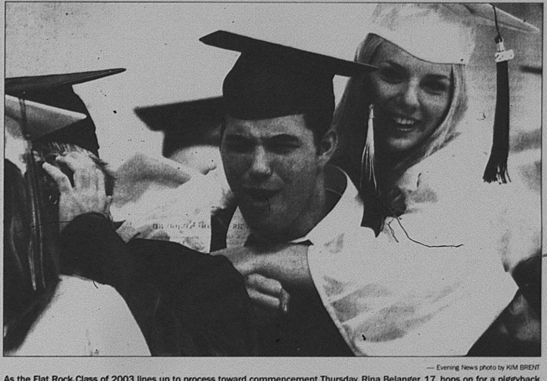
Board sets budget

The township board balanced its books for the upcoming year with the approval of the 2003-04 fiscal year general fund budget at $817,000.

According to Supervisor Dan Bonkoski, the budget expects revenues this year of $717,000 with an anticipated $100,000 cash carryover from last year. Although the number has yet to be set in stone, Mr. Bonkoski said the carryover would be within $10,000 either way.

Expenditures in the budget include money for local roads repairs, running all departments except the police department, which operates on a separate fund, and other projects set for the township.

Riding into the future



— Evening News photo by KIM BRENT

As the Flat Rock Class of 2003 lines up to process toward commencement Thursday, Rina Belanger, 17, hops on for a piggyback ride, as fellow graduate Kyle Steffen, 18, joins classmates in hoots of celebration.

Equalization director learning job

By JOSHUA KENNEDY
Evening News staff writer

MICHAEL WOOLFORD
Has worked in department since 1996.

BETH ANN CHOATE
Leaving county post in January.

Meet Michael Woolford.

The Bedford Township resident is the man who – starting next year – will be responsible for setting the cash value of Monroe County property. His annual reports will be used by the 19 taxing jurisdictions in the county to set taxes.

"I'm excited about it," the 33-year-old said. "It'll be a challenge."

A 2002 graduate of Siena Heights University, Mr. Woolford has worked as an assessor at the county's equalization department since 1996.

He will fill the position vacated by Equalization Director Beth Ann Choate when she retires in January.

It's a job he says he's ready for.

"I love equalization and assessing," he said. "I like being able to explain to citizens this is how I did it and why. Equalization and assessing is so confusing. My experience will be very helpful for them."

That doesn't mean there won't be some objections to his methods or assessments.

"That's just part of the job," he said, adding treating residents "fairly and equally" helps with the more difficult situations.

Mr. Woolford was unanimously appointed as the new equalization director by the Monroe County Board of Commissioners May 13 at the request of county Administrator Charles Londo.

"He's a young, aggressive, intelligent young man who wants to advance his career," Mr. Londo said. "This is his chosen profession. Why shouldn't he do that here? Guys like him are in pretty high demand."

Mr. Woolford, a 1988 Bedford High School graduate, will spend most of his free time trying to obtain his level four assessor's certification, which is required by the state for every county equalization director. He estimates the criteria will take him an extra 25 hours a week to accomplish.

"Basically it's a 150-page report explaining a property assessment from the ground up," Mr. Woolford said.

After compiling the report he'll face a state assessing panel that will question how he arrived at his findings to ensure he knows what he's doing. He's got a year from next January to pass the requirement, but he wants to get it done before assuming the helm.

Recent state audits of several area townships' assessing has resulted in the county office assuming much of the duties performed by local officials and that may continue when he takes over.

"We'll do it all one case at a time," Mr. Woolford said. "This office provides and will continue to provide what needs to happen."

Mr. Woolford and his wife, Dawn (Dunnigan), have three children, Devon, 7, Riley, 5, and Collin, 3.

Gibraltar Schools honors 25-year employees

GIBRALTAR – Patricia Christiansen, a guidance counselor at Shumate Middle School and a former competitive cheerleading coach at Carlson High School (CHS) when the school won a state title in 1995, was among 10 employees honored for 25 years of service by Gibraltar Schools.

The district's board of education recognized the employees at Tuesday's meeting.

Ms. Christiansen taught at both CHS and Shumate before becoming a counselor three years ago. She also supervised the Chapter 1 reading program for students at the four elementary schools and coached competitive cheerleading for 18 years. Her teams won the Class B state championship in 1995 and were runners-up in both 1996 and 1997. A Brownstown Township resident, she remains active in the sport as a judge and trainer and was named Official of the Year in 2003.

Other employees honored were Connie Kormos, food service, and Michael Frost, maintenance. The teachers honored were Sheree Donaldson, special education, CHS; Ellen Russell, CHS; Robert Jones, CHS; Douglas Todd, Chapman Elementary School; Nanette Laginess, Parsons Elementary School; Sally Kinner-Poore, Shumate, and Terri Steinhauer, Shumate.

Melvin Kramer, board president, and Eric Federico, assistant superintendent, presented each employee a bouquet of flowers.

Legislatic
addresse
'pre-need
funeral s

By EVENING NEWS and AP S

Area cemetery o
are wary of a le
package that would
regulate funeral p
and services, especia
purchased on a "pr
basis.

Michigan Sen. La
R- Livonia, introdu
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into a trust. It wo
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were prompted by c
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Larry Merkle,
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said most cemeteries
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not a concern to hi
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islative proposal tha
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be refunded if a cu
dies before construct
new mausoleum or
barium is completed.

"It would be like b
new car and then tr
sell it back to the dea
said.

James Dubay, gener
ager of St. Joseph Ce
said the proposals
have little impact hi
tion. The cemetery
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ago due to friction a
petition with funeral

He said most of the
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are "pretty reasonable
tect the consumer.
facets you'd have to s
so you didn't have sta
control."

Included in the Sena
are proposals requir

■ Putting into
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inscribed markers ar
uments, regardless
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■ A refund of at l
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■ State inspecti
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■ Acceptance of go
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A companion piece
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Alan Sanborn, R-Rich
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posal of human rem
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Tri-State Cremator
northwest Georgia
than a year ago.

The proposals also
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to the same law.

Mr. Merkle said,
while, that Roselawn
for a crematorium
gressing and should
operation by year-e
said most of the per
the county, state and
ship levels have
approved and the buil
being designed. The
ture will be about 36 f
and about the size of
car garage, he said.
represent an investm
about $250,000.

tive finds success

Dreams," were developed with this group's help.

The WB has worked more closely with the group than any other.

A report issued this week by Magna Global USA, a company that buys commercial time, concluded that broadcasters contributed to their declining ratings during the 1990s in part by turning their back on family shows.

The success of "Friends" on NBC led networks to concentrate more on adult-oriented fare, said Steve Sternberg of Magna.

With 41 percent of homes having three or more television sets, networks felt it would be better to program so different family members would watch different shows on different sets. The executives underestimated the number of families that wanted to watch together, he said.

In the past few years, there's been more of a swing toward family shows, particularly on ABC.

Forum representatives wouldn't say how much money they've put in. "It's not pocket change," McGuire said. The advertisers are reimbursed by networks for shows that make it onto the air.

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RCA 36" TV........$549

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Burn victim faces years of recovery, surgeries

— Evening News photo by VALERIE TOBIAS

Sharon Grodi spends every day at the hospital bedside of her husband, Michael Grodi.

Michael Grodi suffered burns over 70 percent of body

By RAY KISONAS
Evening News staff writer

ERIE – As Sharon Grodi drove home from running errands, she suddenly saw black smoke billowing in the sky.

MICHAEL GRODI

She figured it was a barn on fire, and her first inclination was to ignore it.

"I didn't think anything of it," Mrs. Grodi said. "But curiosity gets the best of you."

So she slowly approached the scene along Erie Rd. when she spotted some friends along the road and they waved her over. The woman didn't have the heart to say it, so her husband finally did.

"It's Mike," he said.

Mrs. Grodi rushed to the fire scene, and to her horror she saw her husband lying on the ground. He was badly burned and in severe pain.

"My legs went out from under me," she said.

Mrs. Grodi approached her husband and wanted to reach out to him but didn't want to hurt him with an embrace. And then they spoke for the last time since the accident.

"He said, 'I want you to know that I love you very much,'" Mrs. Grodi said. "And I said, 'I love you, too.' We haven't talked since then."

It has been a little more than a week since the explosion at the barn where Mr. Grodi was injured. And the only certainty is that he will face years of recovery and many surgeries. As much as 70 percent of his body was burned; 53 percent are third degree burns, the most severe type.

His left side is the worst. His chest, back and the back of his left leg sustained the

See GRODIS, Page 11A

MHS grad no stranger to responsibility

Eleventh in a series on area students graduating high school.

■ In addition to caring for his father prior to his death, 19-year-old Rob Timmons is an apprentice at Friendly Ford.

By RAY KISONAS
Evening News staff writer

When Bob Timmons collapsed from an aneurysm and was hospitalized for more than two months, his teenage son became his legal guardian.

GRADUATION 2003

MONROE HIGH SCHOOL

And when Mr. Timmons eventually died two months ago, it was his son who helped pay for the funeral. Rob Timmons is 19 years old, but he already has accepted responsibilities that many adults never can.

"I was very, very close to my dad," Rob said. "I had to take care of him, and I wanted the responsibility. He was my dad. It was the best thing I could do for him."

Today Rob will join his Monroe High School classmates at commencement ceremonies and graduate. He'll have his party Saturday to celebrate and then it's back to work on Monday.

Already an accomplished auto mechanic, Rob has been working in an apprenticeship program at Friendly Ford for 2½ years. He will enroll at Monroe County Community College in the fall to earn his degree and certificates.

He said he enjoys being an auto technician and does not necessarily want to specialize in any one field.

"I want to do everything I can," he said at the dealership while taking a break from an oil leak job. "I'm not picky."

His career as a technician began years ago when his dad bought him a 1990 Plymouth to tin-

See STUDENT, Page 11A

— Evening News photo by VALERIE TOBIAS

Monroe High School graduate Rob Timmons intends to pursue a career in automotive technology and mechanics. "This is what I always wanted to do. I love taking things apart and putting them back together," he said.

Two-car collision at S. Dixie Hwy., Sterns Rd. kills two

By RAY KISONAS
Evening News staff writer

ERIE – Two Erie residents were killed in a two-vehicle accident Thursday night at S. Dixie Hwy. and Sterns Rd.

Driver Beverly S. Cousino, 48, who lived on S. Dixie Hwy., and her passenger, Robert J. Shardt, 50, who lived on Erie Rd., were pronounced dead at the scene of the crash.

"Both occupants were killed instantly," said Erie Township Police Chief Bill Hines.

Witnesses said the 1986 Ford pickup truck driven by Ms. Cousino was heading west on Sterns and failed to yield at the intersection when it collided with a northbound Ford Escort.

The 1998 Escort was driven by Ashley N. Harrison, 20, of Monroe. She was shaken up but walked away from the crash with minor injuries.

Chief Hines said after the two vehicles collided, the pickup rolled on its side and skidded. It slammed roof-first into a utility pole. All three crash victims were wearing seat belts, Chief Hines said.

The pickup truck "came out of nowhere," Chief Hines said Ms. Harrison told him.

The intersection is equipped with a

See CRASH, Page 11A

Spartan dismisses speculation

■ The company has denied reports that the remaining Food Town stores will be sold or closed.

By CHARLES SLAT
Evening News staff writer

Despite rampant rumors and some reports that the fate of remaining area Food Town stores has been decided, officials at Spartan Stores Inc. say they're still pondering the stores' futures.

"We are still in the process of discussing the sale, closure or conversion of the remaining stores," Jeanne Norcross, a Spartan spokeswoman, said late Thursday. "We have not made any announcement regarding any of the remaining stores."

Some media reports on the future of the still-operating Food Town stores were "speculation," she said. "There's really nothing new to report."

Various reports and rumors have been circulating that some of the stores have been sold to buyers such as Kroger, Farmer Jack or Giant Eagle, but Spartan never has confirmed it is in discussions with those companies.

Ms. Norcross also said that, contrary to some reports, the chain is maintaining inventories at the remaining stores.

There are two Food Town stores in Monroe, one in Milan, one in Dundee and one in Lambertville. The Grand Rapids-based company said Monday that it would close its stores in Temperance and Fostoria, Ohio, in July because they're unprofitable. Discount sales to deplete inventories began at those stores Thursday.

Spartan has been shrinking the Food Town chain the past several months, citing competitive pressures in the grocery business. It acquired Food Town in late 2000, then closed five of the 43 stores late last year. It shuttered another 13, most in Ohio, in April.

But it said it planned to sell the remainder of its stores or convert them into The Pharm, a Spartan-owned deep-discount drugstore operation.

Though pervasive in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan, Food Town represents a relatively small portion of Spartan's grocery operations. It also operates grocery stores under the names Ashcraft's Markets, Family Fare Supermarkets, Glen's Markets, Great Day Food Centers, Madison Family Market and Prevo's Family Markets.

It distributes more than 40,000 private-label and national-brand products to more than 330 independent grocery stores, including many in Monroe County.

Troops prepare to withdraw from Demilitarized Zone

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — For decades, South Korea has regarded U.S. troops guarding the border with North Korea as a "tripwire" — a guarantee that the United States would intervene immediately if the communist North attacked because American troops would be the first in the line of fire.

Now the Americans say they are pulling back, and the withdrawal threatens to change the dynamic along the border.

The Pentagon says it can better deter North Korea by moving U.S. troops farther south from the Demilitarized Zone separating the two Koreas. But while the allies have yet to say when the relocation will occur, many South Koreans already are wondering about the repercussions.

"When people hear the news, their immediate reaction often is, 'What? Who's going to defend the border? Are the Americans moving south so that they can leave our country fast when the war breaks out?'" said Song Young-sun, an analyst in Seoul's Korea Institute of Defense Analysis.

See KOREA, Page 11A

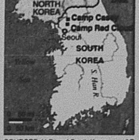
Military shift

The United States will dismantle bases and move more than 37,000 troops farther back from areas near the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) separating South Korea from communist North Korea some time in the future.

Troop realignment

Phase 1 – Troops will first move from bases near the DMZ to two major ones, Camp Casey and Camp Red Cloud.

Phase 2 – These same troops will eventually move to "hub bases" at least 75 miles south of the DMZ; Nearly 7,000 at Seoul headquarters will also move.



SOURCES: U.S. and South Korea Joint Statement; GlobalSecurity.org; ESRI
AP

You need to know

Dedication ceremonies began this morning at **Sterling State Park** as the park reopened today after more than a year of being closed for major renovations.

Tours, a luncheon, a tree planting and the renaming of a public boat launch after former state legislator and Department of Natural Resources Commissioner Jerry C. Bartnik.

Read Saturday's Evening News for coverage of the events.

Local

A man accused of making a bomb threat to the county courthouse has withdrawn his guilty plea after finding out he faced 57 to 97 months in jail. The case could be headed for a jury trial. **Page 2A**

The former City of Monroe Department of Public Services building is being demolished, something that is pleasing nearby residents. **Page 3A**

World

Inspectors return

A seven-man team from the U.N. International Atomic Energy Agency is escorted by U.S. troops today upon arrival in Baghdad. The inspectors will assess damage to a nuclear facility. **Page 9A**

Nation

Attorney General John Ashcroft asked Thursday that the House Judiciary Committee expand the Patriot Act. **Page 9A**

Monroe Now

Two classes of Manor Elementary School students produced a TV show this week and it is airing this month on the local cable station. **Page 3A**

Sports

Seven local schools will take part in Regional tournaments Saturday. **Page 1B**

Monroe County athletes did well in the Special Olympics summer games. **Page 1B**

Today's obituaries

Shirley Poley, 70, of Dundee.

Irene (Seltz) Wright, 95, of Milan.

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INSIDE LOCAL GOVERNMENT
– a guide to governmental agencies around the Monroe County region

CITY FLAT ROCK

Council okays payments on ball fields

By DEAN COUSINO
Evening News staff writer

FLAT ROCK – Amid some concerns about work not getting done, the main contractor for the Community Fields and fountain-ice skating rink in Flat Rock will get paid for the balance of its contract.

Monday night, the Flat Rock City Council approved 7-0 a final payment of $56,299 to J.S. Vig Construction Co. for the four-diamond complex behind city hall and $22,505 for the fountain and rink. The improvements were built two years ago and make up a big portion of a civic center between Flat Rock High School and the municipal building.

A couple of council members balked when presented the bills by Bruce Hammond, director of the city's Department of Public Services.

"Isn't there a drainage problem still being worked on?" Councilman Eric Painter asked Mr. Hammond.

"I don't feel secure in trusting them to take care of the warranty items," Mayor Pro Tempore James Martin said.

Mr. Hammond replied that except for a few items covered under warranty, the Taylor contractor had finished its work.

"This is it, the end of the line" with payments, the director said.

One of the items not done on the ball fields was to repair erosion at the pond behind Field No. 2 and add seed and straw again to the pond adjacent to Field No. 4.

A storm drainage problem on the infield on Field No. 1 will be corrected with additional fill material added by DPS crews, not the contractor, Mr. Hammond said.

"That's maintenance," he said.

On the ice rink, the contractor must repair cracks in a concrete sidewalk at the south entrance to the rink. The fountain has not been turned on yet this year due to the cold spring weather, Mr. Hammond said.

There is also a problem with getting grass to grow on Fields 2 and 4. The problem is caused by the lack of an irrigation system to supply water daily to produce a satisfactory ground cover, the director said. The system was deleted to save money and never put in, he said.

Mayor Richard C. Jones spoke up in defense of the contractor, which has worked in the city for several years. The firm stepped in several years ago and finished building the library for the city when another contractor had abandoned the project.

"We've had no problems and have had a really good relationship with them," Mayor Jones said.

The council also okayed a bill for $5,990 from Amtek Electric of Wyandotte, a subcontractor, for installing remote switches for the field lighting.

Flat Rock okays wage hikes for DPS workers

FLAT ROCK – Employees in the Flat Rock Department of Public Services (DPS) will get a 6 percent raise in a new two-year contract approved by the city council Monday night.

The accord runs from July 1, 2001, to June 30, 2003. Consequently, the raises of 3 percent each year will be retroactive to the start of the contract, David Grunow, city attorney, said.

The pact affects 20 employees, all of whom are paid hourly.

Mr. Grunow said several changes in the contract include:

- The classification of assistant meter reader has been eliminated.
- The prescription co-pay has been increased to $10 for generic brands and $20 for name brands.
- An education reimbursement provision has been added that places a $1,000 cap per year for each employee, together with a five-year payback provision.
- Future retirees will be required to pay their own premium costs for medical and hospitalization insurance furnished by the city. Employees with 10 years of service shall receive a 40 percent credit against the premium cost, with additional credit of 4 percent per year to a maximum of 100 percent.

This provision will not apply to four current employees if they continue working until age 65.

Because the new accord expires this month, the negotiating committees for both sides will be bargaining again soon, local officials said.

BEDFORD SCHOOLS

Bedford board approves instrument purchases

BEDFORD TOWNSHIP – A vote by the Bedford Board of Education was truly music to the ears.

On Thursday, the board unanimously approved the expenditure of $33,748 to purchase more than 30 new music instruments to update the district's aging inventory.

According to Ted Magrum, assistant superintendent for operations and finance, the money for the purchase comes from funds held over from the music department's 2001-02 budget carried over to this year.

He told the board that the music department estimated that approximately 76 percent of the district's musical instruments were 20 years or older.

"The instruments have simply worn out over the last 25 to 30 years," said Mr. Magrum. "The music department has done an excellent job in keeping our instruments in good repair, but eventually they just wear out. We know this purchase will have a positive effect on our music students, so we are excited about that."

The new equipment coming into the district includes a total of five string basses; four cellos; a set of timpani drums; two French horns; a number of xylophones; soprano, alto and bass mettallophones, and two sousaphones.

Man withdraw in courthouse

By IAN C. STOREY
Evening News staff writer

Jerrime D. Wilson, the 30-year-old Monroe Township man accused of making a bomb threat to the county courthouse in February, has withdrawn a guilty plea and will head to court to face a jury of his peers.

Mr. Wilson and his attorney, Jim Davies, asked to withdraw the plea after Circuit Court Judge Michael W. LaBeau said he would not deviate from the new sentencing schedule of approximately 57 to 97 months in jail Mr. Wilson would serve for the new felony charge of making a false report of a terrorist threat.

Mr. Wilson will now face a pre-trial hearing on Aug. 14 before the court holds a jury trial scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. Aug. 20.

On Feb. 20, Mr. Wilson had a probation violation hearing in front of First District Judge Mark S. Braunlich. Police and prosecutors contend that Mr. Wilson called in the threat to avoid the court date, informing 911 dispatchers that a bomb had been

Huron Township su slated for shoulder

By DEAN COUSINO
Evening News staff writer

HURON TOWNSHIP – Huron Township Supervisor John Mitchell remains "in a lot of pain" after spending three days in Oakwood Heritage Hospital in Taylor for a torn rotator cuff in his right shoulder suffered in a fall from a ladder at his home Monday night.

The 65-year-old Mitchell returned home Thursday with his right arm in a sling. He is slated for major shoulder surgery Tuesday afternoon at Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn.

Doctors will attempt to repair the cuff that was broken from the arm to the shoulder, according to his wife, Shirley.

"It's a very bad break," Mrs. Mitchell explained Thursday. "He broke the scapula in his back and it separated from the rotator and splintered in there. He's in a lot of pain and on a lot of medication."

He was injured when a limb from an ash tree he was trimming about 7 p.m. Monday fell on him, knocking him off a ladder. He fell about 15 feet to the ground and the limb fell on

MEETINGS CALENDAR

FRIDAY

Jefferson Schools Board of Education, special meeting, 6:15 p.m., administration building, 2400 N. Dixie Hwy.

SATURDAY

Frenchtown Township Planning Commission, public hearing on master plan, 9 a.m.-noon, township hall, 2744 Vivian Rd.

Gibraltar Recreation Commission, 10 a.m., community center, 29340 S. Gibraltar Rd., Gibraltar.

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State senate approves closing some loo

STATE LEGISLATURE

LANSING (AP) — Highlighting a budget dispute between the Republican-led Legislature and Democratic Gov. Jennifer Granholm, the state Senate voted Thursday to save about $18.8 million a year by closing several tax loopholes.

But the move was far short of what Granholm wants.

A war of words escalated as Granholm spokeswoman Liz Boyd said the Legislature is not doing enough to close loopholes that cost the state money it's entitled to. Granholm has wanted to raise $109 million by closing loopholes, but Republicans have balked at approving more than the bills passed Thursday.

"We are pleased to see the Senate act on the loophole bills, but we are very disappointed the Legislature is turning its back on the other proposals made by Governor Granholm," Boyd said.

A GOP Senate spokesman said some of the governor's proposals amounted to tax increases, not just loophole closings.

"We're not going to pass them," said Bill Nowling, press secretary for Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema, R-Wyoming. "Senate Republicans are well on their way to balancing the budget without raising taxes."

Boyd said Granholm is not advocating raising taxes, and accused Republican lawmakers of adding to the state's fiscal problems.

"We are not talking about tax increases. We're talking about tax fairness," Boyd said.

"There have been many changes made to the governor's budget. In the end, we're seeing more additions made to the budget than solutions to the budget deficit we're facing."

Granholm has proposed a $38.6 billion budget for the fiscal year that starts Oct. 1, with $8.6 billion of that composing the state's general fund. But fiscal experts estimated May 13 that Michigan is likely to receive just $8.1 billion in general fund revenue next year.

The 13 loophole-closing bills approved by the Senate Thursday make technical changes in the state income, business and sales tax laws, among others.

The bills passed with little

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Luna Pier school to close

By IAN C. STOREY
Evening News staff writer

ERIE TOWNSHIP — Although considered a foregone conclusion by most, the Mason Consolidated Schools Board of Education vote Monday night to close Luna Pier Elementary left many of those crammed into the high school's library stunned and speechless.

In a 6-1 vote, the board effectively ended more than seven decades of classes held at the school where many generations of Luna Pier families had taken their first steps through the public education process.

Casting the lone vote against the closure was Trustee Donald Pearce, who argued the administration had not spent enough time considering the ramifications of closing the historic school.

"I do not believe it is appropriate and I don't support closing that school," Mr. Pearce said to a round of applauses from the audience. "I don't think we've done enough research on closing this school."

On May 19, administrators made a presentation to the board to close the school in order to save $202,900 and consolidate the student population with Central Elementary.

But the other six voting members of the board, including President Kent Swick, Vice

See **SCHOOL,** Page 2A

Mason lays off three teachers

ERIE TOWNSHIP – The decision to close Luna Pier Elementary School wasn't the only thing Mason Consolidated Schools lost Monday night.

Faced with low enrollment and funding freezes from the state, the board of education voted to lay off three teachers and keep a position vacated by a retirement open, a move that administrators said May 19 would save nearly $214,565.

North Early Childhood Center teacher Tara Hafner, junior high teacher Jacob Nartker, and Central Elementary first-grade teacher Megan Keane were relieved of their duties under the proposal to reduce spending.

According to school officials, the teachers will be placed on a list and called back if and when positions are made available throughout the district.

"It is unfortunate that we have to lay off these teachers, but it seems to be a national trend right now," said Treasurer William Saul, who added it was "with regret" that he supported the motion. "Districts all around us are contemplating the same issues. Hopefully, these teachers will be around."

Food Town store to close

■ About 45 workers will be idled when the Temperance business is shuttered. Other area stores are in limbo.

By JOSHUA KENNEDY and CHARLES SLAT
Evening News staff writers

TEMPERANCE — The Food Town store in downtown Temperance will close early next month, idling 45 workers and ending a retailing tradition that's spanned 55 years.

Grand Rapids-based Spartan Stores Inc. confirmed that it would close the 27,000-square-foot store at 8926 Lewis Ave. as well as its store in Fostoria, Ohio, possibly the first week in July, because they are unprofitable.

The news didn't sit well this morning with customers faithful to shopping for groceries in Temperance.

Arnie Strzelecki of Temperance has shopped at the store since it was known as Francis Foods.

"I come here every day," he said this morning while loading bags of groceries into his car. "I hope to hell they don't close it. That will make it very inconvenient for a lot of people. This community needs a grocery store."

See **STORE,** Page 7A

Panel weighing what to do next

BY JOSHUA KENNEDY
Evening News staff writer

TEMPERANCE — Bedford Township Supervisor R. LaMar Frederick learned this morning that the Temperance Food Town would close its doors.

"I'm disappointed," he said. "It's going to really be a hardship on the senior citizens in the area who do their own shopping. And there are others in the region that use the Food Town facility."

The wheels of response already have begun to spin, he said.

See **RESPONSE,** Page 7A

— Evening News photos by VALERIE TOBIAS

Life Flight nurse Kim Beauch, R.N., of Lambertville closes the helicopter door after checking the emergency supplies and medical equipment inside at the beginning of a recent 24-hour shift at St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center in Toledo. Ms. Beauch (also below) has worked aboard Life Flight since 1994.

Saving lives a team effort in the air

Lambertville woman rides helicopter to respond to difficult emergencies

By CYNTHIA RAMNARACE
Evening News staff writer

TOLEDO — For some people, work is about making a fortune, finding fame or just making sure the rent check arrives on time. For flight nurse Kim Beauch, the desire to heal is an addiction, the paycheck a fringe benefit.

She lives the paradox met by anyone in emergency care. You wait, anxious for the excitement of the next call. You learn to grab sleep in small gulps. The siren sounds and adrenaline gushes like a geyser, jump-starting the brain and making feet fly. You rush to the scene, you assess the injuries, you see who you can help and how.

Sometimes your being there is the difference between life and death. Other times, all you can say is that you were a witness.

It's a precarious line to walk, that between hero and mourner. But Mrs. Beauch does it willingly, always staying optimistic. There's a golden hour that people in her field talk about. If the correct care can be administered within 60 minutes of the injury, the patient's chance of survival increases dramatically. When that patient was ejected from a car on a country road, miles from the nearest hospital, or was found lying lifeless at the bottom of a swimming pool, there's only one team that can make the most out of that golden hour.

Mrs. Beauch is a nurse on Life Flight, the helicopter transport operated by St.

See **NURSE,** Page 7A

INSIDE

Members of the Life Flight medical team have done everything from transporting a poisoned child to a man having a heart attack, from stopping at accident scenes to transferring patients from one hospital to another. They assisted at the bus crash in Erie Township last year and once Life Flight medics delivered triplets. It's all part of a highly coveted job. **Page 1C**

World

Middle East peace efforts begin today in Egypt

At a meeting today in Egypt, President Bush (shown with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak) told Arab leaders that a "few people, a few killers, a few terrorists" cannot be allowed to prevent a settlement between Israelis and Palestinians. **Page 8A**

Local

Rodeo champion

Milan bus driver Eloisa Brockman took first place in a school bus rodeo competition. **Page 3A**

This summer's River Raisin Jazz Festival will be alcohol-free after a request to allow alcohol during the event was denied by the Monroe City Council. **Page 3A**

Nation

Newly relaxed rules governing ownership of newspapers and TV and radio stations face challenges in the courts and in Congress. The easing of restrictions was approved by the Republican-controlled Federal Communications Commission. **Page 5A**

Today's obituaries

William Dennison Hayter Sr., 52, of Newport.

Betty M. Havekost, 76, of Mount Pleasant, formerly of Monroe.

Richard J. Matteson, 78, of Monroe.

Betty J. Brenner, 82, of Temperance.

Violet Spry, 84, of Carleton.

Margaret P. Jones, 84, of Monroe.

Irma A. Lehmann, 90, of Monroe.

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FROM PAGE 1A

School (cont.)

President Sharon Rice, Secretary Pamela Cousino, Treasurer William Saul and Trustees Daphne Williams and Joann Flory, all agreed with the proposals submitted by administrators.

Several board members cited the hours of data gathered by the administration as evidence for the school closing and the need to create new programs throughout the district in order to improve student achievement.

"There is no question in my mind that what we are intending to do is the correct direction to go," said Mr. Saul. "We know right now our form is not working. We have no choice but to continue on the path of reform. I've turned and twisted every idea to maintain a school down there ... every idea has been a dead-end street."

With the funds saved by closing the school and other districtwide cuts, administrators proposed new programs to improve student achievement through the district, including block scheduling at Mason Junior High School, the creation of an all-day, everyday kindergarten program, the placement of full-time aides in three first-grade classes and the addition of an elementary art teacher to the district.

Although all of the programs were approved Monday night and widely considered by the entire board to be good additions for student achievement, Mr. Pearce contended that closing the school to make funds available for those programs was the wrong move for the district.

"I agree with what everyone is saying, but is Luna Pier going to affect the block scheduling at the junior high other than finance it?" he asked. "I don't think we want to close a school just to test a program. I won't support (the closing) right now."

For Penny Lane, a member of the school's Parent, Teacher and Student Association (PTSA), the decision was a hard one to watch. Mrs. Lane's daughter Paige is graduating from the school this spring, while younger daughter Hunter was set to enter the second grade at Luna Pier.

Now, in the fall, Hunter will head off to Central.

"I have never seen a board like that in my life. Every time we showed up to a meeting they were not willing to listen to us," said Mrs. Lane, fighting back tears. "I wish the president of the board could model himself more like Mr. Pearce, someone who is willing to actually hear us.

"I hope this is able to work, because the elementary level is what I am worried about. That school is an awesome school. I don't care what they say. For a parent living in Luna Pier, it is the ultimate situation. We are losing a great thing."

As for the future of the school building, the board expressed optimism that the building still had a place in the community.

"I do believe there will be a use for that building so it could be a very treasured part of the community," said Mr. Swick. "It is an avenue we would pursue wholeheartedly. It is my hope that we can find a way to keep that building alive and viable."

INSIDE LOCAL GOVERNMENT
– a guide to governmental agencies around the Monroe County region

UP NEXT

Bedford to consider drug paraphernalia law

BEDFORD TOWNSHIP – Tonight, the township board of trustees will consider implementing a drug paraphernalia ordinance that would give deputies from the Monroe County Sheriff's Office more enforcement capabilities in the township.

According to Supervisor R. LaMar Frederick, officials from the sheriff's Bedford substation approached the township with a request that the board consider putting the ordinance on the books. He said it makes sense for the township to at least discuss the matter.

"The lieutenant has asked us to consider implementing an ordinance to provide them with support in their crackdown of drug paraphernalia in Bedford," he said.

In other business, the board will discuss a proposal to rehabilitate a portion of Sterns Rd. between Lewis Ave. and Jackman Rd. and consider a resolution to recognize the retirement of Audrey Warrick, the outgoing president of Monroe County Community College.

The Bedford Township Board of Trustees will meet at 7 p.m. at Bedford Township Hall, 8100 Jackman Rd., in Temperance.

Flat Rock okays share of Gibraltar Rd. repaving

FLAT ROCK – The City of Flat Rock has approved its share of resurfacing a major portion of Gibraltar Rd. from Telegraph Rd. east to Cahill Rd., a project that will be handled by Wayne County.

The city will pay 20 percent of the total cost, or about $76,000 toward the estimated $380,000 improvement, the city council learned Monday night. The city also will be required to pay a proportionate share of any change orders that might be approved by the county during the course of construction, David Grunow, city attorney, said in a letter.

The city also is responsible for removing and relocating any utilities as needed, Mr. Grunow said.

The road upgrading is badly needed, Mayor Richard C. Jones said. Gibraltar, a key east-west artery connecting I-75 with Telegraph, is plagued with potholes and pavement breakup.

MEETINGS CALENDAR

TONIGHT

Exeter Township Planning Commission, planning workshop, 6 p.m.; regular meeting, 7, township hall, 6158 Scofield Rd., Maybee.

Erie Township Zoning Board of Appeals, 6:30 p.m., public hearing and regular meeting, township hall, 2065 Erie Rd., Erie.

Gibraltar Waterways Commission, 6:30 p.m., community center, 29340 S. Gibraltar Rd., Gibraltar.

Dundee Village Council, 7 p.m., council meeting room, Dundee Community Center, 242 Toledo St., Dundee.

Bedford Township Board, budget hearing and regular meeting, 7 p.m., township hall, 8100 Jackman Rd., Temperance.

Ash Township Zoning Board of Appeals, public hearing, 7:30 p.m., township hall, 1677 Ready Rd., Carleton.

Berlin Township Zoning Board of Appeals, public hearing and regular meeting, 7:30 p.m., wastewater treatment plant, 8000 Swan View Rd., Newport.

Ida Township Board, 7:30 p.m., township hall, 3016 Lewis Ave., Ida.

Huron Township Recreation Committee, 7:30 p.m., township hall, 37290 Huron River Dr., New Boston.

Estral Beach Village Council, 7:30 p.m., village hall, 7194 Lakeview Blvd., Estral Beach.

Raisinville Township Board, 7:30 p.m., township hall, 96 Ida-Maybee Rd.

Frenchtown Township Recreation Commission, 7:30 p.m., Frenchtown Recreation Center, 2786 Vivian Rd.

South Rockwood Zoning Board of Appeals, public hearing, 7 p.m., village hall, 5676 Carleton-Rockwood Rd., South Rockwood.

WEDNESDAY

Berlin Township Water Sewer Commission, 9 a.m., wastewater plant, 8000 Swan View Rd., Newport.

Dundee Parks and Recreation Board, 7 p.m., Dundee Community Center, 242 Toledo St., Dundee.

Rockwood City Council, 7 p.m., Rockwood City Hall, 32409 Fort St., Rockwood.

Monroe Citizen Planning Commission, public hearing and regular meeting, 7 p.m., council chambers, Monroe City Hall, 120 E. First St.

Monroe County Historical Commission, 7 p.m., Monroe County Historical Museum, 126 S. Monroe St.

Bedford Township Planning Commission, public hearing, 7 p.m., township hall, 8100 Jackman Rd., Temperance.

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NOTICE
The Monroe Automotive Federal Credit Union
will be closed
Thurs., June 5
So that the staff may attend funeral services for
Richard J. Matteson

Choice offers 'radio' on television

—AP photo by ROBERT SPENCER

Damon Williams is programming director for Music Choice, a broadcast service that operates 45 separate music channels for satellite and cable TV systems.

part of the mix.

The individual channels program a continuous stream of music, in formats set according to taste: rap, metal, jazz, blues, opera, gospel, show tunes, etc.

Even the popular genres are cut into narrow stylistic slivers. There's one channel for popular country chart hits, another for classic country artists, another for Americana and another for bluegrass. There are six separate rock stations, from soft to metal.

Music Choice has no disc jockeys (except occasionally on the rap station), no commercials. On screen is a graphic that identifies the song, artist and CD from which it originates.

It's essentially radio, minus the annoyances and local flavor, flowing through the television set.

Music Choice began in 1991 as a pay service on a handful of cable systems. Customers paid $10 a month for the music.

"It did well, but the model broke down very quickly," explained David Del Beccaro, the company's president. Music junkies loved it, but the service quickly hit a ceiling in terms of people willing to pay the monthly fee for something akin to radio, which they get for free. It's the same challenge that satellite radio faces today.

So Music Choice shifted to a more traditional TV business model, where cable or satellite systems pay a licensing fee to the company, and provide the channels to customers as part of basic service.

Music Choice has begun taking in advertisers, whose messages are displayed onscreen, not in audio commercials.

Today, it's available in nearly 30 million homes, more than one-quarter of the nation's 107 million homes with television. In the past year alone, Music Choice added seven million new homes.

"It's a huge difference," Del Beccaro said. "When we were in four or 10 million homes, we would run into a lot of people who didn't know we were around. At this point, every record company knows who we are."

So do many artists, judging by the increasingly cluttered wall at the company's Manhattan office. Musicians who stop for a visit are asked to add their autographs to the wall.

Music Choice airs the occasional concert; Fleetwood Mac and the Roots have given exclusive performances in recent months. For the most part, people use it passively, as background music when they vacuum the house, have a party or read a book.

Although Music Choice has what is essentially a Top 40 station (called "Hit List"), its strength is its depth. Most of the channels aren't repetitive, and can play several songs from an album instead of just one hit.

The one thing not offered in one place is variety on a single channel. There's no station where an adventurous listener can hear, for example, a bluegrass song followed by a rap or jazz cut or hard rocker.

It sounds good, but few listeners had the patience for it. "Whenever we did mixed formats, the listeners would go away," Del Beccaro said.

That's where "My Music Choice" comes in. The new service will allow viewers to create their own channels according to taste. A listener can program 10 percent bluegrass, 20 percent rap and 50 percent metal, if they want — or any other permutation.

d pros offer tips to child-care providers

at that point and needs all the help she can get to make it a good transition.

I agree with you, Abby, the child-care provider should step in if the children begin acting up — and the children should be warned that you'll use discipline if you need to. If the moment Mom walks in, the adults begin talking among themselves, that's the time kids act up. Mom should be told you'll call her later with any news. This is a kid's time to talk to Mom.

— Loves Kids in Oregon

Dear Loves Kids:

Those are good suggestions, and thank you for them. Now let's hear it from some other child-care professionals:

Dear Abby:

Having worked in child care more than 20 years, the best advice I can offer is this: When the misbehaving starts, ask the parent, "Would you like to handle this or do you want me to?" That way, you acknowledge the misbehavior and the fact that it must be dealt with, without undermining the parent.

Waiting until the next day to discipline the child would serve no useful purpose.

— A Pro in Henderson, Tenn.

Dear A.P.:

I agree.

Dear Abby:

It is not unusual for children to act up when the parents arrive. Here's how I handle it:

I talk to the children about their behavior before their parents get here. I have them ready to go so there's no chance for them to misbehave. And I offer them a reward — like a healthy snack — to take with them if they get ready to go without a fuss.

— Been There in Pennsylvania

Dear Been There:

Way to go! I see nothing wrong with providing an incentive for good behavior.

Jeanne Phillips writes the Dear Abby column, which was started by her mother, Pauline Phillips.

Problems? Write to Abby. For a personal, unpublished reply, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

All correspondence is confidential.

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FROM PAGE 1A

Nurse (cont.)

Vincent Mercy Medical Center Critical Care Transport Network. A route that would take an ambulance an hour to traverse takes Life Flight 15 minutes. Going from Toledo to Mercy Memorial Hospital takes eight minutes.

Mrs. Beauch has proven the Stephen Covey edict that in order to get what you want in life, begin with the end in mind. She started her career as a floor nurse at Mercy Hospital in Toledo. What she wanted was to become a flight nurse.

As a floor nurse, when her patient went into cardiac arrest she had to step aside to let others care for him. She watched in envy, her mind yearning to know what it would take to save a life.

"I'd look at those nurses and say, I want their knowledge," Mrs. Beauch of Lambertville said.

So she got it. A licensed practical nurse (LPN), she went to school on her days off and became a registered nurse. Her goal at the time was critical care. That was until one day, while talking to her supervisor, she watched Life Flight fly past the office window.

"They take the patients we can't care for," Mrs. Beauch thought, and a new goal was born.

She wanted to be responsible for the broken, the bleeding, the ones whose bodies were unsure whether the fight to live was worth the effort. She researched the requirements for flight nursing and made a plan to accomplish each one. Mrs. Beauch took nursing classes by day, emergency medical technician (EMT) classes at night. She graduated and got a job in the intensive care unit of Mercy Hospital. After a year she moved to emergency care at St. Vincent. She became certified in pediatric and neonatal advanced life support, basic trauma life support and advanced cardiac life support.

When her credentials were in order, Mrs. Beauch applied for a flight nurse position. She was interviewed and offered the job that same day.

That was nine years ago. Now one of her physician colleagues, Dr. James Ramseier, calls her "one of the best flight nurses out there." Mrs. Beauch's husband Doug marvels at her, telling her "no one should love going to work as much as you do."

There are several reasons she loves the job. First is the impact she can have on the patient. Second is the variety. Each call is different, and she is often in the air before she knows what kind of patient she will see. Third is the autonomy. On the ship, as Life Flight is called, there's no supervisor lording over her.

"I love it," she says. "These patients are the sickest. You help them, and you make a difference."

It's a satisfying job, but rarely an easy one. Sometimes the ship lifts off only to be called back to base. That could mean one of two things: either the injuries weren't that bad, or the patient died at the scene.

Sometimes what she sees in the field reminds her of those closest to her, and reminds her how precious life is.

There was the 17-year-old boy, the son of an EMS worker, who had collided with a semi. The kid was "one of ours," in a sense, Mrs. Beauch said. Firefighters at the scene pleaded with her to do everything she could to save him. One of the rescuers was his godfather.

Mrs. Beauch looked at the boy and saw another face, that of her own 17-year-old nephew. He, too, had just gotten his driver's license. One bad decision on the road had this boy teetering between life and death.

Mrs. Beauch did her job as best as she could. She cared for the boy, keeping him alive until he reached the hospital. But the injuries had too strong a grip on him. He died shortly after.

The passion for the job comes from those times when being there made a difference. Mrs. Beauch can relate countless stories of lives saved. But there's one about a life changed that fills her with pride. It was Christmas Eve, and Life Flight was called to an accident scene. Mrs. Beauch cared for the woman but she succumbed to her injuries.

About 2½ years later, Mrs. Beauch heard about a new nurse in the emergency room. He was older and had left a successful career in banking to become a nurse. His inspiration: the compassionate care his daughter received from Life Flight.

The thank-yous are what mean the most to Mrs. Beauch. A survivor who comes to visit, well again, their life resumed. This is important in a job that requires Mrs. Beauch to have total control over her emotions. No matter how badly injured, how young, how much in pain a patient is, Mrs. Beauch has to remain professional.

"You get in there and say, 'I have to take care of this patient,'" she said. "I never think about what the situation is, what's happening at the moment. I think, where's his family? What hospital are we going to? Then once you drop that patient off, there's that sense of relief or let-down. That's where you have to work through it."

Mrs Beauch was among those that responded to the school bus crash in Erie Township last year. She attended a stress debriefing session for emergency responders shortly after. These groups start out lightheartedly, a joke here and there to break the tension. Then one person says something real and soon there are tears and stories and the jokes are forgotten. And the next day, Mrs. Beauch is back onboard Life Flight, her focus firm, awaiting for the next opportunity to make a difference.

"You have to make split second decisions," she says. "The person is critical. You need to look at the whole picture to keep them alive. It's all about wanting to do more for the patient."

Store (cont.)

The chain hasn't said yet what its plans are for the remaining 24 Food Town stores, including seven others in the Monroe County region, though employees are telling customers that their stores are closing or are on the verge of being sold. Some of the stores have discontinued video rental operations, stopped accepting personal checks in some circumstances and canceled some advertising contracts.

"We're in the process of getting all of our stores prepared for some kind of transition, whether it means sale, closing or conversion," said Jeanne Norcross. "We are continuing discussions with various prospective purchasers."

She said the video rental was one of the services the chain felt it could discontinue without a great impact on store operations. She said the stores still accept personal checks for the amount of grocery purchases, but are not accepting checks for amounts greater than the purchase totals.

Ms. Norcross said the Fostoria and Temperance stores are to be closed because they didn't fit the criteria for sale or conversion.

Sales at 25 percent off will start Thursday to reduce the two stores' inventories. Ms. Norcross said some employees might be able to transfer to other stores, otherwise she said, the contract with the United Food & Commercial Workers has provisions for severance pay based on years of service. Employees and a manager at the Temperance store had no comment this morning on the planned closing.

But customers had plenty to say.

"I don't get it. It's always busy," said Robin Dunham of Temperance. "I come here daily. I have two children. It's just so convenient. I don't understand how this store is going under."

The 2000 Census showed Bedford Township had the greatest growth in the county. And with 28,000-plus residents – roughly 20 percent of the county's total population — it's the most populated township in Monroe County.

"I think its bologna," Anna Mae Winkleman of LaSalle said of the planned store closing. "They're building all these new homes out here... They need to keep it open for the employees and the customers."

Larry Danzeisen was born in Temperance 64 years ago and he says he's shopped at the store for many years.

"For my wife and I, this is really our store," he said. "We live just down the road here. We've shopped here since it was Francis Foods. But if you look at a map, the center of Bedford's population is shifting south."

He said when the store does close, he'll be "headed for Toledo" to do his shopping, despite another Food Town and a new Kroger recently built in nearby Lambertville at Sterns and Secor Rds.

"There's a Kroger at Alexis and Lewis," Mr. Danzeisen said. "Over there (at Sterns and Secor) is out of the way. It's easier to just drive into Toledo."

Many of the other people that spoke with The Evening News echoed that sentiment, claiming it's just as easy to drive straight down Lewis Ave. than it would be to traverse Sterns Rd. to the Secor intersection.

"The Kroger at Lewis and Alexis is just easier to get to," Mrs. Winkleman said. "That's where I'll go."

Spartan has been trimming Food Town operations over the past several months due to what it called intense competition in the Toledo grocery arena. It acquired the Food Town chain in late 2000. It closed five of the 43 Food Town stores late last year, including those in Flat Rock and Trenton, and another 13, mostly in Ohio, in April.

It said it would sell some of those remaining or convert them into The Pharm, a Spartan-owned deep discount drugstore chain.

The Temperance store is the smallest of the existing Food Town stores, but its history goes back to 1948 when Ray Francis bought the 1,500-square-foot Whitman's Market in Temperance from his father-in-law John Whitman and changed the name to Francis Foods.

It moved and expanded over the years until Mr. Francis sold it to Seaway Food Town Inc. in 1989 due to his advancing age and increasing competition. At the time, he told The Evening News it was difficult for an independent operator to compete in the market.

"Our industry has always operated on very narrow profit margins, but what is happening today makes it impossible for us to continue in the long run," he said at the time. Mr. Francis died in September.

Spartan Stores operates 81 supermarkets and 21 deep-discount drug stores in Michigan and Ohio, including the Food Towns, Ashcraft's Markets, Family Fare Supermarkets, Glen's Markets, Great Day Food Centers, Madison Family Market, Prevo's Family Markets and The Pharm.

It also distributes more than 40,000 private-label and national brand products to more than 330 independent grocery stores.

Response (cont.)

"I was coming in here this morning thinking about what we might do about it," he said, adding that the township's 23-member Economic Development Corp. (EDC) should be the first group to act. "(The closing in July) will cause our EDC to revisit its program for the revitalization of downtown Temperance."

That panel met in March to begin devising plans for spurring business growth in the downtown area at Temperance Rd. and Lewis Ave. The grocery store at 8926 Lewis Ave. anchors the other businesses in that corridor.

"We'll have to revisit our mission and see how to accommodate that closing," Mr. Frederick said. "It will be the loss of a significant draw to the downtown area. I will advise the township board tonight and ask for their thoughts. We have to find something to fill that void as quick as possible."

The store is expected to close by July. And with Bedford already being the most populated township in the county — and recent Southeastern Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) data suggesting it will grow by 25 percent by 2035 — area residents will be missing the service.

"We have these new subdivisions coming in and the folks could do some neighborhood shopping, but not now. They're going to have to travel to shop. Some of them will more than likely go to Toledo," Mr. Frederick said.

That's why he will commission the EDC with researching, attracting and fostering another business.

"I think our economic development corporation will take that on as a task to do what they can to find a new business to go in there. I am disappointed that the Spartan Food Group has decided to close the Temperance Food Town."

Deaths

William D Hayter Sr.

Aug. 20, 1950-June 2, 2003

NEWPORT – William Dennison Hayter Sr., 52, of Newport died at 7:30 a.m. Monday in his home. He had been in poor health for a year and seriously ill for a week.

Friends may call from 5 to 9 p.m. today and from noon to 9 p.m. Wednesday at Earle Little Funeral Home, Bacarella Chapel, Monroe, where services will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday. The Rev. Bobby Smith, pastor of Grape Missionary Baptist Church, Monroe, will officiate. Burial will be in Woodland Cemetery, Monroe.

WILLIAM D. HAYTER SR.

Born Aug. 20, 1950, in Monroe, he was the son of Keith and Anna (Burt) Hayter. He married Susie Dimeff in January, 1969, in Monroe. On Aug. 11, 1980, also in Monroe, he married Sandra Lee Weiler.

He was a construction laborer for Construction Laborers Local 465, Monroe, from 1970 until taking a medical retirement in 2002.

A lifelong area resident, he attended Monroe Public Schools and enjoyed hunting, fishing, the outdoors and taxidermy.

Surviving are his wife; three sons, William D. (Shana) Hayter Jr. and Michael J. (Connie) Hayter, both of Monroe and Joel Hardy of Southgate; three daughters, Bridgett (Shawn) Prajzner and Jaimie (Donald) Miller, both of Monroe, and Lindsay (Brian) Bennett of Ida; three brothers, John (Marylou) and David (Mary), both of Monroe, and Eugene of Florida; four sisters, Agnes (James) Stump, Dora (Harlie) Green and Joann (Clayton) Bailey, all of Monroe, and Beverly (Roland) Laura of Flat Rock, and 12 grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; three brothers, Robert, Richard and Charles, and a sister, Maryann Hayter.

Memorials may be made to American Cancer Society or Mercy Memorial Hospice of Monroe.

Richard J. Matteson

Aug. 24, 1924-June 2, 2003

Richard J. Matteson, 78, of Monroe died at 8 a.m. Monday in his home. He had been seriously ill for a month.

Friends may call from 6 to 9 tonight and from 1 to 9 p.m. Wednesday at Rupp Funeral Home, where a Blue Gavel Service will begin at 7 p.m. Wednesday. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday at the funeral home. The Rev. Stanley AuBuchon, pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, will officiate. Burial will be in Roselawn Memorial Park, LaSalle, where graveside services will be conducted by Monroe Post 1138, Veterans of Foreign Wars.

RICHARD J. MATTESON

Born Aug. 24, 1924, in Monroe, he was the son of George and Christina (Feldman) Matteson. He married June E. Schuster Sept. 4, 1948 at Trinity Lutheran Church.

He worked at Ford Motor Co.'s Monroe Stamping plant, retiring in 1985.

He served in the Army during World War II, from March 25, 1943, to Nov. 4, 1945, earning the European-African-Middle Eastern Medal with four bronze stars. He served in Northern France, Ardennes, the Rhineland and Central Europe.

Mr. Matteson, a member of Trinity Lutheran Church, was a life member of Monroe Post 1138, VFW, and American Legion. He also was a member of Monroe Boat Club and Sportsman Bowling League; a past commodore for Blue Gavel; past president of Monroe Automotive Federal Credit Union and Local 723, United Auto Workers; past chairman of UAW Senior Retirees and a member of Monroe Senior Citizens.

Surviving are his wife; a son, Ronald R. of Monroe; a daughter, Jill L. (Scott) Lavigne of Monroe; two sisters, Wanda McLain and Betty Jones, both of Monroe; three granddaughters, and a great-grandson.

He was preceded in death by two brothers, Jack and George, and a sister, Maryann Merkle.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Trinity Lutheran Church or Mercy Memorial Hospice of Monroe.

Violet Spry

May 20, 1919-June 2, 2003

CARLETON – Services have been set for Violet Spry, 84, of Carleton, who died Monday at TenderCare of Monroe.

Friends may call until 9 tonight at Arthur Bobcean Funeral Home's Carleton chapel, where services will be held at noon Wednesday. The Rev. David W. Jones, pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, will officiate. Burial will be in Huron Valley Cemetery, Flat Rock.

Born May 20, 1919, in Carter County, Ky., she was the daughter of Matthew and Lula (Hamilton) Parker. She married John Spry July 13, 1936, in Kentucky. He died April 13.

A homemaker, she enjoyed gardening, cooking and reading the Bible. She had lived in Carleton for more than 40 years.

Surviving are two sons, Johnny (Laura) of Detroit Beach and Kenneth (Betty) of Rose City; two daughters, Donna (Joe) Scheuer of Newport and Pamela (Charles) Perkins of Carleton; three sisters, Mary Lore of Lorain, Ohio, Ora McGuire of Portsmith, Ohio, and Maggie Smith of Quaker City, Ohio; 14 grandchildren, and 23 great-grandchildren.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by two daughters, Marie Spry and Carylon Johnston; three brothers, Russel, Frank and Woodrow, and three sisters, Goldie Davis, Sophie Lawhorn and Hazel James.

Memorials may be made to Mercy Memorial Hospital.

Irma A. Lehmann

Jan. 2, 1913 – June 1, 2003

Irma A. Lehmann, 90, of Monroe died at 2:15 p.m. Sunday at TenderCare of Monroe. She had been ill for nine years.

Services were held this morning at St. Mary Catholic Church. Burial was to be in Calvary Cemetery, Toledo. Rupp Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Born Jan. 2, 1913, in Toledo, she was the daughter of Peter F. and Hattie (Seeman) Graff. She married Charles W. Lehmann Oct. 9, 1934, at St. John Catholic Church, Toledo. He died May 4, 1987.

A graduate of St. Ursula Academy in Toledo, she also was a member of St. Mary Catholic Church and a former member of St. John Catholic Church, Toledo, and its Christian Mothers.

Surviving are a son, Paul F. (Rose) Lehmann of Monroe; two sisters, Loretta (Fred) Drews and Ruth Philabaum, both of Toledo; six grandchildren, and 15 great-grandchildren.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by two sons, Robert G. and William C.; two brothers, Frank and Al, and a sister, Joann Clark.

Betty M. Havekost

MOUNT PLEASANT – Betty M. Havekost, 76, of Mount Pleasant, formerly of Monroe, died at 8:21 a.m. Monday in the emergency room at Central Michigan Community Hospital.

Services are pending at the Earle Little Funeral Home, Bacarella chapel.

Betty J. Brenner

TEMPERANCE – Betty J. Brenner, 82, of Temperance died at 6:52 p.m. Monday at St. Anne Mercy Hospital, Toledo.

Services are pending at Michael W. Pawlak Funeral Home.

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Margaret P. Jones

Margaret P. Jones, 84, of Monroe, died at 1 p.m. Sunday in Mercy Memorial Hospital, where she had been since Friday.

Friends may call from 2 to 8 p.m. tonight at the Bennett Funeral Home where services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday. Pastor Jonathon Perry of New Life Pentecostal in Toledo, will officiate. Burial will be in Roselawn Memorial Park Cemetery.

Born January 9, 1919, in Young Creek, KY, she was the daughter of Alonzo and Samantha (Rains) Hamblin. She married Jess Jones June 12, 1937 in Monroe. He passed away October 12, 1996. Margaret was a homemaker and attended Monroe Apostolic Church.

She is survived by a son, Jerry A. Jones of Monroe; a daughter, Brenda Hagen of Stalwart, MI; 5 grandchildren, Prudence Jones, Jerry Allen Jones Jr., Kellie (Tim) Hagen-Constantineau, Larry (Shelby) Hagen Jr., Donnie Robert (Melissa) Hagen; 6 great-grandchildren, Erika Kitts, Jessica Jones, Devin Jones, Heidi and Holly Hagen, Kade Hagen; a great-great-grandchild, Jasmine Kitts; sisters, Alice Lawson of Williamsburg, KY, and Mrs. (Edward) Martha Quinn of Bremen, IN.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by 2 brothers and 3 sisters.

Memorials may be made to New Life Pentecostal of Toledo.

(Paid Death Notice)

JUN 3 2003

Don't let terrorists deter Mideast peace, Bush say

—AP photo by PABLO MARTINEZ MO

President Bush (left) is greeted by Egyptian President Hosni Mu today outside Movenpick Convention Center in Sharm El-S Egypt, prior to a meeting with Arab leaders.

SHARM EL-SHEIK, Egypt (AP) — President Bush, entering the labyrinth of Mideast peace negotiations, told Arab leaders today that "a few people, a few killers, a few terrorists" cannot be allowed to prevent a settlement between Israelis and Palestinians.

"The world needs to have a Palestinian state that is free and at peace, and therefore my government will work with all parties concerned to achieve that vision," he told a summit of Arab leaders. He called for concessions from both sides.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, the summit host, welcomed Bush's call for Palestinian and Israeli states existing side-by-side, each enjoying "peace and security."

Bush looked for a commitment from the Arab leaders to end violence and move toward peace with Israel. Such a statement, considered likely, would strengthen Bush's hand in winning corresponding concessions from Israel.

The Arab summit came a day before Bush's meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and his Palestinian counterpart, Mahmoud Abbas, in Jordan. It marks his first formal entry into Middle East peace negotiations.

The leaders, from Egypt, Jordan, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, and the Palestinian Authority — first talked privately, without staff members, before beginning a more formal session. Bush shook hands with the leaders and then joined them at a large octagonal table in front of a stand of flags of participating nations.

"We must not allow a few people, a few killers, a few terrorists, to destroy the dreams and hopes of the many," he said.

At the same time, Bush made clear that Arabs and Israelis both bear responsibility for achieving peace.

"Israel must deal with the settlements, Israel must
sure there's a continuou
ritory that the Palestinian
call home," he said.

He said the Arab le
must close off sources of
ing to terrorists and pr
"the terror from gaini
foothold," as he said they
promised.

"It's in their own self-in
to enable a Palestinian st
emerge," he said.

Pointing directly at A
Bush said, "You sir have
responsibility, and y
assumed it. I want to
with you and so do the
leaders here."

SARS fight far from over, China say

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — Taiwan reported only one new SARS infection today, the island's lowest daily increase since its epidemic began, while hardest-hit China warned that despite its decline in cases the battle against the disease was "far from over."

In Canada's largest city, health officials said there may be a public review of the handling of a renewed outbreak of the illness that came after SARS was thought to be under control. SARS has claimed 32 lives in Toronto, making it the largest outbreak outside of Asia.

At a SARS-prevention conference in China, a top health official said the communist government would not let down its guard — after announcing no new cases the previous day. Officials later today reported three new SARS cases on the mainland, but no new deaths.

"We must maintain sharp vigilance and continue the prevention and treatment initiatives unremittingly," China's executive deputy health minister, Gao Qiang said. "We are fully aware that the fight against SARS in China is far from over."

Some participants cited Toronto as an example of the dangers of relaxing pr
tion measures too early.

Monday, officials in To
announced 10 new cases
disease and one more fa
Dr. Colin D'Cunha, the On
commissioner of p
health, said 6,800 people
now under home quara
for possible exposure.

Calls for a public inqui
Canada came after nu
accused hospital officia
ignoring warnings
Toronto's latest outb
Ontario officials a
Monday to take a look bu
it should not be a fo
inquiry that would a
blame.

Treatment of post 9-11 detainees defended

WASHINGTON (AP) — The FBI took too long to determine whether hundreds of foreigners held after the Sept. 11 attacks were involved with terrorism, as dozens endured "lock-down" conditions 23 hours each day and slept under bright lights, according to a long-awaited oversight report by Justice Department investigators.

In some cases, foreigners held at a nine-story prison in Brooklyn, N.Y., were asked by guards, "Are you okay?" If they answered yes, guards assumed they had waived their opportunity to contact a lawyer by phone, which they were allowed to do once each week.

The inspector general's report found "significant problems" in the Bush administration's actions toward 762 foreigners held on immigration violations after Sept. 11. Only one, Zacarias Moussaoui, has been charged with any terrorism-related crime; 505 have been deported.

"We make no apologies for finding every legal way possible to protect the American public from further terrorist attacks," Justice spokeswoman Barbara Comstock said. U.S. laws were "scrupulously followed and respected," she said.

The report fell short of alleging that Justice Department policies toward the detainees violated their civil rights or any federal laws.

It also noted that "nearly all" the detainees had violated immigration laws, such as overstaying visas or entering the country illegally.

Under U.S. law, the government has up to 90 days to deport or release detainees. But it can hold them much longer if they're connected to a terrorism or criminal investigation.

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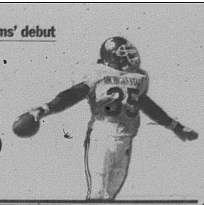
■ Photos of the year
1E/Living

■ Enduring county businesses
1D/Business

■ MSU wins Williams' debut
1B/Sports ▶



Today
Rain likely
high 50°

Tonight
Cloudy
low 42°

6A/Weather

THE MONROE
Sunday News
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Note to readers

To smooth production flow during the holiday period, the Sunday Business section appears as part of the Classified section today. It will resume its normal position as a separate section within the newspaper Jan. 9. In addition, the weekly stock listings appear on Page 5A of today's newspaper, not in the Business section.

Today's obituaries

- **Ralph M. Ballard,** 89, of Monroe.
- **Ann Cecelia Gianno,** 75, of Monroe.
- **Martin H. Harvath,** 84, of Monroe.
- **Veronica Riley,** 52, of Dundee.
- **Helen D. Dusseau,** 82, of Monroe.
- **Genevieve E. Rosenberger,** 88, of Monroe.
- **Carl L. Lange,** 79, of New Boston.
- **Kenneth G. Zaenger,** 86, of Toledo, formerly of Luna Pier.
- **Rose Marie Frank,** 82, of Monroe.
- **Charlotte Curtiss Guidi,** 100, of Temperance.
- **Robert Hoye,** 69, of Monroe.
- **Sister Dorothy Rouse,** 89, of Monroe.
- **Elmer A. Navarre,** 55, of Frenchtown Township.
- **Raymond C. Montry,** 90, of Carleton.
- **Harry E. Betts,** 75, of Monroe.

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Weather 6A
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Dundee braces for Cabela's

■ It is now less than a year before Cabela's, the outdoor superstore, opens in the Village of Dundee. Will it change everyone's life there forever?

By SCOTT NEINAS
Evening News staff writer

DUNDEE –To Dundee residents the year, depending on how you look at it, is either A.D. 2000 or 1 B.C.

The B.C., of course, stands for Before Cabela's.

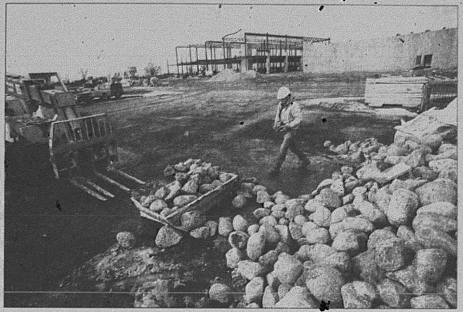
If the predictions of experts come true, the Village of Dundee, Dundee Township and perhaps the western side of Monroe County will be forced to shed any illusions of it being "small town" once the biggest outdoor equipment retailer in the world sets up shop come October.

The announcement in April that Cabela's would bring its superstore to western Monroe County raised concerns as quickly as it has raised property values. The 220,000-square-foot hunter and fisherman's paradise is expected to transform Dundee from a quiet river village into a regional tourist destination, mentioned now in the same breath as Frankenmuth and Mackinac Island.

The $60 million development is expected to attract six million customers a year, or about 45,000 vehicles a weekend. Located on the northwest corner of US-23 and M-50, the Cabela's site sprawls 150 acres and will be home to a huge outdoor equipment megastore.

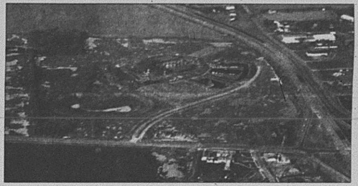
Greg Deppa, a project superintendent working at the site, said it will be a sight to behold — if it isn't one already because of the massive construction job.

"You won't see a better building in the country or the world, for that matter, in terms of uniqueness," Mr. Deppa said.



—Evening News photo by MATTHEW SMOLINSKY

A worker loads stones to be used in the constuction of Cabela's Thursday afternoon on the building site in Dundee. An October, 2000, opening is planned for the store. The aerial photograph below shows the site of Cabela's in relation to U.S. 23 and M-50.



Project coming together

Groundbreaking was last fall and already the building is coming together. Two 100-ton cranes lift and place steel support beams into place for the mammoth superstructure. Ten-foot-by-30-foot concrete slabs for walls are stacked on top of each other to form what will become the structure's south wall. And in the northeast corner, huge triangular wooden support beams sit atop concrete columns.

The columns are held together by a superstructure of steel equal to about 20 truckloads, construction officials say.

Kraus-Anderson, the Minnesota-based contractor for the project, says it is fully on schedule for the anticipated Oct. 1 opening.

Mr. Deppa said the unseasonably warm weather has helped the more than 40 subcontracted firms to get the job done on time.

"You have an 'x' amount of days to put it together, whether they're nice days or bad ones, but right now, everything is looking good," Mr. Deppa said.

The building itself will be about 400 feet deep and 400 feet wide. And rising 74 feet into the sky will be a glass and steel cupola, extending 25-30 feet above the roof.

Surrounding the store will be a six-acre fresh water lake stocked with game fish, an RV park with room for 1,500 vehicles, and a nature trail. Plans call for restaurants and service stations to dot the perimeter. Ample parking will be available and, for those who like to fish and fly, a helicopter pad will be on site.

And that's just the outside.

Inside, the store will feature a gargantuan mountain replica complete with streams, waterfalls and a trout pond; three aquariums holding 60,000 gallons of water, an auditorium, educational center, a shooting gallery for kids, a live bait shop, a dog kennel, a horse corral and a gun museum, to name a few things.

At the entrance will be a bronze wildlife statue unique to the Michigan store. Company officials are keeping the kind of animal under wraps, but say it will be unveiled a few days before the store opens.

More growth inevitable

When the Cabela's announcement was unveiled in Dundee April 30, the village immediately

See CABELA'S, Page 3A

1. Story of the year

It has been nine months since officials from the Village of Dundee and Cabela's announced plans to build a 220,000-square-foot outdoor store just west of US-23.

Since then, much progress has been made on the $60 million development that is expected to bring millions of people into Monroe County. And, while government officials continue to approve more of the documents related to Cabela's coming to Dundee, citizens remain wary of what the impact of such a huge development will have on their lives.

Because of its potential impact, and the attention paid to it already in 1999, The Evening News staff has chosen Cabela's as the story of the year for 1999.

The other stories on the Top 10, plus a list of honorable mention choices can be found on pages 1C and 8C today.

Monroe ushers in the millennium

County welcomes year 2000 with fireworks, dancing

By EVENING NEWS STAFF

Even without any Y2K problems, it was a New Year's Eve to remember in Monroe County.

Events ranging from fireworks and a street dance to a large champagne-and-dinner party in Carleton and the dropping of a Times Square-like ball in downtown Monroe helped usher in the new millennium.

Several thousand revelers spent New Year's Eve in downtown Monroe to boogie on Cass St. and watch a 25-minute fireworks display along the River Raisin. Spectators lined the Monroe St. bridge, St. Mary's Park and along the riverfront on the south side of the river to watch the pyrotechnics' spectacle.

It was the best New Year's Eve ever for Stephanie Pippig, a 17-year-old exchange student from Germany who took in the downtown festivities dubbed "MY2K" and planned by the Monroe County Convention and Tourism Bureau

"It's been great," the Monroe High School senior said as she watched the bombs burst in the air with her host family, Nick and Kathleen Ebli and their daughter, Tori. "I've seen fireworks before, but not this big."

La-Z-Boy Inc. sponsored the fireworks, which lit up the sky with fountains, aerial bombs and multi-color explosions. Less than two hours later, most of the revelers stayed to watch a steel ball illuminated with 600 white bulbs descend 100 feet from a crane. Mayor C.D. (Al) Cappuccilli and his wife, Tavi, led the crowd in counting down to midnight from a fire truck bucket about 50 feet in the chilly night air. Nearby on the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. foot bridge, a ban-

See MONROE, Page 6A

— Evening News photo by CARY CONOVER

People gather in front of St. Mary's Church at the corner of N. Monroe St. and W. Elm Ave. to watch the fireworks display

Yawn2K may be century's most memorable non-event

By CHARLES SLAT
Evening News staff writer

Water and electricity still flowed to homes and businesses, toilets still flushed and gasoline stations still pumped fuel after midnight around Monroe County and around most of the world, turning the Y2K computer scare into what may become known as one of the biggest non-events of the century.

Yet hundreds of companies had thousands of employees working through midnight to make sure they'd be prepared if something went radically wrong.

But nearly everything seemed to be going right as the New Year dawned.

Though Detroit Edison Co. reported a few scattered power outages through the evening, reliability of its electrical system leading up to and beyond midnight proved better than on most normal winter nights, officials said.

"We came through it extremely well. We didn't see any impacts at all," said Anthony F. Earley Jr., chairman and chief executive officer of DTE Energy, Edison's parent company. "In terms of outages, we've had no customers who have lost power within the last four hours," he said at around 12:20 a.m.

He said about 30 customers were reported without power in the company's southeastern Michigan service area earlier in the evening, none the result of Y2K issues. "That's unusual for a winter's night. We've been blessed by good weather and we didn't have too many cars sliding into poles – yet," he said.

And Consumers Energy spokesman Jon Hall said his utility also "had a few outages around the system, although not Y2K-related." He characterized them as isolated and very minor. No Consumers outages had been reported in Monroe County by 12:30 a.m.

Michigan Gas Utilities continued to provide natural gas service to much of Monroe County and area

See YAWN, Page 6A

JAN 2 2000

Briefly

Newborn given age of 100 by mistake

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (AP) — The computer correctly listed Julia Amalia Christl's birth at 12:01 a.m., Jan. 1, 2000, but missed her age by a century.

The computer printing the mother's bracelet calculated Julia's age as 100. It was a rare computer mistake as the hospital entered the new year free of any serious Y2K problems, said Terri Bryson, spokeswoman for Huntsville hospital.

Julia weighed in at 7 pounds, 4 ounces. Her parents are Mark and Ligia Christl of Huntsville.

Hacker provides bit of chaos

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — When the clock struck midnight in Oklahoma, the Web site for the state Office of Civil Emergency Management warned: "Get ready for chaos."

The message had Web site managers perplexed for a while. But the problem was quickly diagnosed: It was a prank from a software vendor who provided a millennium countdown clock incorporated into the Web site.

"We fixed it," department spokesman Ben Frizzell said. "What our message says now is 'Happy New Year.' "

Gov. Frank Keating said: "No one has any reason to be concerned. That appears to be an act of mischief in the software."

Streaking sparks crowd riot

WHITEFISH, Mont. (AP) — Four naked women streaking through a Montana ski resort town triggered a riot early Saturday. Fifteen people were arrested.

Police Chief William LaBrie said the riot began about 15 minutes into New Year's Day when the women ran nude down Central Ave. Officers caught and arrested three of them on indecent exposure charges.

But more than 400 people spilled out of the surrounding bars and began pelting police with bottles, snowballs, rocks and fireworks, LaBrie said.

The police called in help from the sheriff's department, the Montana Highway Patrol, the U.S. Border Patrol and the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad Police.

The 12 men arrested were released from jail Saturday morning as they sobered up, police said, and the three streakers were freed on $150 bail each. As for the fourth streaker, police said they had a good description.

Bystander struck by stray bullet

PHOENIX (AP) — A teenager was struck in the head by a rifle bullet fired into the air by someone celebrating the new year.

Doctors removed the slug from the base of Gabriel Vergara Jr.'s skull, about an inch above his spine.

"I felt like a baseball hit my head, then I realized I was shot," the 14-year-old said.

Gabriel was shot early Saturday as he hugged his aunt in the yard of his home, where they were trying to watch the downtown fireworks.

Gabriel said he felt lucky to be alive and was praying for the shooter. "Just tell God I forgive him," he said.

In one Phoenix neighborhood, gunfire could be heard steadily for about two minutes after midnight. Three men were arrested for shooting in the air.

Man falls from fire escape, dies

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (AP) — A New Year's reveler watching the festivities in the streets fell to his death down a fire escape minutes before the arrival of the new millennium.

Shawn Wolfe, 34, had climbed the fire escape to watch the celebration in Armory Square, a popular nighttime entertainment spot, police said.

He suffered neck and head injuries.

After the party, relief, clea

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the first morning of 2000 it was so quiet at Louisville International Airport in Kentucky that police officer Robin Cull sat down at the piano in the rotunda and played herself some songs.

"I was just serenading the lonely hallways," she said.

A peace not unlike hers descended on planet Earth Saturday after the biggest world party in history. The fireworks and singing and dancing were over, the multimillion-strong crowds from Rome to Rio de Janeiro had scattered, and the cleanup crews moved in.

London estimated its litter at four times the normal amount, 15 percent of it empty champagne bottles. There were 35 tons of garbage to remove from the streets around New York's Times Square.

"This is wonderful and historic," said Stephen Freeze, 53, a postal worker, as he filled a bag with bright confetti. "I figure we'll send some to friends in Arizona, and some to Tulsa, Okla. ..."

"This is the worst mess I've ever seen — and I've been cleaning up after New Year's and after ticker tape parades for 15 years," said sanitation worker John Hartmann.

Having gotten through midnight to find that ATM machines, subway trains, airports and electricity were functioning normally, people argued about the huge sums spent to fix the Y2K computer bug.

"I think they went overboard. Too much," said Johnnie Bennett, interviewed at a Montgomery, Ala., pharmacy. "They're always saying the state needs more money. Then all of the money is spent on Y2K." Alabama state officials said $120 million was spent on

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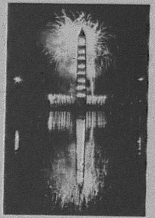

—AP photo

Fireworks illuminate the Washington Monument at the turn of the century. After the celebration, workers had a big job ahead of them to clean-up the mess.

Experts say Y2K bug still may pack a punch

NEW YORK (AP) — After the 21st century dawned without a crippling Y2K catastrophe, some people branded the millennium bug an exaggerated threat, a huge angst-washed waste of money that got mounds more attention than it deserved.

Not so fast, the experts said Saturday.

Tens of millions of the world's business systems have yet to reboot. And why should anyone be surprised that the computers guiding the globe's vital power, telecommunications and air traffic infrastructure didn't fail?

Their software was the focus of the most diligent millennium bug removal efforts. Experts never expected anything but a few failures in such systems.

"Throughout the world I think you'll find that almost a trillion dollars was spent on Y2K work. There ought to be some results," said Ian Hugo, a British information technologist who helped write his country's standards.

"The more cautionary news is that only 10 percent of the world's systems went to the gym last night. Ninety percent of them weren't exercising," noted Howard Rubin, a leading Y2K expert in the United States who was nevertheless amazed at how well the world did.

Institutions including the CIA and U.S. State Department had said the year 2000 computer problem might spawn major blackouts or phone outages in countries including Russia, Ukraine and Indonesia.

None of that appears to have happened so far, though a slew of glitches — from merely nagging to worrisome — were reported.

The Pentagon said Saturday that a failure in a ground-based system prevented officials from handling information from some U.S. intelligence satellites for a few hours on Friday night. France said one of its defense satellite systems lost the ability to detect equipment failures.

Hospitals in Sweden and Egypt reported non-lethal bug bites in medical equipment, a computer linked to radiation monitoring systems seized up at Japanese nuclear power plant and door locks sealing off sensitive areas refused to open at nuclear plants in Arkansas and Spain.

"Things are looking very good," said Bruce McConnell, director of the World Bank-funded International Y2K Cooperation Center. "This is consistent with, although on the bright side, of our prediction of few if any serious disruptions."

He cautioned, though, that it's too early to declare victory.

ATTENTION KMART SHOPPERS
In the Kmart January 2, 2000 weekly ad circular on page 10 features GameBoy Game "Army Men". This item will not be available due to the manufacturer's delay in shipping.
We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused our customers.
Kmart SM

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—AP photo

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Johnnie Bennett,
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computer readiness.

"Better to be cautious than to be sorry in the end," said Bruce Stolts, who works in a nearby electronics store.

Many more systems still await their Y2K test, starting Monday when the world — particularly the financial world — goes back to work and reboots its computers.

In Minnesota, the Duluth News Tribune summed up the rollover with a succinct "Piece of Y2Kake."

The New York Times' headline said simply, "1/1/00." And for Roman numerals buffs, MCMXCIX became just plain MM.

Fighting raged in Chechnya and in many other corners of the world, but the 214-year-old Times of London was able to open its Jan. 1 editorial with the observation that "This is the first century in the history of The Times which Britain has been able to greet as a nation not at war."

After two world wars and the fall of communism, the paper said, "most people believe another global conflict to be unthinkable."

Still, it warned, traditional modes of warfare were giving way to new forms of ethnic and religious conflict that would need new peacemaking tactics.

The millennium helped put many in a reflective mood.

Outside a supermarket in Conyers, Ga., Elva Martin, 73, thought of world wars and the Depression. "I remember the young men coming around begging for food for their families," she said. "It just makes me wish that now we are starting a new century that all the killing would be over and we start opening our hearts to one another."

Her daughter, Timmie Bailey, a 44-year-old insurance adjuster, said: "It was just another day to me. I've got to go back to work on Monday. I do feel like the baby boom generation is incredibly lucky. They haven't had to deal with anything like other people in this century like war or Depression and we ought to keep that in mind as we look ahead."

Fred Miller, a retired chemist in Nashville, Tenn., felt upbeat. He said his family had an outhouse and no telephone when he was born in 1934, and on New Year's Day 2000 he was shopping for his first home computer.

"When you consider what's been accomplished technologically in the last 50 years, it could be twice that in the next 50," he said. "The sky's the limit!"

Several local municipalities working in cooperation with the Monroe County Solid Waste Coordinators Office, are providing Christmas Tree Chipping Program for residents of their communities.

1999 Christmas Tree Chipping Program

- Bedford Township Hall
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- Ida Township Hall
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- Monroe Charter Township Hall
  4925 West Dunbar Road, Monroe
  (734) 241-5501
- City of Petersburg/Summerfield Township
  New Location:
  87 Railroad Street (DPW Yard), Petersburg
  (734) 279-1210

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Monroe County Solid Waste Coordinator
For Information: 734-240-7677 Maureen Pfund, R.S.

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Briefly

Woman held after break-in at estate

WAILUKU, Hawaii (AP) — A woman arrested inside George Harrison's Maui estate a week before the former Beatle was stabbed in London was being held on $5,000 bail.

Cristin Keleher is scheduled to be arraigned Jan. 11 on charges of first-degree burglary and fourth-degree theft.

Prosecutors said Keleher had been stalking Harrison. Don Carroll, who manages the estate, said she had approached him in October and said she wanted to meet Harrison.

After she was arrested Dec. 23, Keleher told police she had walked into the home through an open sliding glass door.

"She said she had cooked a frozen pizza, drank a root beer soda, she was doing her laundry and she had made a long-distance call to her mother in New Jersey," officer Jeffrey Hunt said.

Harrison was stabbed in the chest by an intruder in his mansion near London early Thursday. He was treated for a collapsed right lung.

Diaz items stolen; guard arrested

LOS ANGELES (AP) — An airport security checkpoint wasn't very secure for Cameron Diaz, who walked away from the scanners minus $7,000 and her passport.

A security guard operating an X-ray machine at Los Angeles International Airport was arrested for investigation of grand theft on Thursday after Diaz noticed the cash and her passport missing, said airport spokeswoman Nancy Castles.

A surveillance videotape showed the guard taking the items from Diaz's purse, Castles said. The stolen items were recovered.

The guard's name was not immediately released. She worked for a private company that operates the X-ray machines.

Canal passes first test for Panama

PANAMA CITY, Panama (AP) — Ships crossed the isthmus of Panama without problems Saturday, the nation's first full day as sole administrator of the canal. Popular concern about the canal's security, however, remained.

The transfer of the waterway and surrounding property from the United States to Panamanian hands was finalized at noon Friday, ending 85 years of American control. Panamanians celebrated what they described as the start of full sovereignty.

There were no reports of problems stemming from the feared Y2K computer glitch. Canal authorities had stressed that operations would go smoothly since the technology used to run the canal is largely the same as it was when it opened in 1914.

Authorities had closely watched electricity and water generators for any trouble.

"Everything has come out well. ... All is normal without any problems," a Canal Authority spokeswoman said, speaking on condition of customary anonymity.

Distraught father kills family, self

READING, Pa. (AP) — A machine-shop foreman shot and killed his wife and her three children Saturday, then called 911 to admit to the slayings and committed suicide, authorities said.

The bodies of Henry Peffer, 46, and his wife, Kimberly, 27, were found in a breakfast nook in their modest brick home, said coroner John Lampros.

Mrs. Peffer's three children — ages 5, 8 and 15 — were found together in an upstairs bedroom, Lampros said. Two were dead when police arrived. The youngest died at a hospital.

Police described the murder weapon as a revolver.

When Peffer called 911, he told operators that he could not take it any more and had just shot his family.

"He admitted to it, and then we lost contact," said Sandra Haller, a supervisor at the Berks County emergency communication center in Reading.

Whatever drove Peffer to murder his family remained a mystery to his relatives and friends.

"He was always very happy and we had talked recently," said his brother, Jim Orrs.

FROM PAGE 1A

Cabela's (cont.)

April 30, the village immediately seemed to grow in size. But the grand plans haven't been without opposition.

In negotiations that strained relations between the village and the township, a land transfer agreement was worked out between the two governmental bodies that saw township parcels on the Cabela's site go to the village in a settlement.

Both entities worked together with millions of dollars in future tax revenue at stake.

Village officials give conservative estimates of the development annually bringing in $1.7 million in property tax revenue alone, to be shared by the village, township, the county, Monroe County Community College and Dundee Community Schools.

Cabela's is fronting the village $12 million for infrastructure improvements that include a million-gallon water tower, a circular water line with new mains along Riley St. as well as a main that will bore beneath US-23 connecting the Cabela's property with the rest of the village, a widening of M-50, and added traffic lights on Tecumseh St. as well as new, longer exit ramps.

The village will return the money to Cabela's by way of refunded property tax payments for the next 16 years.

That subject was the focus of a recent village council meeting that showed a village divided.

Most of the 50 people at the meeting were there to express concern over the project. They said that traffic is bad enough as it is in their town – without Cabela's.

"Can you tell me how I can make a left-hand turn into Denny's, legally?" one women asked rhetorically.

Community controversy

Kim Younger, who is running for a council president against James Roe in the village's March election, said the issue has divided the community.

"There is so much mistrust in this town right now, and it's sad," Ms. Younger said. "Most of us didn't find out about this until August of this year."

The most recent population estimates show 6,100 people combined in Dundee Township and the Village of Dundee. Some of those residents expressed contempt with the council's decision to bring Cabela's in, saying they moved to Dundee to escape traffic jams and big commercial development. But village officials maintain that they were as open about the project as they could be and that the village needed a commercial anchor for its tax base to pay for better roads and schools.

Also, they say, the 680 jobs the store will create will help other businesses flourish in Dundee.

Village Manager Pat Burtch said the extra tax income generated by the project will ease future budget problems for the village. "Hopefully, it will offset future tax increases," Mr. Burtch said.

Darrell Powell, who is the current president of the village council, said the store will benefit village businesses. "It's a real plus for downtown businesses; they should be more reliable and they'll pick up more customers," Mr. Powell said.

That is, if they can handle them.

Business boom

Merchants are scrambling now to prepare for the droves of cars that will descend upon the Dundee commercial district to shop for things not necessarily used for hunting and fishing.

Jerry Missler, owner of Farmer's Market at 601 Tecumseh St., says he "can't wait" for the store to open.

"I'm supposed to handle one percent of (Cabela's) overflow. I'm not going to have enough parking spaces," Mr. Missler said, adding that his store will offer more "specialty stuff" like Omish jams and other gift items.

The Dundee Antique Shoppe, located in the village center, is going 'gift' as well. The front showroom, where before area antique dealers would sell their wares, now shows off dolls, candles and porceline figurines.

The 1920s cash register the store had been using is gone, replaced with a newer "automatic" model. "We had to update our cash register. If there's going to be as many people as they say," says Nancy Martinez, owner of the business, "we'll probably have to get an additional register."

No register will hold all the cash that property is now selling for along the Tecumseh St. corridor on the west side of town. Sources say property prices here skyrocketed soon after the April announcement that Cabela's was indeed coming.

A 4,000-square-foot bed and breakfast within a stone's throw of the highway is listed at $699,000.

"Property in that corridor, if it's zoned commercial, has just gone through the roof," one area resident said.

The selling spree extends beyond Tecumseh St.

A KOA campground in Summerfield Township which has property along US-23 about eight miles south of the soon-to-be Cabela's exit, recently went up for sale, touting its property as being "close to Cabela's."

Other property owners with tracts of land near the highway in Milan and elsewhere could cash in on what Cabela's is calling the largest tourist attraction in Michigan. While some villagers say they are, or plan to, flee Dundee in search of mellower pastures, Cabela's is already drawing people to the area.

Ann Arbor resident Kevin Galbraith sat at McDonald's eating a burger Thursday. He had come to Dundee because he heard that a Cabela's was here. He was disappointed to see that it was still under construction.

"We'll be back," he said.

India, Pakistan argue about hijacking

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — Pakistani officials pledged Saturday to arrest the five Indian Airlines hijackers if they enter the country, but the officials denied India's claim that the hijackers already are there.

India said the hijackers are from Pakistan and have quietly slipped back into their homeland. Pakistan disagreed, saying it was on "high alert" to prevent the gang from entering its territory.

A day after the hijacking crisis ended in southern Afghanistan, the perpetrators remained elusive and mysterious figures.

There was still no definitive word on the names, nationalities or whereabouts of the men, who are the subject of increasingly bitter claims and counterclaims between rivals India and Pakistan.

The hijacking episode appeared likely to further raise tensions between the two countries, which are in an almost constant state of rhetorical conflict.

The hijackers fled the southern Afghan city of Kandahar Friday, releasing 155 hostages who they had held on board a plane for eight days.

In return, the hijackers won the release of three Muslim militants jailed in India.

Afghanistan's ruling Taliban militia on Friday gave the hijackers 10 hours to get out of the country, and Pakistan was the only state the group could realistically reach during that grace period.

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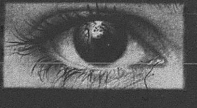

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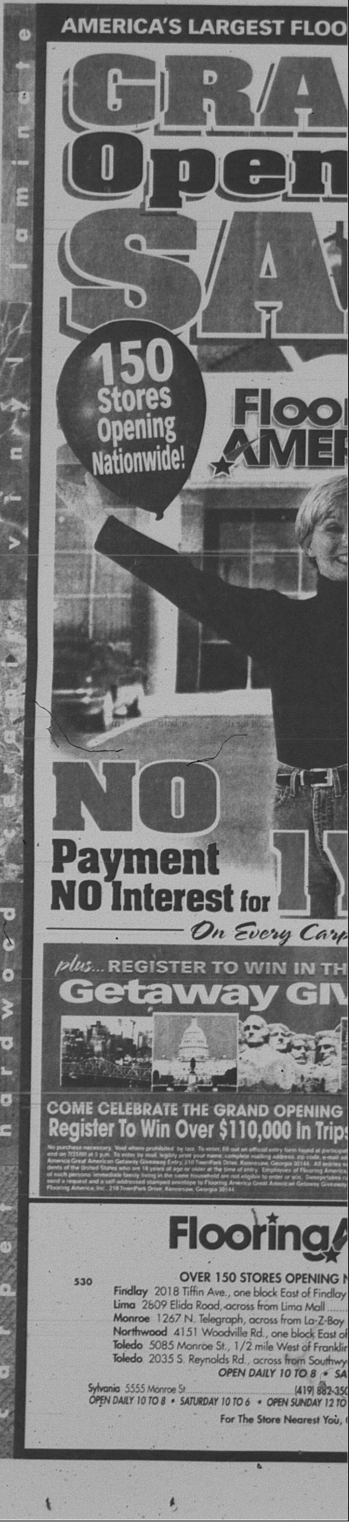

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Findlay 2018 Tiffin Ave., one block East of Findlay
Lima 2609 Elida Road, across from Lima Mall
Monroe 1267 N. Telegraph, across from La-Z-Boy
Northwood 4151 Woodville Rd., one block East of
Toledo 5085 Monroe St., 1/2 mile West of Franklin
Toledo 2035 S. Reynolds Rd., across from Southwy
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> ▶ *Ida, Jefferson, Mason, Summerfield and Whiteford each canceled classes today because of snow drifts made driving hazardous.*

needed plowed," Mr. Hooper said.

He added that the determination of whether to cancel classes is based solely on safety "and we thought today we could get the kids to school safely."

The blowing and drifting problem was expected to continue this afternoon as gusts of 15 to 15 mph were predicted, along with a 40 percent chance of snow. It will continue to make for sub-zero wind chills, which might promote freezing, forecasters said.

The road commission had 15 trucks on roads starting Monday evening, the standard amount of trucks, fighting the blowing snow.

Crews were expected to continue on the roads tonight, Bob Elliott, interim director of maintenance, as conditions could be the same as Monday evening.

The icy roads caused several traffic accidents overnight.

Monroe County Central Dispatch officials didn't have exact numbers, but said most of the accidents were occurring on east-west roads.

"I just know there were a lot," said Dispatch Director Ron Berns.

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Redmond said
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Cooper on the rape charges and the two were released on bond. Then, after information about the killings became known, an Ohio judge revoked the bond and the two were brought back to jail, where they have been ever since.

Mr. Cooper will remain in Ohio and face charges there of kidnapping with the intent to kill. Mr. McKay will be extradited to Monroe County on the murder charge. But each man could face charges in both states.

"Ohio is going to have their own charges with these individuals and they want to start with Cooper first," Mr. Swinkey said.

He added that all the agencies involved worked well to piece the case together.

"The professionalism was outstanding," he said.

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Raisin Paper Co. struck out on their own. Mr. Bringard joined the firm about 22 years ago and became president around 1990 when Nistor Potcova Jr. retired from the post.

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Meetings Calendar

IGHT

wood Building Authority, 3 p.m.,
mmunity center, 32001 Fort St.

nroe Public Schools Board of
ucation, student discipline hear-
, 5:30 p.m., Administration
ilding, 1275 N. Macomb St.

ee Village Council, 7 p.m., coun-
meeting room, Dundee Community
nter, 242 Toledo St., Dundee.

ord Township Board, 7 p.m., town-
p hall, 8100 Jackman Rd.,
nperance.

ownship Board, 7:30 p.m., town-
p hall, Lewis Ave., Ida.

nville Township Board, 7:30 p.m.,
nship hall, 96 Ida-Maybee Rd.

chtown Township Recreation
mmission, 7:30 p.m., Frenchtown
creation Center, 2786 Vivian Rd.

Township, Zoning Board of
peals, 7:30 p.m., Ash Township
l, 1677 Ready Rd., Carleton.

WEDNESDAY

- **Berlin Township Water and Sewer Commission**, 9 a.m., wastewater treatment plant, 5651 Trombley Rd., Newport.
- **Gibraltar Schools Board of Education**, special meeting to evaluate Supt. James Vollmar, 5 p.m., Stark Learning Center, 19370 Vreeland Rd.
- **Dundee Parks and Recreation Board**, 7 p.m., Dundee Community Center, 242 Toledo St., Dundee.
- **Flat Rock Fire Department Advisory Committee**, 7 p.m., Municipal Building, 25500 Gibraltar Rd.
- **Rockwood Tax Increment Finance Authority Board**, public hearing on TIFA* plan, 7 p.m., Rockwood Community Center, 32001 Fort St., Rockwood.
- **Rockwood City Council**, 7:30 p.m., Rockwood Community Center, 32001 Fort St., Rockwood.
- **Monroe Citizen Planning Commission**, 7:30 p.m., council chambers, Monroe City Hall, 120 E. First St.

nnegut critical after house fire

V YORK (AP) —
ghterhouse-Five" novelist
Vonnegut Jr. was in critical
ion Monday after a fire at
me.
negut, 77, suffered smoke
ation Sunday night in a
blaze that broke out in the
-floor study of his East 48th
brownstone. The author —
n for satirical and darkly
rous novels - was home
is wife and daughter.
re Department source who
on the condition of
mity said the fire may have
caused by a cigarette left

burning in the room.

Vonnegut was in critical but stable condition at New York Presbyterian Hospital.

The fire was reported at 7 p.m. Sunday and was brought under control in 20 minutes. It caused minor damage to one room.

Fire officials said Vonnegut had been watching the Super Bowl in his study and was downstairs when the fire erupted.

They credited a neighbor, Hans von Stackelberg, with saving him, his wife, celebrity photographer Jill Krementz, and their daughter, Lily, 17, from serious harm.

Markets

Markets await Fed news

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks were little changed today as the Federal Reserve began its two-day meeting in Washington. Many investors decided to wait for the Fed's decision on raising interest rates before taking major new positions.

In the first hour of trading on Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average was up 7.30 at 10,947.83.

Broader stock indicators were narrowly mixed. The Standard & Poor's 500 index was down 1.77 at 1,392.69, and the Nasdaq composite index was up 1.79 at 3,942.14.

Central bankers are widely expected to raise short-term interest rates in an effort to slow the pace of the nation's economic growth.

	Closed Mon.	10:30 today
Air Gas	7 3/4	7 5/8
American Tel. and Tel.	52 3/4	51 5/16
Associates	20	19 7/8
BP-Amoco	53 3/4	53
CMS Energy	30	29 7/8
CSX	29 1/4	29 1/16
Comerica	44 3/16	44 1/16
DaimlerChrysler	65 13/16	64 1/16
Dana Corp.	23 1/2	23 5/16
Delphi Automotive	17 5/16	17 5/8
DTE Energy	34 3/4	34 7/8
Dow Chemical	116 1/2	117 7/16
Eastman Kodak	61 7/8	62 9/16
Elder Beerman	5	5 1/16
Fifth-Third Bank	66	64 1/16
Firstenergy	22 3/4	22 3/4
Ford Motor	49 3/4	48 15/16
General Electric	134	135 9/16
General Motors	80 9/16	81 5/16
General Tel. and El.	73 1/4	71 3/4
IBM	112 1/4	112 3/16
Int. Paper (Union Camp)	47 5/8	47 3/8
Jefferson Smurfit	19 13/16	20 3/8
Key Corp.	21	20 13/16
Kmart	8 5/16	8 1/4
Lear Seating	28 1/16	27 3/4
La-Z-Boy Incorporated	13 11/16	13 7/8
Micron Tech	62 3/16	60 13/16
Morgan Stanley-Dean Witter	66 1/4	64
Monroe Bank & Trust	33 1/2	33 1/2
Monsanto	35 1/4	37 1/8
National City	21 11/16	21 15/16
National Steel	7 5/16	7 7/16
Penney, J.C.	19 5/8	18 11/16
PepsiCo	34 1/8	33 13/16
Pfizer	36 3/16	35 11/16
Rite Aid	7 1/16	7 3/16
Sears Roebuck	30 15/16	30 5/8
Seaway Foodtown	21	21 5/8
Tenneco	9 15/16	10
United Industrial	8 1/4	8 1/4
USX	24 7/8	25 3/16
Utilicorp	19 9/16	19 1/16
Viacom	55 13/16	55 1/16
Woolworth	6	6 1/8
Worthington	14 3/8	14 3/8

(Courtesy of Morgan Stanley Dean Witter)

Local cash grain

Ida Farmer's Co-Op Co.

	Mon. 9 a.m.	Tues. 9 a.m.
No. 2 White Wheat	$1.97	$2.00
No. 2 Red Wheat	$2.12	$2.15
Corn	$1.87	$1.85
Soybeans	$4.83	$4.74

2000 new crop prices

No. 2 Red Wheat	$2.31	$2.36
Corn	$2.05	$2.04
Soybeans	$5.04	$4.91

Prices are subject to change.
Regularly updated grain prices are available on infoNOW at 242-4636, selection 3500.

Eggs

DETROIT (AP) — Detroit loose egg prices for Monday: jumbo 51-54, extra large 42-48, large 40-45, medium 34-39, small 25-29.

Lotteries

MICHIGAN LOTTERY

Monday Daily
Midday 605
Evening 203

Monday Daily-4
Midday 6346
Evening 7563

Monday Cash Five
25 29 33 35 38

Monday Keno
4 6 14 15 26 29 38 44
45 47 48 50 51 58 62
64 66 67 70 72 74 77

OHIO LOTTERY

Monday Pick 3
Midday 875
Evening 875

Monday Pick 4
Midday 7253
Evening 0693

Monday Buckeye 5
10 16 19 20 33

info NOW
Lottery results
242-4636
(after 8:30 p.m.)
Ext. 1370 MI Results
Ext. 1375 OH Results

Doug Donnelly, city editor

Dundee a magnet for hotel growth

■ In anticipation of Cabela's opening this fall, hotel companies are lining up to build around the outdoor megastore.

By SCOTT NEINAS
Evening News staff writer

DUNDEE – The hotels are coming.

A patch of new accommodations is being planned for Dundee's west side in anticipation of Cabela's opening this fall.

At least four hotels could line the section of M-50 west of US-23 and east of Wilcox Rd. — and that's just on the south side of the road.

Village officials were quick to point out that the growth along M-50 won't be "strip development," saying that most of the hotels going up will be set back and accessed by secondary roads, not by curb cuts from M-50.

"The whole idea is to have as few curb cuts as possible," Village Manager Patrick Burtch said. "If you can control that, you have a better chance of controlling traffic."

Traffic jams or not, developers are banging down doors to get property in Dundee – the closer to Cabela's the better.

AmeriHost Inn, which is up and running with 60 rooms on Waterstadt Commerce Dr. off M-50, is seeing a steady, 50 percent occupancy rate from construction workers building Cabela's. When Cabela's patrons finally arrive, they foresee an overflow.

"Even with the other hotels coming, I think we're going to do well," said Caty Cecil, front desk supervisor at the hotel. "I think we're going to be filled every night. That's what I'm expecting."

Steve Barger is part of a group that will be submitting plans to the village soon for a Country Inn and Suites hotel just west of the Shell gas station, right across the street from the Cabela's property.

The site plan for the proposed three-story, 36,000-square-foot structure will go before the village's planning commission for preliminary approval Monday.

The hotel would have 68 rooms, including 26 suites, Mr. Barger said.

"If Cabela's is anywhere near to being correct about the number of people they'll bring to that intersection, I think you'll see a lot of other things coming in," he said.

Another hotel chain has "secured" about five acres of land on the Helle property, another tract of land on the south side of M-50 west of US-23.

Robert Helle is in the process of applying for a land transfer agreement between the village and Dundee Township.

If a deal is worked out, his property would have water and sewer access and could accept an option from Holiday Inn Express.

The chain wants to build a five-story hotel on the parcel, Mr. Helle said, adding that a Ralphie's restaurant also could go on the site.

"It's on hold for them right now. They don't want it until (the land) comes into the village," he said.

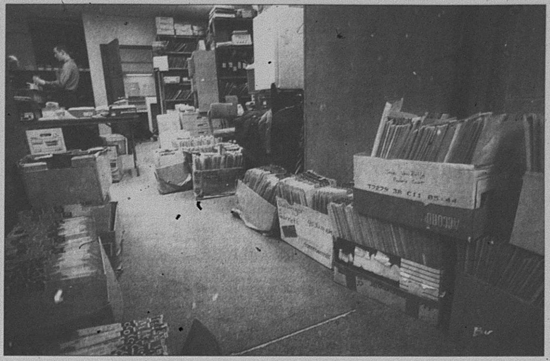
Mr. Helle is expected to request a land transfer from the village council meeting, which will begin at 7 tonight. He already has gone before the township, which expressed concerns about its ability to provide adequate fire protection for a building that size.

The village is selling a piece of its property west of Waterstadt Commerce Dr. to a Michigan-based company, Hotels Development LLC, which could be the site of a fourth possible hotel in the area.

The property is under contract to the company, whose representatives were mum on its plans for the tract of land.

M-50, especially west of US-23, is shaping up to be the busiest part of Dundee.

"They wouldn't be building here if they didn't think they'd have the business to do it," Mr. Burtch said.



—Evening News photo by CARY CONOVER

Files line the floor in the Monroe County clerk's office Monday afternoon after a flood of water from a broken radiator soaked the floor Sunday night. The files had to be moved from their normal place to an area where the carpet wasn't wet.

Documents sustain water damage

By RICHARD KHAVKINE
Evening News staff writer

> *"We're microfilming but we're not microfilming fast enough. It's just a paper nightmare."*
>
> —Geri Allen, Monroe County clerk

A couple of 1960s-era heating and cooling systems on the second floor of the Monroe County Courthouse burst their pipes and flooded parts of the county clerk and Friend of the Court offices in recent days.

In the latest incident, which was discovered about 10:30 p.m. Sunday, damaged some circuit court documents, although none seriously, courthouse officials say.

The small flood was another reminder for Monroe County Clerk Geri Allen that her offices are cramped.

"We're microfilming but we're not microfilming fast enough. It's just a paper nightmare," Ms. Allen said.

The court documents, some of which date back 20 years, have nowhere to go since the office ran out of shelving space two years ago, said Ms. Allen.

The boxed court files, which used to snake around the desks and counters of clerk personnel, are now stacked two high in the rear of the office

County staff is searching for accessible and nearby space in which to store the files.

The clerk's office, which, in addition to the circuit court files, is home to birth, death, marriage, election and other records, is scheduled to undergo a thorough renovation beginning sometime this spring, said Michael Bosanac, county director of purchasing and property maintenance.

That renovation is part of a $2.4 million courthouse refurbishing project that began in November, 1998.

Mr. Bosanac speculated that the contracting and expanding of the heating coils inside the radiators during a recent cold spell might have contributed to the deterioration of the through-wall units. The units are being sealed as the renovations make their way around the 1880 structure and its three additions.

"It was like a sauna and then the smell hit you," said clerk employee Beth Campbell of walking into the office on Monday morning.

Uncovered bones will be reburied

By JOSHUA KENNEDY
Evening News staff writer

Almost eight months have past since bones were uncovered at the old St. Antoine's Cemetery on N. Custer Rd.

Today, many of those bones that were dug up during subsequent surveys and studies of the 5.3-acre lot between Frenchman's Bend and Cranbrook Estates will be reburied during a 2:30 p.m. ceremony.

That's not only good news for the grassroots group Friends of St. Antoine's, which organized on behalf of the Community Foundation of Monroe County to help the city and developer Dan Rice come to an agreement about Monroe's first cemetery, but it's good news for Mr. Rice himself.

Months of negotiations over what will become of the three lots that are home to Monroe County's first Catholic cemetery, where Monroe's first French settlers are buried, also may be coming to a close soon, Mr. Rice said this morning.

"We really haven't got the agreement done yet," he said. "It's still got to be signed by everyone and agreed upon by the city and the community foundation."

That's contrary to what Friends President Jeanne Micka said.

"There's been no discussion of any land acquisition," she said. "I can't tell you any more than that, except to be at the city council meeting on Feb. 7. The night of the seventh you will hear it all."

Mrs. Micka wouldn't comment any further about the deal at hand, but Mr. Rice said he was looking at selling the three front lots of the planned 17-lot subdivision for $105,000.

The money would be raised by private donations through the foundation if the agreement is approved by all parties. Mr. Rice said that could happen as early as today.

The closure of the sale could be all that stands between Mr. Rice and finishing the Riveredge Estates subdivision he planned to build.

In the meantime, Sandra Anderson, a dog handler with Canine Solutions Inc., will be on hand about 10:30 this morning to help determine where the bones being reburied should rest. The Rev. Anthony Sulkowski of St. Mary Catholic Church will officiate a memorial service over the burial area at 2:30 p.m.

Black History Month

Olivia Ransaw

Monroe resident Olivia Ransaw has lived in the county since 1943.

– Evening News photo by Matthew Smolinsky

Name: Olivia Ransaw, 77

Born: 1922, Oakland, Tenn.

Came to Monroe: She came to Monroe in 1943 with her first husband who worked in construction.

Employment: Mrs. Ransaw did housework. "I also worked as a cook at Biltmore Restaurant on E. Front St. downtown and for a restaurant called Barnette's Lunch down the street from Monroe Steel Castings Co.

Family: She married Jather Ransaw in Ohio in 1948. He was self employed. Mr. Ransaw died in 1989. She has two children, three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Quote: "Things have changed a whole lot from what it used to be. You can sit anywhere on these buses and trains today."

This feature, which will run each day of the month, highlights some of Monroe County's African-American citizens. It is written by Denise A. Gray.

State vs. farmers

Bedford planner eyes preservation

BY AP AND EVENING NEWS STAFF

> ▶ *Through the voluntary farm preservation program managed by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, land owners can sell or donate the development rights to their property to the State of Michigan. The land then is designated as and taxed as agricultural use for as long as the agreement remains in effect.*

Bedford Township community planners hope that a state program that is designed keep farmland taxes low would help discourage development of prime agriculture land into new homes and businesses.

But farmers across the state have learned that the arrangements for a cash payment in lieu of a development ban, which are made under Michigan's Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program, involve a lengthy process. Some have questioned whether the financial settlement from the state is enough to get property owners to participate.

In fact, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources has reached purchase or donation agreements with only 23 farmers across the state since 1996. That's the year when the current procedures took effect for the 25-year-old preservation program, said Robin Pearson, who is the coordinator of purchase and development rights at DNR. There also are 37 properties now in negotiation for purchase or donation.

The development ban can be granted under a temporary easement ranging from 10 to 90 years, or under a permanent easement. Either one restricts the land to agricultural uses during the life of the easement, which keeps taxes low, but the land owner retains all other property rights.

Bedford Township Planning Commission member Greg Stewart says township officials would like to encourage local farmers to enroll their property into the optional farmland preservation program. His remarks were made at last week's Bedford Township community workshop, where area residents discussed ideas for a long-range land use plan for the township.

Under the rules for the state program, local government officials need to sign off on each application.

The benefit for farmers, Mr. Stewart said, is to help assist farmers financially so they can afford to stay in farming. The benefit for the township is to use this as one method of protecting that land from non-agricultural uses.

He told local residents that he initially objected to the state's farmland preservation program, but added, "look at the alternatives."

The 23 current, plus 37 pending, preserved agricultural properties were among the more than 1,000 applications filed during the past four years. The next application process, Mrs. Pearson said, will start sometime this year.

Mrs. Pearson said none of the currently participating properties and none of those on the pending list, is in Monroe County. But there are some in other southeast Michigan areas such as Lenawee, Wayne, Macomb and Washtenaw Counties.

One farmer from across the state who is interested in the program is Kent County farmer Wilson Kruithoff. He likes the proposal for his property: a one-time cash payment from the state in exchange for keeping his 230 acres away from developers.

Mr. Kruithoff would be rewarded for continuing to raise livestock, corn and soybeans on prime soil. He figures his future tax assessments probably wouldn't increase much because the land's development potential near Kent City would be eliminated.

"The program seems ideal," Mr. Kruithoff said.

But Mr. Kruithoff, 60, still has no deal with the state, more than two years after his farm was selected as one worth preserving.

It all comes down to appraisals and money in this unique conservation program: The DNR, farmers claim, simply is too stingy.

"I'm not very optimistic," Mr. Kruithoff said, speaking across the kitchen table in his 130-year-old farmhouse in Tyrone Township. "On a scale of one to a hundred, my pessimism is 80 percent that this won't go through.

"Some of those people want to save as much money as possible, which is good," he said, referring to the state. "But they have to be realistic. If it's worth $5,000 an acre, you can't offer $1,000."

Under the current rules, Michigan pays the difference between the land's agricultural value and its worth if converted to homes or another purpose. There is a cap of $5,000 an acre. Applicants are judged on land quality, the pace of surrounding development and whether they've enrolled in a temporary preservation program. They also need the endorsement of their local government.

Some farms picked in 1998 still haven't been appraised. The state postponed last year's round to revise application forms and take a fresh look at how farms should be selected.

The main issue, Mrs. Pearson said, is coming up with the money to pay for the farmland preservation purchases.

"Our current funding is quite limited," she said.

Another issue, said Rich Harlow, who supervises the program in Lansing, is that land is appraised on current conditions.

And that's a sore spot among farmers. The state believes their land is valuable enough to preserve, but the appraisal might not be as high as expected if zoning already puts some restrictions on development. Zoning, however, can shift over time in any community.

"Selecting a farm and having an appraisal done are completely different animals," Mrs. Pearson said.

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DEBORAH SAUL, editor
THOMAS J. CHULSKI, editorial page editor
SHIRLEY HYDEN, business manager

Our View

Applause for John Tyner

> ▶ To the point
>
> *Recognition of a Monroe Public Schools administrator by a music educators' group is well deserved.*

Accolades are nothing unusual for John Tyner.

His nearly quarter-century in music education has been sprinkled with awards and recognition for the work he's done.

He recently added to the list Outstanding Administrator of the Year honors from the Michigan Music Educators Association. He was named for his support and advocacy of music teachers within the Monroe Public Schools district.

Before becoming an administrator, he also won the Michigan School Vocal Music Teacher of the Year award.

His personal awards grow from years of outstanding performances by the singers and musicians he conducts. Besides the music curriculum at Monroe Schools, which includes six choirs, two bands, an orchestra, a jazz band, music theory and history and individual classes, he conducts or has conducted the Monroe County Community College Agora Chorale, the Tyner Chorale, state honors choirs, the Monroe Youth Orchestra, madrigal choirs, a men's choir in the Marines, the Monroe Children's Honor Choir and church choirs.

Over the years, thousands of people have experienced, first-hand, Mr. Tyner's ability to teach, motivate and inspire.

His contribution not only has brought state and national recognition to Monroe but also has enriched the audiences, performers and students fortunate enough to cross his path. Congratulations are due this genuine local treasure.

Are wired-up autos safe?

> ▶ To the point
>
> *The growing trend toward more and more communications devices in cars raises some serious safety concerns.*

Automakers are thinking of more and more high-tech options letting drivers "interconnect" with the rest of the world. Hand-held cell phones already are common; next come real-time traffic reports, dashboard-ready laptop computers, full Internet access and voice-activated e-mail.

Sounds great, huh?

Well, no, it doesn't. We've already seen research, not to mention loads of anecdotal evidence, suggesting that cell-phone use while driving can be hazardous. Perhaps it's time that motorists and automakers take deep breaths before plunging full-tilt into a world of totally wired-up, multitasking motorists.

Others note that all these gizmos can promote safety, too. Each day 911 dispatchers get an estimated 100,000 calls over cell phones. Services such as General Motor Corp.'s On-Star, combining cellular communications and global positioning satellites, puts drivers in touch with service centers that can dispatch emergency crews to crash scenes quickly.

Nevertheless, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) estimates that a fourth of the 7 million crashes that took place in 1995 involved some form of inattention.

Donald Redelmeier, de Souza chair of Trauma at the University of Toronto, did a study in 1997 that found drivers using phones are four times more likely than others to crash. He also found, perhaps surprisingly, the same results for users of hands-free phones, suggesting that inattention was more of a problem than simply having one's hands and eyes tied up punching phone buttons. A 1998 NHTSA study came to similar conclusions.

Now preliminary data from a soon-to-be-released study by the University of Iowa has found that drivers listening to speech-based e-mail take an average of 30 percent longer to hit the brakes.

To be sure, low-tech inattention long has been a cause of accidents. Tuning the car radio, eating a cheeseburger or simply talking with a rider can be potentially hazardous.

But the spread of cell phones means a quantum leap in the inattention problem. And the latest generation of high-tech, hands-off gadgets threatens to make the problem worse.

The NHTSA is planning a new batch of road tests and driving simulator tests to learn more about the effect on driving of these new devices. Regulators or lawmakers might yet decide to curtail their use. In the meantime, the industry and motorists themselves need to exercise common sense — and ultimately to ask: Do we really need to be interconnected all the time, even while navigating a ton or two of metal down the road?

Anti-pollution volunteers needed

A Monroe County area tradition of citizen assistance is getting another opportunity to shine.

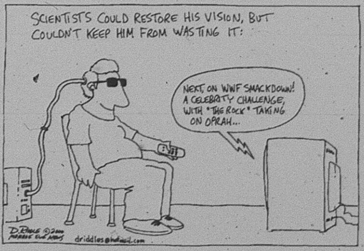
The U.S. Coast Guard is asking for help cataloging the Lake Erie shoreline and other local waterways. The data will be used for assessment of damage in cases of oil spills or other environmental threats.

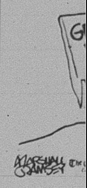
The Coast Guard needs to know the types of soil, sand and rocks along the lakefront and inland streams, including the River Raisin and the Huron River. The information affects the speed and effectiveness of the Guard's response in emergencies.

Although we hear more about oil spills on oceans, it does happen nearby. About 5,000 gallons of motor oil leaked from a barge near Grosse Ile just six months ago. While the oil drained into the Detroit River, it could flow into Lake Erie, affecting drinking water, swimming, fishing and boating here.

Monroe County residents in the past have been quick to respond for everything from river cleanup days to tornado spotting. Volunteers can call (734) 676-6999 for more information about the Shoreline Pre-Impact Assessment Team.

As always, those who offer time and effort will be repaid with the satisfaction that they have helped make this area a better, safer, more beautiful place to live.


SCIENTISTS COULD RESTORE HIS VISION, BUT COULDN'T KEEP HIM FROM WASTING IT:
NEXT, ON WWF SMACKDOWN! A CELEBRITY CHALLENGE, WITH "THE ROCK" TAKING ON OPRAH...
D. RIDDLE ©2000 MONROE EVE NEWS
driddles@hotmail.com



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FROM THE CHRISTIAN SC

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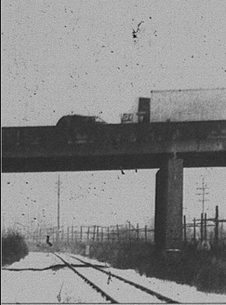

— Evening News photo by CARY CONOVER

the railroad tracks below I-75 near Sandy Creek Rd.

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He said it is believed that the power loss resulted from a felled 40,000 volt line near a substation and the failure of some lightning arresters at another station about five or six miles away about the same time.

er backs referendum

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as a PUD."

He said a PUD will allow greater flexibility "in fashioning our development plans. It allows us to consider a wider range of development options."

In 1997, MID asked the city to rezone the parcel to a PRD and the city agreed in November that year. However, in 1999, the city learned that not all of the surrounding property owners were notified. Consequently, the rezoning was re-enacted in September and remains the subject of the petition.

Mr. Merriweather said supporters of the petition drive failed to recognize that the property was in fact previously zoned PUD, not R-1, or single-family residential, as they had thought. The referendum can only legally return the zoning to the zoning category it had prior to the zoning change.

pair of rail crossings

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Mayor Guzzi wrote
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, director of devel-

opment and marketing for Sora Limestone Inc. of Rockwood, wrote the city and said a number of truck haulers serving the firm are complaining about the poor crossings. He expressed concern that the firm may be losing business due to equipment damage.

"The repair costs incurred by our haulers may cause our customers to buy aggregate from other suppliers," Mr. Adcock said.

Bob Farina, manager of Angelo's Asphalt Materials in Rockwood, said the crossings west of its plant at 20901 N. Huron River are damaging trucks that transport asphalt. He, too, protested to the city.

"We are concerned about the safety and equipment of the haulers ... and the continued business from our customers," Mr. Farina wrote.

Mayor Guzzi said he hoped repairs can be made in the spring when the weather is better for applying asphalt between the tracks.

The
rmers Market
Is Open
Every
Saturday
am - 12 noon

E SALE
ary 5th
10:00 am
to
8:00 pm
goodwill
will Store
Monroe

Park rangers kill 101 deer at park

PONTIAC, Mich. (AP) — Almost a quarter of the deer counted during an aerial survey of Kensington Metropark last month have been killed by park rangers this week, part of an effort to remove more than half of the animals from the park.

Park rangers killed 101 deer at the park Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. They plan to kill a total of 250 deer. An aerial survey in January counted 454 deer inside the park.

A spokeswoman for the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, which runs the Metropark, wouldn't say when park rangers would again kill deer at the park.

Markets

Jobless rate boosts open

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks opened higher today after a government report showed the U.S. economy surged into the new year pushing unemployment to a 30-year low.

In the first hour of trading on Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average was up 61.43 to 11,074.87.

Broader stock indicators were also higher.

The Nasdaq composite index was up 62.53 to 4,273.51. The Standard & Poor's 500 index was up 8.98 to 1,433.95.

	Closed Thurs.	10:30 today
Air Gas	7 5/8	7 11/16
American Tel. and Tel.	50 5/16	51 13/16
Associates	20 1/8	20 3/16
BP-Amoco	52 3/16	49 3/8
CMS Energy	21 9/16	20 7/8
CSX	27 7/8	28 1/8
Comerica	44	44
DaimlerChrysler	67 3/16	65 9/16
Dana Corp.	22 3/4	22 3/4
Delphi Automotive	17 3/4	17 11/16
DTE Energy	34 1/4	33 5/8
Dow Chemical	115	114 3/4
Eastman Kodak	63 1/4	63 15/16
Elder-Beerman	5 1/8	5 1/8
Fifth Third Bank	65 3/16	65 1/16
Firstenergy	22 7/8	22 9/16
Ford Motor	48 3/4	48 7/16
General Electric	139 1/4	141 1/8
General Motors	81 7/8	81 3/8
General Tel. and El.	69 7/8	70 1/16
IBM	117 1/8	115 11/16
Int. Paper (Union Camp)	46 1/4	45 5/8
Jefferson Smurfit	20 5/16	20 3/8
Key Corp.	20 7/8	20 9/16
Kmart	9	8 3/4
Lear Seating	26 15/16	27 3/16
La-Z-Boy Incorporated	14 1/2	14 1/2
Micron Tech	68	66 3/8
Morgan Stanley-Dean Witter	66	65
Monroe Bank & Trust	34 3/4	34 3/4
Monsanto	42	41 9/16
National City	22 1/8	22
National Steel	7 3/8	7 1/4
Penney, J.C.	18 1/8	18 1/16
PepsiCo	33 1/16	33 9/16
Pfizer	35 5/8	35 11/16
Rite Aid	7 3/16	7 1/4
Sears Roebuck	31 3/16	31 13/16
Seaway Foodtown	21 3/4	21 3/4
Tenneco	10	10
United Industrial	8 3/8	8 7/16
USX	24 7/16	24 5/16
Utilicorp	19 13/16	19 3/8
Viacom	58 3/4	60 3/8
Woolworth	6 1/16	5 15/16
Worthington	14 7/8	14 7/8

(Courtesy of Morgan Stanley-Dean Witter)

Local cash grain

Ida Farmer's Co-Op Co.

	Thurs. 9 a.m.	Fri. 9 a.m.
No. 2 White Wheat	$2.96	$1.92
No. 2 Red Wheat	$2.11	$2.07
Corn	$1.85	$1.84
Soybeans	$4.70	$4.63

2000 new crop prices

No. 2 Red Wheat	$2.32	$2.24
Corn	$2.06	$2.02
Soybeans	$4.89	$4.79

Prices are subject to change.
Regularly updated grain prices are available on infoNOW at 242-4636, selection 3500.

Eggs

DETROIT (AP) — Detroit loose egg prices for Thursday: jumbo 51-54, extra large 42-48, large 40-45, medium 34-39, small 25-29.

Lotteries

MICHIGAN LOTTERY

Thursday Daily
Midday 769
Evening 238

Thursday Daily-4
Midday 7992
Evening 7947

Thursday Cash Five
1 5 8 30 35

Thursday Keno
1 2 9 11 14 19 30 33
35 36 40 42 49 54 59
60 68 69 74 76 77 80

OHIO LOTTERY

Thursday Pick 3
Midday 591
Evening 161

Thursday Pick 4
Midday 7518
Evening 5896

Thursday Buckeye 5
4 23 28 29 36

infoNOW
Lottery results
242-4636
(after 8:30 p.m.)
Ext. 1370 MI Results
Ext. 1375 OH Results

SECOND FRONT

Land transfer deal being negotiated for Milan subdivision

■ The property is at Allen and Crowe Rds., which is in the township adjacent to the city. There is no water or sewer service there.

By SCOTT NEINAS
Evening News staff writer

MILAN – City and township officials here are putting together a deal that could bring 36 acres of township land into the city so a developer can build a subdivision there, officials say.

The acreage, southwest of Allen and Crowe Rds., is adjacent to city property but doesn't have water and sewer service.

If both governments approve the measure, and if the parcels are rezoned from agricultural to residential, construction on the new neighborhoods could begin this spring.

Brothers Jerry and Jeff Van Havel, the land owners, asked for the transfer so they can develop a subdivision of single-family homes on the property that would range in price from $135,000 to $200,000.

"They keep telling us that they're close," to working out an agreement, Jerry Van Havel said.

The two governments met Thursday night and had friendly discussions, according to those close to the negotiations, but nothing will be agreed upon for weeks.

"Our attorney's going on vacation, and when he comes back, their attorney leaves," for vacation, said township Treasurer Sharon Jaworski.

The township is trying to get something worked out before the Michigan State Boundary Commission rules on an annexation request by the city for the property. The commission meets March 9, according to Ms. Jaworski.

"If they let the city have it, we have this agreement so it's not just taken away from us," Milan Township Treasurer Sharon Jaworski said.

City Councilwoman Marilyn Wisner, who also serves on the negotiating committee, said recent talks have centered on the exact formula for sharing the taxes of the property.

"We've been talking about a lot of different analogies. They're going quite well," she said. "We're taking time to listen to each other and think about things."

Land transfer agreements have become popular solutions in the western part of the county as small villages and cities like Dundee and Milan grow out of their boundaries.

Developers consider some of the land in the communities, each easily accessible off US-23, as prime real estate.

Under land transfer, a property's jurisdiction moves from one municipality to another, while both work out an agreement to split property tax revenues, said Bill Fahey, a Lansing attorney who specializes in transfer agreements.

"It's generally so that the township doesn't lose anything," in terms of potential tax dollars, Mr. Fahey said.

He added that negotiations not only take into consideration tax revenue, but also state revenue.

Cities and townships get so much money a person.

"In the case of a residential development, that is very significant," Mr. Fahey said.

Townships ususally get between $60 and $70 a head while a city like Milan probably gets twice that, around $130 to $150 for each resident, Mr. Fahey said.

Public hearings would have to be held before the two municipalities formally accept the agreement by council and board approval.

City Adminstrator Michael Czymbor said that once an agreement is reached, the boundary commission will be contacted and the annexation ruling would be dropped.

"We've been meeting to come up with something that we both can live with," Mr. Czymbor said.

Sterns-Secor widening smooths travel through busy Lambertville intersection

■ Local residents and businesses seem pleased and impressed with the new intersection.

By PAULA WETHINGTON
Evening News staff writer

BEDFORD TOWNSHIP — There are still a few days of wrap-up inspections and pavement repairs to do this spring in the Sterns and Secor Rd. intersection area, but Bedford Township residents and businesses say they are happy with the results of a major road improvement project that took place there last year.

"I was pretty impressed with what they did," said Ron Comstock of 7390 Creeksbend Rd. His house is just off Sterns Rd.

The Sterns and Secor area in Lambertville, which is considered one of the busiest intersections in the county, used to be two lanes in each direction. The biggest traffic backups with the two-lane travel occurred when motorists needed to turn left, Mr. Comstock said.

Now, the intersection has a series of left and right turn lanes that sets up four lanes of traffic on the north section and five lanes of traffic on the east, west and south sections.

"It's a lot better now," Mr. Comstock said.

Construction work on the storm and sanitary sewer lines and electric transmission lines began in May, and the road work began in July, Monroe County Road Commission engineer Paul Bockstahler said. Paving took place during the rest of the summer through early November, and the last construction details for 1999 finished Dec. 7.

During the worst phase of road construction in early fall, some local business officials said they noticed a significant drop in business and increased number of complaints from their customers about the traffic conditions. And county highway officials suggested motorists not travel through the intersection unless it was necessary.

But Mr. Bockstahler said the intersection is now "98 percent functional."

One of the remaining issues, he said, is figuring out the best timing for the traffic lights in order to get vehicles through the intersection. And when a road construction project finishes in the late fall, it is also easier to see in the spring how grass seed is taking and whether winter weather damaged the fresh pavement.

That's why the final few days of inspection and last-minute repairs will likely take place in May. But Mr. Bockstahler said the spring work is not expected to disrupt traffic.

> "People are going through at a less hectic pace. It's definitely improved our drive time."
>
> —Brian McDonald, Tiffany's Pizza

The project had been discussed since at least 1990, but highway engineers had to figure out the logistics and also how to pay for the improvements, he said.

Bedford Township officials and residents say the intersection gets heavy traffic, particularly during rush hour, because of travel between Ohio and Michigan for homes and jobs.

But it is also a busy commercial district. Businesses include fast food and pizza restaurants, grocery and pharmacy stores, gas stations, banks, a video store and a dry cleaner. A church and a preschool are about one-fourth of a mile west of the intersection.

And more development is on the way, according to business and office signs that are posted in the area.

One such sign advertises the future Bedford Community Plaza. Tom Helberg, one of the people involved with Bedford West Development Corp., said the firm's partners in Ohio and Michigan hope to build the plaza this year, west of the intersection. Negotiations for tenants still are taking place, but he said the goal is to get one anchor store with some smaller stores.

The new plaza was in the works long before the road construction started, but Mr. Helberg said interest has picked up from potential clients because of the expanded traffic lanes.

"It's safer; it flows better," he said about the intersection traffic.

Existing businesses such as Tiffany's Pizza at 3366 W. Sterns Rd. also have benefited from the intersection improvements.

Brian McDonald, manager and part-owner of the pizza place, said the delivery drivers had a difficult time getting through the afternoon rush hour traffic when the road had two lanes. During the construction months, the drivers usually took alternate routes on the back roads to get around the area.

Visibility for the restaurant has improved drastically once the traffic flow settled into the new lanes.

"People are going through at a less hectic pace," Mr. McDonald said, adding, "It's definitely improved our drive time."

The contractor on the project was Peter A. Basile Sons Inc. of Livonia.

Mr. Bockstahler said county officials still are processing construction bills, but it appears the construction cost will be about $2.4 million. The engineering, legal fees and rights of way were additional expenses.

Some of the project's cost came from a special assessment district involving the nearby property owners and businesses. The rest of the money came from the Downtown Development Authority and the county road commission.

Window project

— Evening News photo by CARY CONOVER

Mark Evans (left) and his brother, Kevin, of Floral City Glass work on a window replacement project outside the Monroe Club, 56 W. Front St., Thursday. The two were finishing up a two-day project to replace some of the rotted window sashes and install newer, insulated windows.

Black History Month

Earl Vining

- Evening News photo by CARY CONOVER

Earl Vining is a native of Monroe, having been born here in 1932.

Name: Earl Vining

Born: 1932, Monroe.

Came to Monroe: His parents, Elmer and Annie Vining, came to Monroe in 1926 from Birmingham, Ala., for employment. His father worked at Monroe Steel Castings.

Employment: Mr. Vining worked at Ford Motor Co. in Monroe, retiring in 1983.

Hobbies and Interests: Mr. Vining coaches amateur boxing at the Arthur Lesow Community Center and has been a coach for more than 18 years. He sings in the church choir at Carey Chapel AME in Monroe.

Family: Mr. Vining served in the Army in Korea from 1952 to 1954. He was wounded and awarded the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star. Mr. Vining and his wife, Easter – married in 1979 – had seven children (one is deceased), four stepchildren, and several grandchildren.

Quote: "I have been allowed by a Higher Power to live through a military conflict and to see many changes in race relations and employment and education for African-Americans. However, the struggle continues."

This feature, which will run each day of the month, highlights some of Monroe County's African-American citizens.
It is written by Denise A. Gray.

Bedford Schools buys computers

BEDFORD TOWNSHIP – About 180 new computers will go into classrooms in Bedford Public Schools this year as part of an overall effort to get more computers for student use.

The board of education Thursday night voted to buy 183 Gateway computers from Gateway Business of Kansas City, Mo., for a total cost of $223,077. Additional computers will be bought, possibly as soon as this summer, with the long-range goal of having a ratio of 10 students to each computer in the school district.

The money is coming from the technology enhancement millage allocation, according to reports that Assistant Supt. Denzil M. Bell gave to the school board.

The board also voted to buy a software and licensing package for the new and existing computers for a total cost of $41,315, which also is to come from the technology enhancement fund.

In other business, the board:

■ Set up the 2000-01 school year calendar, after having reviewed the "common calendar" guidelines followed by the schools in southern Monroe County and discussing other details with the Bedford Education Association.

The first day for students is Aug. 23 and the last day is June 7, 2001.

There will be 184 student days and four additional teacher days, which is one more student day and one more teacher day than with this year's calendar. Any makeup days needed for snow days and other emergencies will be scheduled at the end of the year.

■ Heard a presentation about Career and Technical Education Week, which was designated by the Association for Career and Technical Education for Feb. 13-19 to promote the effort that teachers and businesses provide for a high school-to-careers connection.

Two staff members, Karen Adamski, chairman of life management and trade and industry, and Sheryl Connolly, chairman of business and marketing, explained eight career and technical education programs that are available to the students.

■ Set up a new contract with Riddell-All American of Elyria, Ohio, for inspection and reconditioning of football helmets. The cost is $5,440, and the money comes from the athletic budget. This work is done every year, but school officials reported problems with getting renewal documents from the company that previously had the contract.

■ Made arrangements for a site visit from Michigan School Business Officials of Lansing, the $5,700 cost which will be paid for from the general fund. The agency will review board policies that affect the business and personnel offices, evaluate office procedures, and then provide recommendations for organization, staff and technology use.

■ Hired Bradley E. Reed to teach seventh and eighth grade math effective Jan. 21. This is to fill a vacancy, and he was the long-term substitute in the position.

Rockwood amends TIFA plan for park

ROCKWOOD – The City of Rockwood is amending its Tax Increment Finance Authority (TIFA) plan to include more walking paths, better roads and a more attractive industrial park.

At a public hearing Wednesday night, the city council unveiled a revised TIFA plan that will use property tax increments to enhance recreation and public improvements in the TIFA district and city.

"We want to redevelop direction on some things the community will benefit from," Mayor Daniel (Gary) Guzzi said Thursday.

A TIFA district uses tax revenues captured from new development like the Johnson Controls Inc. (JCI) plant under construction in Commerce Park off Fort St. to make the improvements. The district includes all of the industrial park, the community center and Mercure Park and land up to Silver Creek. Woodruff Rd. and Fort act as boundaries for the district.

"The enhancement of Commerce Park is our first priority," Mayor Guzzi said. "With the utilities going in for Johnson Controls, we'd like to expand the park to draw more businesses. That will broaden our ability" to capture more revenue for the city and TIFA.

Some of the funds may be used for adding walking paths and lights to the baseball fields at Mercure. They also could be used to loop the city's water service on the north end of the city to improve water pressure and to improve streets in the district, he said.

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THOMAS J. CHULSKI, editorial page editor
SHIRLEY HYDEN, business manager

Our View

Progress against GHB

Congress has agreed on a final version of a bill that would increase the penalties for those who possess and distribute a powerful drug.

That bill would allow gamma hydroxybutyrate, or GHB, to be regulated as strictly as other dangerous drugs. Federal charges could be brought against those who have or use the drug, and prison time could be increased for offenders.

The bill that passed Congress is named, in part, for Samantha Reid, the Rockwood teen who died after her soft drink was spiked by men at a party. Samantha's mother has helped lead the charge to increase awareness and penalties for those who abuse the drug. The trial of four men charged in that death began this week.

The problem with the drug – as with many inhalants and other substances teens typically abuse – is that it has beneficial uses and is easily attainable. Its ingredients are readily available and recipes can be obtained on the Internet. That makes the drug harder to control and, for some users, to seem less dangerous.

But the increase in deaths and illnesses among young people who have ingested the drug – both on purpose and unintentionally – has led the government to see the wisdom in placing it in the same category as the most dangerous controlled substances.

Maybe more significant is the educational push that has begun. With the efforts of Judi Clark, Samantha's mother, and state and federal lawmakers, the word is being spread that GHB isn't a harmless "party drug" that boosts the effects of alcohol or can be administered to an unsuspecting person as a prank. A task force formed last month by Sen. Spencer Abraham, R-Michigan, aims to bring school administrators, teachers and law enforcement personnel together to wage a war of information.

Such efforts should help spread the word that GHB should not be used for recreation, and that young people need to take precautions when they attend clubs or parties. GHB's reputation as the date-rape drug has alerted more to the dangers of leaving drinks unattended. A concentrated effort to warn against casual and intentional use may help end the practice altogether.

Unfortunately, it has taken 58 deaths since 1990 and 5,700 overdoses to get to this point. Congress' recent actions just might help reduce significantly those numbers for the next decade.

▶ **To the point**

As the trial gets under way for the men accused of lacing the drink of a Rockwood teen who was killed by a deadly substance, federal law is moving in the right direction.

Super Bowl coach special

Last weekend, the St. Louis Rams became one of the most unlikely Super Bowl winners ever. The Rams won four games last year and only nine in the past two seasons before storming to a near-NFL record for points in a season, 13 victories and a Super Bowl trophy.

Making the season even more special was the story of the Rams' prize player, quarterback Kurt Warner. Warner was stocking shelves in a grocery store a couple of years ago and took the most unusual route to the NFL: a small college, the Arena Football League and NFL-Europe.

Despite all this, the biggest story of the season for the National Football League — and perhaps all of sports — is that of the Rams' head coach, Dick Vermeil.

Years ago, Vermeil coached the Philadelphia Eagles into the Super Bowl. He was a young coach then, considered one of the finest. Then, however, he abruptly left the coaching ranks, saying he had "burned out."

Vermeil could have ridden off into the sunset then. He could have remained in the broadcast booth as a commentator. Instead, he chose to return to the sidelines. He convinced the Rams to hire him and vowed to rebuild the franchise.

At first, it seemed an impossible task. The Rams had not even made it to the NFC championship since 1979. When the team won only four games last year and its starting quarterback (Trent Green) was lost to injury in the preseason, Vermeil and his aging coaching staff once again looked as if they were in trouble.

That assessment was wrong, however, as Vermeil led his team into the Super Bowl and to victory. He left this week under incredibly different circumstances. This time, he went out on top, not a victim of burnout but a champion.

His victory – as well as his exit from the game — is a reminder of what makes sports and games like the Super Bowl special. This year truly was the year that the game was better than the commercials, that the game was bigger than the hype itself. Vermeil deserved to go out a winner. His accomplishments this season rank with football's greatest of all time.

▶ **To the point**

Rams Coach Dick Vermel is going out on the top after leading his team to a spectacular finish.

Editorial Platform, 2000

A summary of continuing goals for community progress

Economic growth— Give priority to planning for high-growth areas. Diversify and expand the local jobs base. Recruit new employers by removing obstacles, cutting red tape, preparing sites.

Schools — Teach more teamwork, problem-solving, technical and computer skills to all students. Support the work teachers are doing in classrooms. Increase links with parents and businesses; raise standards. Develop more charter schools, and press for other education reforms in Lansing.

Transportation — Achieve better maintenance through county road commission and local government efforts. Work to reduce safety hazards and delays at railroad crossings. Monitor progress of I-73 planning.

Downtown — Aid and encourage private investment, recruit retail and service businesses, promote better use of riverwalk and district's unique character.

Culture — Maintain and enrich offerings in the arts; welcome tourists; capitalize on historical heritage; support and patronize cultural events, exhibits and facilities.

Government — Maximize return on tax dollars; streamline structures; improve accountability. Privatize more services. Keep citizens apprised of issues and business conducted in their name, and encourage more citizen input.

Tolerance and civility — Encourage and respect a diversity of opinions and beliefs. Support reasoned discussion of differences. Foster cooperation and a sense of community.

Individual responsibility — Accept the responsibility, as individual family members, workers, citizens and consumers, to make informed and thoughtful choices for the long-term benefit of ourselves and others.

Bush must a

For several years, George
assembled a campaign ap
capable of backing his ca
with even more marketing power
to competitors, than Ford Motor C
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speech gracefully but then lapse
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speech that had helped
propel him to defeat. This
deepened suspicions that
he is overprogrammed
because his managers
worry that his education,
political and otherwise,
ended before he was
quite full to the brim.
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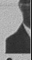

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Neighbors can forese railyard's negative im

On Jan. 17, The Monroe Eveni
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cerned about the proposed
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Mrs. Kraft listed a series of
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American debate

ghout America continue to on all of the above.

e simply ignore the law.

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ericans disagree, and per- lways will, over matters of h and state. But the debate er over the fundamental o religious freedom lied in those 16 words from nturies ago. What Americans argue about is how best to practice it.

Unlike so many people throughout history and even today, Americans do not settle their religious differences with blood. They debate them in legislative chambers and mannered courtrooms.

Or even while sharing an umbrella.

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00 CHRYSLER RING JX vertible — er Employees 5 36 mo. lease — ryone Else 9 36 mo. lease

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6986 our Choice ercury Sable ge Dakota Sport evy Lumina APV	'98 DODGE RAM 1500 SLT Quad Cab, 4x4, loaded $23,586	'98 DODGE DURANGO SLT 4X4 25,000 miles, equipped $22,986

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BUSINESS
The Monroe Sunday News

section D
THE MONROE SUNDAY NEWS
SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 6, 2000

Monte Carlo ready to race Page 2D | **Stock prices** Page 3D | **Serving 'brilliant basics'** Page 4D

Charles Slat, business editor
phone: 242-1100, ext. 285

Business briefs

Firms must post injury logs

LANSING—State officials are reminding Michigan employers that they must post this month a summary of the total number of job-related injuries and illnesses that occurred in their workplaces in 1999.

Employers must post the "MIOSHA Log 200 - Log and Summary of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses" from Feb. 1 to March 1, according to Kathy Wilbur, director of the Michigan Department of Consumer and Industry Services.

"Record keeping is an important part of a company's total safety and health plan," she said. "Conscientious and detailed records are a valuable tool for the employer or employees to help recognize patterns of accidents or illnesses, and most importantly, to take preventative actions for a safer and healthier workplace."

The CIS Bureau of Safety and Regulation, which is responsible for the Michigan Occupational Health and Safety Act (MIOSHA), requires most Michigan employers with 11 or more employees to log and maintain records of work-related injuries and illnesses, and to make those records available during MIOSHA inspections of the workplace.

Employers with 10 or fewer employees and employers in certain industry groups (retail trade; finance, insurance and real estate, and certain services industries) normally are exempt from the MIOSHA record keeping and posting requirements. But such exemptions do not excuse any employer from coverage by MIOSHA or from compliance with all applicable safety and health standards.

Employers can call the MIOSHA Information Division at (517) 322-1848 for more information about recordkeeping or to receive the MIOSHA Log.

Women may boost U.S. labor force

A tendency for women to delay childbearing may have a greater impact on the number of people in the work force in the years ahead, according to Chicago Federal Reserve Bank Economist Lisa Barrow.

"Women with higher wages are significantly more likely to return to work, and women facing higher child-care costs or having greater other family income are significantly less likely to return to work," according to Ms. Barrow. "Older women, women with more education and women whose adult female role model was working when they were teen-agers" also are more likely to return to work after their first children.

Because of this, Ms. Barrow says, we should expect to see "continuing increases in the labor force participation rate of women," and an increase in the size of the labor force.

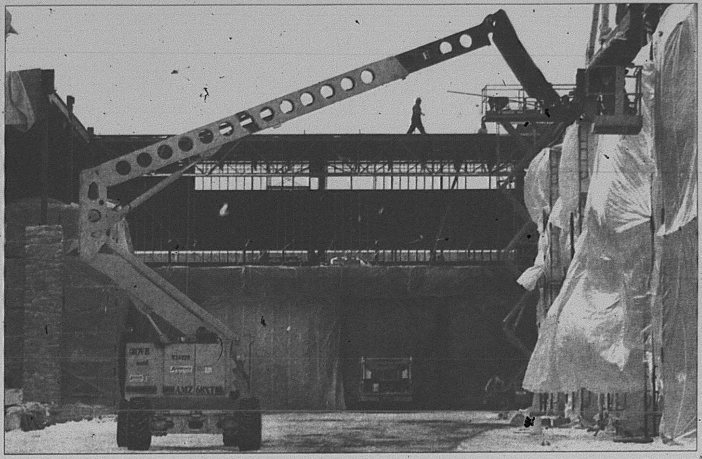
She also found that new mothers with less high school education who do not have spouses present are no more sensitive to child care costs than other women, nor is their decision to return to work more sensitive to the unemployment rate of the county in which they live.

Retailers optimistic about days ahead

Eighty-one percent of Michigan retailers expect the first three months of this year to be as good or better than last year.

The Michigan Retail Index, a joint project of the Michigan Retailers Association (MRA) and the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, found that 48 percent of retailers expect better year-to-year sales through March, and 33 percent expect sales to be unchanged.

The index shows that retailers posts an average 1999 sales gain of 5.4 percent, and sales increases for the holiday season averaged 5.9 percent.



— Evening News photo by TRAVIS HARTMAN

Construction is continuing on the 240,000-square-foot Cabela's store expected to open this fall at M-50 and US-23 near Dundee. The coming of the huge retailer has spurred the formation of a small business association in the village.

Capitalizing on Cabela's

■ Dundee area businesses have created a coalition to monitor growth while helping to make the most of new development.

By CHARLES SLAT
Evening News staff writer

Mayflies, those pesky critters that descend on parts of Monroe County each spring, generally aren't cause for celebration.

But some enterprising Dundee area businesses are planning a community festival this spring based on the waterborne insects.

"It seems like an oddball idea, but the point of it is that we wanted to come up with a new idea and not just have another fall festival," says Sean McClellan, owner of the Cat & The Goldfish gift shop and Dundee Printing & Office Supply.

Mr. McClellan, who also publishes The Dundee Independent newspaper, is president of the recently formed Dundee Area Business Association (DABA), a growing coalition of businesses and non-profit organizations that hope to survive amid and capitalize upon the area boom being fueled by the coming of Cabela's.

Construction is continuing on the huge outdoors-equipment store, expected to open this fall. State officials predict the store will become one of the state's top tourist draws.

It was one of the reasons area businesspeople decided last fall that some sort of association would be in their best interests.

"The coming of Cabela's retail outlet meant major changes in the business environment and DABA organizers felt it was imperative to strengthen local businesses and promote the entire community," Mr. McClellan explains.

Michael Niemann, head of retail development for Swan Creek Candle Co., says part of the impetus for forming DABA was "just to try to get the community organized around our small-town feeling and to do our utmost to keep us a village in the midst of all this development we're seeing."

He says the organization hasn't taken a formal position on growth. "Informally, of course, we welcome Cabela's, but we're not in a position of welcoming all else that comes along because we don't know what it is."

Other factors in the formation, according to Mr. McClellan, were that the Dundee Downtown Development Authority didn't meet very often and had no money to spend on new projects. Local businesspeople also felt they didn't have a way to effectively communicate with one another or with community leaders.

Now the DABA is meeting every two weeks, has about 48 dues-paying members, just has published its first newsletter, and is working on several projects. One of its first efforts was a "Christmas in the Triangle" event in December – the raising, decorating and lighting of a Christmas tree in the village's center, complete with caroling groups.

The Mayfly Festival, planned June 10, is one of them. It's meant to emphasize that the reappearance of the mayflies in large numbers in recent years is evidence of a cleaner environment. The festival expects to feature various entertainment and attractions, including several groups of professional kite-flyers.

Mr. McClellan says the DABA also is exploring ways to extend the hours of the Old Mill on the river. The historic mill is open only a few hours on Mondays. The goal is to have it be open at least two days a week once Cabela's opens and, ultimately, seven days a week.

DABA has slightly selfish interests in

See **DABA**, Page 2D

The DABA at a glance

What: Dundee Area Business Association

When: Meets 8 a.m. first Thursday of each month, 7 p.m. third Thursday of each month.

Where: The Old Mill, 242 Toledo St., just east of the river off M-50.

Why: To provide a forum for discussing common concerns and planning community events.

Who can join: Businesses or non-profit organizations.

For more information: Call Sean McClellan at 529-2688 or visit the DABA Web site at www.historicdundee.com.

Whirlpool looks to innovation to boost appliance sales

— AP photo by RON LEIFELD

Home economist Deborah Larsen runs a development machine through a performance test in the Washer Life Test Lab in Benton Harbor, Mich. The lab puts washing machines through 5,000 runs, considered to be a lifetime of use.

BENTON HARBOR, Mich. (AP) — Following laundry-toting moms and dads around with a video camera and stopwatch wasn't part of Sarah Anti's job description when she joined Whirlpool Corp.

But in an increasingly competitive North American market, the United States' No. 1 appliance maker decided that was the best way to learn what Americans love and hate about washing clothes.

"We felt that if we were really going to be an innovator in the market, we really had to get into this and understand people's experience doing laundry," recalls Anti, who heads the Whirlpool Institute of Fabric Science.

As the number of American and Canadian consumers who own household appliances grows, manufacturers no longer can rely on volume to boost their profits. So Whirlpool and its chief competitors, General Electric and Maytag, are focusing on upscale products so profitable they can sell fewer and still make money.

That means sleek, space-age refrigerators, speedcook ovens and super-stain-fighting washing machines for consumers willing to pay top dollar for convenience.

"I love to cook and I like plenty of refrigerator space," says Susan Marciniak of Rogers, Ark., who is spending more than $7,000 on appliances including a five-burner stovetop to create the kitchen of her dreams.

"Everything is so much more efficient, it comes out faster and it's easier to put together. It's a huge convenience to anybody who cooks," says Leslie Anderson of Grand Rapids, who recently remodeled her kitchen to include a stainless steel refrigerator that retails for about $5,200.

To compete, Whirlpool, long renowned for assembly line innovations that allowed it to cut prices, is shifting its energies into innovations that attract affluent consumers.

The company also is spending hundreds of thousands of dollars on cutting-edge advertising and marketing to boost brands.

But Whirlpool, with the exception of its KitchenAid brand, is late to the high-end marketing game, says Christie Nordhielm of Northwestern University's J.L. Kellogg School of Management.

Affluent consumers are going to be more concerned with image than price, so a

See **WHIRLPOOL**, Page 2D

FEB 6 2000

GM up, Ford mixed, Daimler Chrysle

■ Most automakers kept up the record pace of 1999, including a GM's 12-percent sales increase and Ford's 3-percent hike over last January.

BY JUSTIN HYDE
AP auto writer

DETROIT — While January storms hurt some U.S. sales of cars and trucks, most automakers managed to keep the sales momentum from a record 1999 churning into 2000.

Major American automakers were a mixed bag. General Motors Corp. reported Tuesday a sizable increase, while Ford Motor Co. posted a more modest gain and the Chrysler division of DaimlerChrysler AG said its sales were down slightly. Most foreign automakers said their sales remained strong.

GM said its sales of cars, pickups, minivans and sport utility vehicles were up 12 percent overall, with an 18 percent increase in truck sales and a 6.5 percent increase in car sales over January, 1999.

Many of those gains came from GM mainstays whose production had been slowed while new versions were rolled out, like the Chevrolet Suburban SUV, the Silverado pickup and the Cadillac DeVille sedan. GM's results do not include sales from its Saab unit.

Analyst David Healy with Burnham Securities said GM also benefited from comparison to a weak January, 1999. But GM said even taking that into account, its performance still was good.

"We're off to a brisk beginning, and we think the industry is off to a brisk beginning," said Paul Ballew, GM's director of industry analysis.

Sales at Ford were up 3 percent because of a 15 percent gain in cars that outweighed a 3 percent decline in trucks. Ford's results do not include sales from the Volvo or Jaguar lines that it owns.

The decline in truck sales was led by the Ranger pickup, but also hit most of the company's SUVs — the Ford Explorer and Excursion and the Lincoln Navigator. Healy said some of the decline was likely because of new truck models from GM, Dodge and other automakers luring customers from Ford's aging lineup.

"Their bread-and-butter light truck lines have been out there a while and are getting hurt by the competition," Healy said.

While some of Ford's gains in cars came from new models — the restyled Ford Taurus/Mercury Sable sedans, the Focus compact and the Lincoln LS — the biggest gains were posted by two models that Ford plans to discontinue, the Ford Contour/Mercury Mystique sedans. Healy said Ford might be trying to clear out its lots.

"Certainly y ing up around lete models ur deals," he said

Sales of Chr cles were dov cars and tru Much of the d Plymouth lin ing out. Other minivan sale pickups and D

Jamie James president for tions, said the because of co results from a winter storm Chrysler hard

Overall, "thi month," James

As a group, ued to improv

Ice wars

State tests ways to thwart slick roads

LANSING (AP) — Now that winter's icy grip has firmly taken hold in Michigan, the state is testing the latest ways to keep ice off the roads.

New deicers are being used on an interstate in Kalamazoo, streets in Bay City, sidewalks at the University of Michigan and the Zilwaukee Bridge in Saginaw.

Plus, a high-tech system that automatically sprays chemicals as soon as ice starts to form will be installed this year on the "S" curve, now being rebuilt on US-131 in Grand Rapids.

The salt industry, which sells more than 10 million tons of road salt each winter, says it isn't worried about being deposed as the king of ice removal.

"We're not concerned at all," said Andy Briscoe, spokesman for the Salt Institute in Alexandria, Va., the industry's lobbying group. "Obviously, the Federal Highway Administration and the states are charged with experimenting with whatever may be developed or comes out.

"But after their two- or three-year test, they'll find that the cost really isn't justified."

Promoters of alternative deicers concede they'll never completely replace salt because of higher costs, but they do have advantages.

Salt brine will refreeze below 15 degrees, whereas a deicer called Ice Ban typically will hold up well below zero, said Hilliard Shackford, the product's Michigan sales coordinator based in Davison.

Its main ingredient is waste from the milling process used to make beer, wine or cider.

Ice Ban, a syrupy liquid, can reduce winter-maintenance costs by enabling road agencies to use less salt, Shackford said.

Shackford has landed a few dozen Michigan customers for Ice Ban, including maintenance agencies in Bay City, Arenac County and at the University of Michigan campuses in Ann Arbor and Flint.

The Michigan Department of Transportation began trying Ice Ban on roads near Niles last winter, and this year expanded the test to a 36-mile section of I-94 near Kalamazoo, spokesman Ari Adler said.

MDOT is using another chemical deicer, calcium magnesium acetate (CMA), on the Zilwaukee Bridge, the Blue Water Bridge at Port Huron and the International Bridge in Sault Ste. Marie because it won't corrode the steel structures like salt, Adler said.

CMA, made by Cryotech Inc., costs about $18 a gallon, but Michigan is tapping a federal program that reimburses 80 percent of the costs for salt alternatives, said Dawn Powers, Cryotech's marketing coordinator.

Guidelines to chemical deicing offered

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chemists at the Dow Chemical Co. in Midland say one of the keys to minimizing concrete damage is to lessen the number of freeze/thaw cycles to which sidewalks and paths are subjected.

If a deicer melts snow and ice, the slush is removed and any remaining brine stays in liquid form rather than refreezing when the temperature drops, the concrete will be spared another hard freeze.

Snow and ice melted by a deicer with a low practical temperature limit — the temperature at which sufficient deicing action occurs within a reasonable amount of time — are more likely to remain in the liquid form despite a temperature drop.

The following shows the lowest practical temperature for commonly used deicer materials.

- Calcium chloride: 25 degrees below zero.
- Magnesium chloride: 5 degrees.
- Sodium chloride (salt): 20 degrees.
- Potassium chloride: 25 degrees.
- 50/50 mixture — sodium chloride and potassium chloride: 20 degrees.
- Urea: 25 degrees.

Source: The Dow Chemical Co.

Monte Carlo bets or

BY ANN M. JOB
For The Associated Press

Imagine the 2000 Chevrolet Monte Carlo with a touch of the racetrack.

To hear Chevy tell it, that's the deal. The auto company is offering a newly redesigned Monte Carlo that it says reflects racetrack demands as well as consumer needs.

"GM Motorsports engineers were involved in the very early stages of Monte Carlo's development," said Gary White, vehicle line executive. "Their input helped Monte Carlo achieve a look that is attractive and functional. It's a shape that works well on the street and the racetrack."

The new model debuts at NASCAR's Winston Cup venues starting this month. The mass production, nonracing Monte Carlo is already on sale at dealerships with a starting manufacturer's suggested retail price plus destination charge of $19,850. (That compares with $19,595 for a 2000 Dodge Avenger and $22,903 for a Toyota Camry Solara with V6 and automatic transmission.)

As you might expect, the new Monte Carlo doesn't share everything with the 800-horsepower NASCAR racers. But you'll recognize the common shape of the hood, windshield, roof and rear decklid.

Even without racing decals, the new Monte Carlo production car gets plenty of stares, thanks to new styling that seems to accentuate the short, high and provocative rear. There, vertical taillamps stand out from today's more mainstream forms.

This is okay, according to Monte Carlo Brand Manager Don Parkinson. Target buyers "want a car that gets them noticed," he said.

In fact, the mere size of the Monte Carlo brings some attention from buyers accustomed to finding four doors on a car this big — a nearly 200-inch, midsize model.

The Monte Carlo, which is based on the Chevy Impala sedan, is at least 7.7 inches longer than sport coupe competitors like the Avenger and Solara. It's also wider and heavier.

Chevrolet makes no excuses, saying the Monte Carlo is being true to its heritage as a sizable, personal coupe.

But earlier Monte Carlos were rear-wheel drive and had big V8s under the hood. The 2000 Monte Carlo is front-wheel drive and comes only with V6 engines that also are available in other General Motors Corp. vehicles.

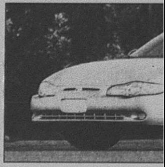
These V6s are certainly adequate, however, for their duties.

The test car — the base LS — had the base, 3.4-liter overhead valve V6 generating up to 180 horsepower at 5,200 revolutions a minute, which is more than the 163 horses of the V6-powered Avenger.

Torque is 205 pounds-feet at 4,000 rpm, which is just slightly below the 214 at 4,400 rpm of the Solara equipped with V6.

I didn't hesitate to merge with city traffic, and the Monte Carlo responded readily. The test car felt at ease on the freeway, too, with decent passing capability.

Engine sound came through to the passenger compartment even in mild acceleration. It was strong and confident, not annoyingly whining.



Chevrolet Monte Carlo

Base price: $19,290.

As tested: $23,188.

Type: Front-engine, front-wheel drive, five-passenger, midsize coupe.

Engine: 3.4-liter, overhead valve V6.

Mileage: 20 mpg (city), 32 mpg (highway).

Top speed: 121 mph.

Don't commit the uh-fense

The difference between a good businessperson and a great one is a little thing I like to call the "uh."

It's the out-loud pause someone takes before finishing a thought when speaking.

The good ones may use it, the great ones never do.

Granted it's not the worse thing a person can do when speaking.

Having lunch left in your teeth, bad breath or a stain on your collar ranks higher than a simple "uh," but they are just as noticeable.

When having a potential sale or long-lasting business relationship on the line, why take the chance of sounding off? The "uh" is a cancer on speech. It makes the speaker sound less knowledgeable and irritates the average listener.

How smart do professional athletes sound when they're interviewed and put "uh" or "ah" or some silly catch phrase in their responses?

"Uh, that's right. When it rains, uh, it pours. Like I said, uh, we did it once, we did it, uh, again."

I've thrown many a remote control in disgust after watching one of these uh-tterly terrible interviews. If I had a remote control at every business function I attended, I'd do the same because more of us, including me, are guilty of the uh-fense than we care to acknowledge.

Tim Kissman
Small Business Association of Michigan

Write like you speak and speak like you write.

Here are some tips to help you through the tough times on stage or at a business mixer:

Choose 'em. Choose your words carefully when you're speaking. If it's a speech, have them written out in advance and practice what you want to say before you have to speak. It reduces the chances of an "uh" and allows you to make eye contact with your audience and not the hotel's stationery.

Watch your speed. Don't talk too fast, or for that matter, too slow. Talk in your natural tone and speed. It projects a comfortable image to your listeners, especially if it's a one-on-one conversation.

Be aware. Know how you sound. Practice in front of a mirror before your speech. Grab a spouse, child or a pet and run your speech by them or just practice casual conversation. Even if you think you've mastered the art of conversation, it doesn't hurt to keep your talents sharp.

Everybody says an "uh" at sometime. It's a natural way for your mouth to catch up with your brain. That doesn't mean it should be a habit.

FROM PAGE 1D

DABA (cont.)

seeing the Old Mill hours extended, Mr. McClellan admits. It wants to lure potential shoppers through the village's downtown. Beyond that, he says, "we feel it's important that, with any of the traffic coming into town, people need to have something to do other than shop."

DABA representatives also have been meeting with village representatives to enhance lines of

Whirlpool (cont.)

strong marketing message is key, she says.

Companies like Sub-Zero and Bosch have spent years building a following among affluent consumers. Demand for Maytag's Neptune washing machine was so great there were waiting lists.

Whirlpool's plans to introduce a speedcook oven come several months after Maytag and General Electric introduced similar appliances, which sell for upwards of

Markets

Technology helps issues

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks were modestly lower at the start of trading today, although technology stocks once again held up better than the broad market.

In the first hour of trading on Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average was down 64.22 at 10,899.58.

Broader stock indicators were narrowly mixed. The Standard & Poor's 500 index was down 4.76 at 1,419.61, and the Nasdaq composite index was up .63 at 4,244.77.

The Dow's weakness came from J.P. Morgan, down 1 7/16 at 117 11/16, and 3M, down 1 13/16 at 87¼.

Yet there was little news to give the market direction today. Concerns that interest rates will rise sharply this year continue to weigh on investors' minds, but very little data on the economy's strength is due for release this week.

Drug stocks were mostly higher after Pfizer and Warner-Lambert Co. resolved their bruising three-month takeover battle. Pfizer will pay $90 billion in stock to acquire Warner-Lambert, creating the world's second largest pharmaceutical company.

Pfizer rose ¾ to 36½ and Warner-Lambert gained 2 7/16 to 97. American Home Products, which had also conducted merger talks with Warner-Lambert, rose 2 11/16 to 48 3/16. The company will be paid $1.8 billion — the largest breakup fee in history — to sever its contract with Warner-Lambert.

Declining issues outnumbered advancers by a 6-to-5 margin on the New York Stock Exchange, where volume came to 135.93 million shares, well behind Friday's early pace.

Overseas, Japan's Nikkei stock average rose 1 percent. In afternoon trading, Germany's DAX index was down .4 percent, Britain's FT-SE 100 was down .2 percent, and France's CAC-40 was up .9 percent.

	Closed Fri.	10:30 today
Air Gas	7 5/8	7 1/2
American Tel. and Tel.	50 5/8	50 13/16
Associates	19 3/8	20 1/4
BP-Amoco	49 1/4	48 3/8
CMS Energy	20 3/8	20 7/16
CSX	27 11/16	27 5/8
Comerica	43 5/16	42 11/16
DaimlerChrysler	66 1/16	65 1/4
Dana Corp.	22 11/16	22 11/16
Delphi Automotive	17 1/2	17 11/16
DTE Energy	33 1/4	33 3/16
Dow Chemical	112 3/16	112 1/4
Eastman Kodak	63 1/4	63 1/2
Elder-Beerman	5 1/8	5 1/8
Fifth-Third Bank	62 1/4	61 1/16
Firstenergy	22 5/16	22 3/16
Ford Motor	48 1/16	47 13/16
General Electric	141 9/16	140 5/8
General Motors	82 3/8	81
General Tel. and El.	69	69 1/2
IBM	115 5/8	115 11/16
Int. Paper (Union Camp)	45 5/8	44 15/16
Jefferson Smurfit	19 7/8	19 15/16
Key Corp.	20 1/8	20 3/16
Kmart	8 11/16	8 3/4
Lear Seating	27 3/16	27
La-Z-Boy Incorporated	14 5/16	14 3/8
Micron Tech	67 3/8	71 1/4
Morgan Stanley-Dean Witter	65 11/16	64 5/8
Monroe Bank & Trust	34 3/4	34 3/4
Monsanto	42 1/4	42
National City	20 1/2	20 7/8
National Steel	7 3/16	7 1/4
Penney, J.C.	17 7/8	17 3/4
PepsiCo	32 3/4	32 1/2
Pfizer	35 3/4	36 5/16
Rite Aid	7 3/16	7 5/16
Sears Roebuck	31 7/8	31 5/16
Seaway Foodtown	21 3/8	21 3/8
Tenneco	9 7/8	9 7/8
United Industrial	8 1/2	8 1/2
USX	24 5/16	23 11/16
Utilicorp	19 3/16	19
Viacom	61 13/16	60 5/16
Woolworth	6 3/16	6 1/8
Worthington	14 3/8	14 7/16

(Courtesy of Morgan Stanley Dean Witter)

Local cash grain

Ida Farmer's Co-Op Co.	Fri. 9 a.m.	Mon. 9 a.m.
No. 2 White Wheat	$1.92	$1.99
No. 2 Red Wheat	$2.07	$2.14
Corn	$1.85	$1.88
Soybeans	$4.63	$4.73

2000 New crop prices

No. 2 Red Wheat	$2.24	$2.29
Corn	$2.02	$2.08
Soybeans	$4.79	$4.91

Prices are subject to change.
Regularly updated grain prices are available on infoNOW at 242-4636, selection 3500.

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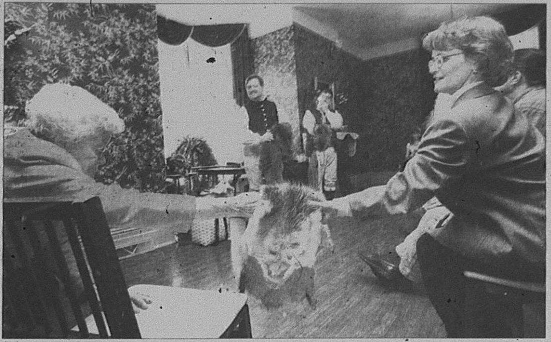

— Evening News photo by MATTHEW SMOLINSKY

Wilma Hall (left) of Monroe passes an animal skin to Charlotte Gronda of Brownstown Township Sunday during a Frenchtown Frenchmen presentation at the Sawyer Homestead in Monroe. Ralph Naveaux and Gerry Wykes dressed in authentic French settler clothing and told stories on topics like fur trading and land acquisition.

Life along the River Raisin

Fur trade, battles with Indians marked early life of Monroe's initial settlers

- Gerry Wykes and Ralph Naveaux had the crowd in stitches while telling tales about the French settlers and their struggles during a program at the historic Sawyer Homestead.

By DEAN COUSINO
Evening News staff writer

Ever wonder how Francois Navarre, the first white settler in Monroe, got his farmland?

"He took it," a woman quipped at the Sawyer Homestead history program Sunday afternoon.

Well, not exactly, clarified Gerry Wykes, who along with Ralph Naveaux entertained about 30 guests with tales of fur trading and life of early French settlers along the River Raisin in the late 1700s.

Both French connoisseurs of 18th century life in Monroe, the two dressed in cloth-and-vest outfits and used their best French-Canadian accents to share anecdotes about the lives of traders, generals and voyageurs. They spoke in the ornate green parlor of the Sawyer home built in 1873 by Dr. Isaac Sawyer. The site at 320 E. Front St. is a city historic district known for where the Navarre family lived and which served as a center for the River Raisin settlement.

"It's not just an old house," Jeanne Micka, social coordinator for the group, said. "People don't realize how important it is."

Indeed, the two-story home played a key role in Monroe's early history. It later housed the Monroe County Historical Museum, American Red Cross, Camp Fire Girls and other civic organizations since it was deeded to the city in 1938.

The Navarre land was acquired in a trade with a Potawatomi chief in 1785, according to Mr. Wykes. One day while riding along a river trail, Mr. Navarre met the chief, who became fond of his horse. The chief told him he had a dream that a white man would give him a fine horse like his.

"And you know dreams come true," the chief said.

Mr. Navarre thought about it and the next time he saw the chief, he told him he had a dream, too. He said in his dream, he traded the horse for all of the land near the river.

The startled chief reluctantly agreed to the trade, but cautioned his friend, "Okay, I give you the land, but don't dream any more dreams."

Most of the time, the settlers got along with the Indians, except during the War of 1812 when the British enlisted them to fight on their side.

Mr. Wykes told another story about a Mr. Dusseau that took place before the war. Mr. Dusseau had left his gun at home and went to split logs in the forest. Three Potawatomi braves surrounded him and threatened to take him back to their camp. Without his weapon, Mr. Dusseau had to think fast or his goose was cooked.

He tricked the braves into helping him finish splitting a huge log with a prying tool. Mr. Dusseau arranged to have the log snap shut on the Indians' hands, so Mr. Dusseau was able to slip away.

Later, he returned and convinced the three to leave him alone if he set them free.

> "The voyageur life was a tough one. They'd do this for two or three years, then do something else."
>
> —Gerry Wykes

Mr. Naveaux, wearing moccasins and two garters to hold up his britche, talked about how Gen. Winchester made the Navarre cabin his military headquarters prior to the Battle of the River Raisin in January, 1813. Both the general and his staff slept in the "Great Room" of the home near the fireplace when they were awakened early one morning by a solder who warned that the British were attacking his army. The general tried to escape, but was captured along with Mr. Navarre. Many of the soldiers' families who lived in the settlement also were taken into custody and moved to Detroit. Among them was Madame Couture, wife of John Baptiste, a local militia captain who was killed in the battle. Her fears that he had been slain were confirmed when an Indian approached the camp wearing a blood-stained coat her husband had owned.

Mr. Wykes, 42, wore a St. Anne's medal around his neck. St. Anne was the patron saint of all voyageurs.

"The voyageur life was a tough one. They'd do this for two or three years, then do something else," he said.

He and Mr. Naveaux showed various fur pelts and traps and snares used to capture the river-dwelling animals. The beaver hide was by far the most valuable of furs, because of its super soft texture and pliable hide that could be used for clothing. A deer skin, although larger than the beaver, was the least valuable.

Using an 1804 price list for trading goods, Mr. Wykes said "everything was reduced down to the value of beaver skins." Muskrat hides were good, too, but it took 10 of them to purchase one beaver hide. A twist of tobacco was worth two beavers while a pound of musket balls or three large glass beads were worth one beaver.

Mr. Naveaux, 51, stressed the importance of the muskrat to the early settlers when their crops failed or when their houses were burned by the British.

"This little animal is what saved us all in 1812," he said. At least they could still trade furs for goods they needed.

Volunteers from the audience helped demonstrate tools of the trade. Cathy Taylor assisted in testing a double-spring fox trap with a wooden peg while Steve Gronda, Dan Bialko and Mr. Wykes' son dressed as a canoe paddler, hunter and recorder, respectively, for a make-believe expedition.

With a six-foot-long musket and wearing a beaver cap, Mr. Bialko attempted a William Tell-like shot of an apple off the head of Richard Micka, but only drew a puff of smoke from a flint since the gun was unloaded.

"See, you're just a flash in the pan," Mr. Wykes said with a laugh.

He concluded the 1½-hour program with "Mon Amie," a tale of his grandfather, a great hunter and his close relationship with his musket used to ward off robbers and wolves.

Masked gunman robs Lambertville Food Town

LAMBERTVILLE – A masked gunman surprised two Food Town supermarket employees in a parking lot, ordered them back inside and robbed the place early Saturday morning.

The robber got away with a bundle of money and left four shaken employees lying on the floor, authorities said. The holdup happened just after closing time, something that apparently was planned by the offender.

"He knew the routine," said Monroe County sheriff's Detective Tom Redmond.

Detective Redmond said the robber most likely staked out the store before making his move. It was not determined if more than one person was involved.

Apparently, one or two men hung around the store at 7375 Secor Rd. on two occasions recently. Employees told detectives that the man was acting suspicious when he stood around and waited as the store closed, buying nothing.

On Saturday, five minutes after the supermarket closed, the two women, 19 and 32, left to go home. As they walked through the lot, the gunman confronted them.

"This guy jumped out between vehicles," Detective Redmond said. "He ordered them back into the store."

Another employee was inside the store and all three were ordered on the floor in the manager's office. A cleanup man, unaware of what was happening, stumbled upon the robbery scene and also was ordered down to the floor.

The robber, armed with a handgun, stole the money and fled in a small, dark Chevrolet Blazer or Ford Bronco II type vehicle. It was not determined if there was a getaway driver.

Deputy Doug Arndt reported the gunman was described as white with dark complexion armed with a silver handgun. He was about 6 feet tall, had a husky build and was wearing a dark ski mask and dark clothing.

Anyone with information regarding the heist is asked to call the sheriff's department at 240-7530.

Erie Township

New solid waste plan being presented in county

- *The solid waste plan was okayed in November. It is now being presented to various municipalities around the county.*

ERIE – A lengthy process for enacting a five-year solid waste management plan for Monroe County begins this week with the first presentation of the proposal to an area municipality.

The Erie Township Board, which meets at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Erie Township Hall, will be among the first of the 24 municipalities in Monroe County to review and vote on the plan, township Supervisor Daniel Bonkoski said. The first presentation on the plan takes place tonight at Monroe City Council meeting.

The Monroe County Board of Commissioners approved the plan in November, after more than a year of research and meetings. Mr. Bonkoski, who served on the committee that came up with the proposal, said Michigan law requires that 67 percent of the affected cities, villages and townships sign off on the plan.

As a result, Monroe County Solid Waste Coordinator Maureen Pfund is scheduled to give Erie board members a slide presentation about the proposal.

"This is going to come up 20 more times," Mr. Bonkoski said about the votes from local municipalities.

Once the local lobbying effort is done, the plan will go to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality for a review on the goals and technical issues. Their response is expected to take several months.

This is the county's first update to the solid waste plan in seven years. During the earlier stages of the plan, a dispute arose about including the former Jefferson Smurfit landfill near N. Dixie Hwy. and E. Elm Ave. in the plan. But some people thought it was best to keep that landfill in mind as an option for future needs.

In other business, the Erie Township Board will discuss:

- Long-range plans for a $2.5 million bond issue on a new water line that will be about seven miles long and include parts of Sterns, Suder, Temperance Rds. and S. Dixie Hwy.
- Adoption of a "motor vehicle code" that is expected to assist the local police because it better complements the state traffic laws as compared to what is now authorized in the township.
- Further negotiations with the Level 3 Communication company about a fiber-optics plan.

Black History Month

— Evening News photo by CARL CONOVER

James Philpot, 85, moved to Monroe in 1914 from Alabama.

James Philpot

Name: James Philpot, 85

Born: 1914, Notasulga, Ala.

Came to Monroe: He came to Monroe in 1930 with his parents.

"Dad was a farmer. During the depression in 1929, he lost his shirt and moved here."

They were joining his sister, Selina and her husband, the Rev. White, pastor of Second Baptist Church on Conant Ave.

Employment: Mr. Philpot left school in 11th grade to work. His first paying job was in construction work. "It was hard, hard work for only 35 cents an hour."

He worked construction for O.W. Burt, manual labor for Walter Knapp and was employed at Newton Steel for four years. He commuted back and forth to Lima Locomotive in Lima, Ohio for a year and a half. He worked for 36 years at Detroit Stoker until retirement.

Family: "Papa knew everyone at Tuskegee. He was a member of the Farmer's Conference." Mr. Philpot said he remembers going with his dad twice a week to Tuskegee, six miles from his hometown. He also recalls being in George Washington Carver's class. "Tuskegee was a strict school. You didn't go and goof off. The first semester they sent you home, if you were not working," he said with a hardy laugh. His dad, John Philpot, worked for Ohio China Co. and for private families here. His mother, Mary, did housework. Mr. Philpot and his wife, Margaret, were married in 1936. She died in 1987. He has one child.

Quote: "In the 70 years I've been here I've seen a lot of changes. There were more black businesses in the '30's, owned by black people, than it is now."

This feature, which will run each day of the month, highlights some of Monroe County's African-American citizens. It is written by Denise A. Gray

Election 2000

New precincts set for Erie Township voters

- *Voters who live on Sterns Rd. and parts of Suder Ave. and S. Dixie Hwy. in Erie Township will have a new voting precinct.*

ERIE – Registered voters in Erie Township who live on Sterns Rd. and parts of Suder Ave. and S. Dixie Hwy., have been assigned to a different election precinct.

There also are new voting locations for all Erie Township voters.

Gayle A. Burlen, township clerk, said the changes take effect with the Feb. 22 presidential primary election.

The precinct boundaries were redrawn so to have a more even population split between the two township precincts, she said. There are about 3,000 registered voters in the township. All registered voters in the township who live on Sterns Rd., and all roads south of Sterns, including parts of Suder and S. Dixie have been reassigned from Precinct 2 to Precinct 1. Also reassigned to Precinct 1 are residents of Hidden Creek Mobile Home Park and several residential streets in the southwest part of Erie Township.

Voting will no longer take place at Mason Consolidated Schools buildings, she added. Instead, all Precinct 1 residents will vote at the Morin Point fire station at 6333 Summit St., and all Precinct 2 residents will vote at the Erie Township Hall at 2065 Erie Rd.

Residents who are affected by the changes were sent notices in the mail.

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DEBORAH SAUL, editor
THOMAS J. CHULSKI, editorial page editor
SHIRLEY HYDEN, business manager

Our View

Settle up on bus feud

- To the point

A condo group needs more flexible policies if a local bus service is to serve the complex's residents adequately.

Condominium associations are notorious for making rules that are tough to live with, so the stand the Woodcrest Condominium Association is taking in regard to Lake Erie Transit bus service should not surprise anyone.

Josephine Hetu is 87. She does not have a car and, for safety's sake, probably would not drive it if she did. So she relies upon the bus service to stop by her door and take her to the bank, store and other places people might visit in a normal day.

The condo group says that's got to change. The association has weight restrictions on the vehicles that residents use, and officials are concerned that the LET buses might ruin the condo complex's asphalt parking area. So they said Mrs. Hetu must meet the bus at a point on the street about 100 yards from where she lives, or face fines.

This is understandably upsetting to Mrs. Hetu, who says she was not fully aware of the rule when she moved into the condo complex. It's also upsetting to LET officials, who say their buses do not do any damage at the complex, any more than they damage the asphalt lot at LET.

The condo group has bent its rules, allowing the buses to enter the parking lot to serve Mrs. Hetu on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The group's officials say Mrs. Hetu from the start should have examined condo bylaws that clearly state the weight restrictions.

This dispute may get worse before it gets better. Mrs. Hetu has a lawyer. The condo group has a lawyer. LET officials say, barring a court order, they intend to continue giving Mrs. Hetu rides.

This matter simply should not make it to court. The fact that a federally subsidized bus service is involved could make matters even messier. The condo group also apparently makes exceptions to its vehicle-weight rules already for delivery trucks and other heavy vehicles. It probably also would be forced to prove that no vehicle of any of its other current residents violates the weight restriction.

All sides need to sit down and reach some further agreement. Certainly Mrs. Hetu cannot be the only resident who ever would need public bus service, and certainly none of the parties really can afford a court battle.

Left-handed candidates aplenty

- To the point

Is it mere coincidence, or something else, that most of the top presidential contenders are southpaws?

What do most of the leading candidates for president have in common, other than the obvious ones of great ambition and a desire to take risks?

The answer may be surprising: Most of them are left-handed. Al Gore, Bill Bradley, John McCain and Steve Forbes all are lefties. Of the top tier of candidates, only George W. Bush is right-handed.

This is rather remarkable, considering that only about 10 percent of the population is left-handed. Is this just an amazing coincidence? Or is there something about the psyches or the biology of southpaws that make them good candidates for the nation's top job?

Oddly enough, this is a relatively recent trend. Bill Clinton is a lefty, so was Gerald Ford. But before them only Harry Truman, Herbert Hoover and James Garfield were left-handed presidents.

In part, this might be that in times past American parents were more likely to try to break their children of the left-handed habit, to force them into right-handedness, for their own good. Left-handedness was viewed as not "normal," and lefties as having a tough time fitting in.

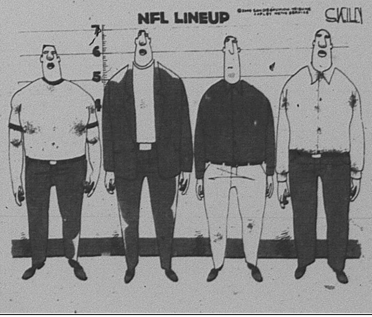
That last part certainly was – and still is – true. Left-handers grow up learning to live with smudged handwriting (though at least they do not have to cope with right-handed desks in school anymore). Everything seems to conspire against them: From can openers to cars to computers to golf clubs, everyday tools usually are designed for right-handers.

But in recent decades parents have been told they should not stifle their kids' left-handedness because it might cause other problems. So we might expect to see an increase in the percentage of lefties. But four of the major presidential candidates?

There are only theories, as Melissa Roth writes in a recent New York Times article. It may be the trials that lefties face in life incline them toward leadership roles.

Ms. Roth points also to a 1995 study that found left-handers scored higher "on tests of divergent thinking, a style of reasoning that generates multiple solutions." And she notes that there is a theory that left-handers give the right lobes of their brains more exercise. This different wiring might confer on lefties better tactical skills and verbal abilities, both advantages for politicians.

Again, all we have are theories. And maybe the current presidential field is full of lefties for the same basic reason that, if you play cards enough, eventually you get a full house. Still, this little-noted common trait of most of the current crop of presidential wannabes has to make one wonder if there is some sort of causal connection.



MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!
McCain
BUSH
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Other Viewpo

A great presidential race f

In 1968, Eugene McCarthy shocked the incumbent in New Hampshire by tapping into war weariness. In 1992, Pat Buchanan shocked the incumbent in New Hampshire by tapping into economic anxiety. In 2000, John McCain shocked everyone in New Hampshire by figuring out, as no other challenger has, how to run an opposition campaign in a golden age. (And, unlike McCarthy and Buchanan, McCain actually won the vote, by a landslide no less.)

It seems an insoluble problem. How to run against an incumbent vice president at a time of unprecedented prosperity and tranquility?

Charles Krauthammer
Newspaper Enterprise Association

Campaign for lower unemployment? It can't go any lower. On inflation? There isn't any. Deficits? We've got a surplus. Economic growth? The economy is expanding so fast the Fed has to slow it down.

The country is secure abroad. And even the perennial indexes of social pathology are in decline. Welfare roles have been cut in half, as has crime in many of our major cities.

The basic question of the 2000 campaign is: Why change in times this good? George W. Bush is not sure. In fact, he is not even sure why he's running. On Tuesday night he said he is in the race because he wants to "teach our children to read and write" and "teach them right from wrong." Well, yes.

He has tried to position himself as the sensible centrist, launching sensible small-bore right-of-center critiques of left-of-center Democratic policies. He suggests that with his clean record he would bridge the Clinton-Gore integrity gap.

As New Hampshire has shown, that does not exactly set the electorate on fire.

John McCain shrewdly decided that one c
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Al Gore, sitting vice presi

Letters to the E

Mailing to Milan Township residents was off-base

This is to comment on Township Treasurer Sharon Jaworski's letter to the Milan Township residents. It is a gross abuse of office for her to attempt to sway a vote in either direction. As a township official, her duty is to support the WILL OF THE MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE.

Further, who paid for this mailing? Thirty-three cents multiplied by 700 residents equals $231. Copying and envelopes multiplied by 700 costs another $175. Are we to believe that Ms. Jaworski paid more than $406 out of her own pocket? Were these Milan Township funds? Did Ann Arbor Railroad give her the money or the materials?

Ms. Jaworski says that the project must be in compliance or the township has "the ability to shut them down." Does she believe that this will be easy to do without a lengthy, expensive court fight? Do you think GM is going to sit back and have their cars unavailable for distribution nationwide while little Milan Township tries to flex its muscles? They would probably get an injunction against us for interrupting interstate commerce.

Ms. Jaworski doesn't mention in her letter that, last summer, Milan Township increased its liability coverage from $2 million to $10 million. That will take care of the Ann Arbor Railroad's threatened lawsuit. However, the liability insurance is for when someone else sue
ship. The insurance won't fur
ship's efforts to sue Ann Arb
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Why is Ms. Jaworski so wil
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Ms. Jaworski does not h

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Charles Slat: business editor

BUSINESS

The Monroe Evening News

Briefly

Bank appoints two branch executives

LAURA DOSCH

VICKI L. FRANZEN

Fifth Third Bank, Northwestern Ohio has named assistant vice presidents at its two Monroe County locations.

Laura Dosch recently was promoted to assistant vice president. She is manager of the bank's Monroe office at 1050 S. Monroe St. Before becoming banking center officer there, she managed the bank's Lambertville location, at 3559 W. Sterns Rd.

She has worked at Fifth Third since 1988, is involved with the Monroe County Chamber of Commerce, Helping Hands of Monroe County and the Bedford Business Association. She lives in Springfield Township, Ohio.

Vicki L. Franzen recently joined Fifth Third as assistant vice president and manager of the Lambertville office.

She has 19 years of banking experience and is involved with Soroptimist International of Monroe County, the Monroe County Chamber of Commerce and St. Mary Catholic Church.

A Monroe resident, she attended Monroe County Community College and the American Institute of Banking.

Fifth Third Bank, Northwestern Ohio, a Fifth Third Bancorp affiliate, has $2.6 billion in assets and operates 43 banking centers in Northwest Ohio, including the two in Monroe County.

Area resident gets promotion

Jim Durance has been promoted to executive vice president at TransWestern Publishing, an independent publisher of community telephone directories.

In this top sales management post, he is responsible for markets in New York, Michigan and Ohio.

Mr. Durance joined TransWestern Publishing as an area sales manager as part of the TransWestern's acquisition of Mast Advertising and Publishing Inc. in February, 1998. He was promoted to district sales manager in June, 1998.

He also has held sales and management posts with both Mast and Consumer Yellow Pages. Before the acquisition, he was a division sales manager at Mast.

A Monroe resident, Mr. Durance holds an associate's degree in business administration from Macomb County Community College.

"Jim has excelled at incorporating and growing new and existing TransWestern Publishing markets," said Rick Puente, TransWestern Publishing president and chief executive officer. "He has proven leadership abilities."

TransWestern is a California-based independent yellow page publisher, which has 229 directories in 16 states. In 1998, the firm had $108.9 million in revenue and $32.5 million in before-tax income.

Classes on resumes, hiring starting

Job hunters scanning the classifieds for the job of their dreams may get a jump on the competition by taking a new "Help Wanted" course being offered by Monroe County Community College.

Running for three consecutive Tuesdays beginning next Tuesday, the course will review ways to create effective cover letters and resumes, the best job interview techniques, and how to avoid mistakes that will eliminate you from the pool of prospective hirees.

The course also will touch on what local personnel managers are looking for in an employee and will provide critiques of resumes and participation in mock job interviews.

Class time runs from 7 to 8:30 p.m. each Tuesday and the cost is $19.

For more information or to register, call the Office of LifeLong Learning at 384-4127, or 1-877-YES-MCCC.

Utility reports record earnings

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Fueled by record sales and strong growth in international network operations, UtiliCorp United, the parent company of Monroe-based Michigan Gas Utilities (MGU), reported record earnings of $160.5 million for 1999, up 21 percent from $132.2 million in 1998.

Primarily due to strong gas and power marketing and trading volumes, sales in 1999 reached a record $18.6 billion — almost 50 percent higher than the $12.6 billion record posted in 1998.

"By continuing to focus on ways to create additional value with our two core businesses — electric and gas networks and energy merchant activities — we delivered again on our promise of 8 percent growth in earnings per share," said Richard C. Green, Jr., chairman and chief executive officer. "With three years of 8 percent growth under our belts, the market should now begin to recognize our long-term commitment to growth."

"A major factor in our 1999 success was the 97 percent increase in the contribution to earnings before interest and taxes from our international network businesses.

Results also benefited from a major improvement in the price of natural gas liquids, a better year in the gas marketing and trading business, and the results of our investment in Quanta Services, Inc."

Gift, collectible shop open in Monroe

Vintage Violets Mercantile, a shop featuring gifts, collectibles and items handcrafted by local artisans, opened recently at 50 W. Front St. in downtown Monroe.

Shop proprietor and artisan Carolyn Spillson, a lifetime Monroe resident, makes jewelry and Victorian-style hatpins from vintage faceted glass, crystals and metals, including some rare Venetian glass.

She also creates doll-size jewelry to complement the clothing, hats and accessories she designs for 18-inch dolls such as the popular American Girl Doll. She makes custom doll clothing and also is planning to teach basic sewing skills for girls 9 to 12.

Also within the store is the Rustic Arbor Studio, featuring sisters Susan Nelson, fiber artists, and Dawn Gallagher, a painter.

Ms. Nelson creates hand-hooked wool rugs, wall hangings and decorative goods in a primitive style using burlap backing and hand-dyed woolens often found in thrift or resale shops.

Ms. Gallagher creates hand-painted art furniture from new unfinished and antique salvaged furniture, with many designs based upon traditional folk concepts. Both sisters have traveled displayed and sold their works at Michigan art fairs and galleries.

Anna Kurtz, a Monroe resident who makes aromatic votive, wedding and specialty candles, also has her work featured at the store, as well as wooden cutout crafts for special occasions made by Anna and her sisters, Merry and Pam.

Past Tymes Antiques and Collectibles, owned by Ms. Spillson and her mother, Bernice Liedel, also is housed within the business. It features hand-painted china, Depression glass, paper nostalgia and other vintage collectibles.

Shop hours are noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; noon to 8 p.m. Thursday; and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. The telephone number is 242-7398.

Two area groceries wooing online shoppers

■ Meijer and Farmer Jack are teaming with Priceline to let shoppers name their own price for products, then pick them up at the store.

By EVENING NEWS and AP STAFF

Shoppers at area Meijer and Farmer Jack stores will have a chance to name their own prices for their favorite products through online link-up with Priceline.com, the Internet-based discount-buying service.

Starting Sunday, Farmer Jack shoppers, including those who visit the West Rd. store near Flat Rock, will be able to join Priceline's WebHouse Club. Meijer shoppers in Southeast Michigan and Toledo, including those visiting the Monroe and Woodhaven stores, will be able to start using the Priceline.com service in early March.

Price ranges for more than 700 national-brand products in more than 175 product categories are presented on the Web site, along with the percentage chance of the shopper's requested price being accepted by the store. Priceline.com officials say the Web site responds to name-your-own-price proposals within 60 seconds.

"Detroit shoppers can now use the Internet to name the price they want to pay for hundreds of grocery items and then get those items at their favorite, local supermarket at up to 50 percent off," said Jay Walker, founder of the WebHouse Club.

To use the WebHouse Club consumers log onto priceline.com from their home or office computers before visiting the store. After entering the WebHouse Club, members can select from hundreds of grocery items then, after choosing two or more brand preferences for each product category, they name their own prices.

If the price proposal is accepted, users lock in the price by prepaying online using a credit card.

They then print out a pre-paid grocery list that they can take with them to their favorite participating store.

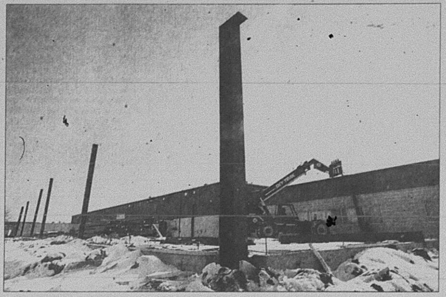
The list includes information verifying the products consumers purchased through the WebHouse Club. At the check-out counter, one swipe of a shopper's WebHouse Club card completes the process.

"We've been trying to build an e-commerce trade, and this is a win-win for us," said Meijer spokesman John Zimmerman. "We are adding an additional service to the 24-hour shopping we already have."

New WebHouse Club members participate for free, but after three months they pay $3 a month — but only for each month they use the service.

Kevin Goldman, a Priceline spokesman, says the fee should easily be recovered since the savings on a typical $35 in-store order is about $13.

Diamond in the rough



—Evening News photo by CARY CONOVER

Workers use heavy machinery to put steel beams in place for a new office building complex at Diamond Electric Manufacturing Corp. in Dundee. Started in November, the project should be completed in April. The new offices are the result of continued growth at the company. Diamond Electric makes parts for automotive ignition systems.

Annual collegiate job fair set March 31 in Livonia

Michigan employers and graduating college seniors still have time to register for the 25th Michigan Collegiate Job Fair planned March 31 at Burton Manor in Livonia.

The annual job fair brings together more than 1,000 seniors and recent alumni from colleges and universities throughout Michigan and surrounding states and nearly 200 employers.

Co-sponsored by Wayne State University and Eastern Michigan University, it is promoted by more than 80 other four-year and two-years institutions.

The Engineering Society also is a supporting sponsor.

It is one of the state's largest and longest-running job search events and attempts to match employers with prospective applicants for primarily entry-level posts.

It also provides graduates with an opportunity to practice their job-interview skills and gather information about employment opportunities.

Students may register for the fair in advance by sending a resume and check for $10 to MCJF at University Counseling and Placement Services, 1001 Faculty Administration Building, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI 48202-3622.

Fair brochures are available at many college or university placement centers.

Advance registration must be received by March 24. On-site registration will be $20.

The employer registration fee is $325 and includes floor space, table and chairs, a company sign, parking, lunch and refreshments for up to four recruiters per firm.

Employer registration is on a first-come, first-served basis and should be submitted as soon as possible.

More information is available by calling Nannette McCleary of WSU at (313) 577-3390 or Ken Meyer at EMU at (734) 487-1195.

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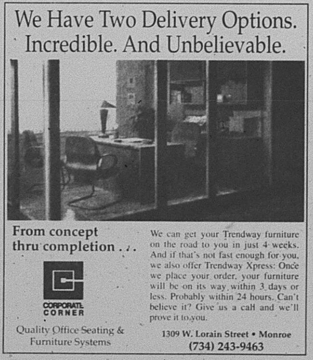

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Bush wins Delaware primary

■ Steve Forbes finished a weak third behind Sen. John McCain and quit the race early today

BY RON FOURNIER
AP Political Writer

WILMINGTON, Del. — Republican George W. Bush won Delaware's presidential primary Tuesday and earned a badly needed boost into a Southern showdown, even as antagonist John McCain burnished his insurgent candidacy by finishing second in a state where he did not campaign.

A weak third-place finish by Steve Forbes doomed his candidacy. The candidate announced his departure from the GOP race today.

Bush welcomed his first decisive win. "I think this is a piece of good news that will buoy our supporters," the Texas governor told The Associated Press after securing the state's 12 delegates.

Sen. McCain, who skipped Delaware to focus on the critical Feb. 19 primary in South Carolina, attributed his showing to the momentum generated by his shellacking of Bush in New Hampshire's leadoff primary last week.

"It's bound to give us a boost," the Arizona senator told The AP. "I think there are some good signs for us, but I think we still have a long, long way to go. I'm still the underdog."

Forbes finished a disappointing third after spending $60 million on two successive presidential bids, and was taking stock of his campaign. "Clearly, we would have liked to have done better. We will go on to Michigan and South Carolina and assess the situation as things move forward," campaign manager Bill Dal Col told The AP.

With all 28 precincts reporting, the Texas governor had 51 percent of the vote and McCain 25 percent, a solid victory for the national front-runner.

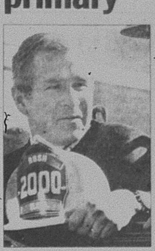
Though far behind Bush, the Arizonan did surprisingly well for a candidate who didn't visit or spend money in the state.

By contrast, Forbes had 20 percent after winning the state's primary in 1996 and campaigning heavily in the state this year.

Former ambassador Alan Keyes had just 4 percent of the vote.

Exit polls in Delaware suggested McCain benefited from a wave of post-New Hampshire publicity: Almost half of his supporters decided to vote for him in the week since that primary. And a quarter of his backers were new voters who didn't vote in the 1996 primary.

The surveys showed Bush did best among voters who are middle class, elderly, conservative and believe he is likely to win the presidency.



AP photo by ERIC DRAPER

Republican presidential candidate Texas Gov. George W. Bush holds a souvenir fire hat during a campaign stop Tuesday at the Hockessin Fire Station in New Castle, Del. Bush won the Delaware primary Tuesday, picking up the state's 12 delegates.

McCain voters tended to be affluent, well-educated and self-identified independents and moderates who said they were looking for a candidate who stands up for what he believes.

Forbes, who has pushed for a flat tax since his failed 1996 run, did well among voters who listed taxes as their top concern.

Guilty plea entered in shootings

BRANDON, Miss. (AP) — The alleged leader of a satanic group accused of masterminding the deadly shootings at Pearl High School pleaded guilty Tuesday to a lesser charge of conspiracy.

Grant Boyette, 21, had been charged with three counts of accessory to murder in the Oct. 1, 1997, shooting deaths of two students and the fatal stabbing of Mary Woodham, the mother of one of his co-defendants.

Luke Woodham is serving three life sentences for carrying out the attacks: fatally stabbing his mother, then carrying a gun to school and killing two students and wounding seven others.

During his trial in 1998, Woodham said he killed under direct orders from Boyette, a friend he described as both a mentor and tormentor who had introduced him to the occult.

He said Boyette told him he would be "spineless and gutless" if he failed to act.

Prosecutors have called Boyette the mastermind behind the shooting but prosecutor Richard Mitchell said winning a conviction would have been difficult because Woodham would have been the primary witness.

"We were having to rely on the word of a three-time convicted murderer for our case," Mitchell said. "Sometimes a case isn't as strong as we would like."

Boyette's lawyers refused to comment on the plea.

Elian's mother bullied into trip, Cuba claims

HAVANA (AP) — Chipping away at arguments that Elian Gonzalez's dead mother was seeking freedom for her son in the United States, Cuba on Tuesday described her as a timid woman bullied by a brutal boyfriend into making the tragic sea journey.

"Driven By Threats and Violence to Tragedy," read the headline of a lengthy article in the Communist Party daily Granma. It offered the government's version of the relationship between Elian's mother, Elizabeth Brotons, and her boyfriend, Lazaro Munero.

It was the latest salvo in a continuing ideological war between Cuba's communist government, which is fighting to return 6-year-old Elian to Cuba, and anti-communist Cuban-Americans in Miami, who want the boy to stay in the United States.

Elian was rescued off the coast of Florida on Nov. 25 after a boating accident that took the life of his mother, Munero and nine others. Elian's father and four grandparents live in Cuba and want him back. But Elian's relatives in Miami say the boy should stay with them out of respect to his mother, who died to give her child freedom in the United States.

Later Tuesday, Elian's father and grandparents were honored guests, along with President Fidel Castro, at one of the increasingly emotional rallies the government holds almost daily to press for Elian's return.

Elian's maternal grandmother Mariela Quintana wept as a stream of poets and actors delivered dramatic appeals for the boy's repatriation. "I just can't!" 8-year-old Claudia Macias blurted out as she broke into tears during a homage to the child the communist government calls its "boy hero."

Castro, who sat in the front row of a packed hall, embraced the girl after she later left the stage.

The Cuban government and even Brotons' mother, Raquel Rodriguez, have said Brotons was forced to make the dangerous trip by her boyfriend. U.S. immigration authorities earlier said that they believed that Munero was an illegal alien smuggler and had charged most of the passengers for the trip.

Munero was "the organizer and the principal person responsible for the tragedy," the Granma article said Tuesday.

The article offered what it said were new details about the lives of Brotons and Munero. It quoted friends and relatives of the pair, who described Munero as a man who abused women physically and verbally and whom they believed regularly beat Brotons. It even cited Munero's uncle, Dagoberto Munero Molina, who said his nephew "always treated his own family badly" and spoke roughly with Brotons.

The article said Munero had a criminal history and was convicted in 1993 for breaking into a hotel room in the resort town of Varadero.

Florida vacation companies settle suits

MIAMI (AP) — Four travel companies have settled lawsuits accusing them of deceiving thousands of customers nationwide into believing they had won Florida vacations.

In a settlement announced Tuesday, customers of National Travel Services, Ramada Plaza Resorts, Florida Travel Network and Crown Plaza Resorts are entitled to full or partial refunds.

The companies had been sued by 17 state attorneys general. The lawsuits alleged that instead of receiving free vacations as they were promised, many of the customers found themselves trapped in timeshare presentations, second-rate accommodations and had to pay hidden charges.

National Travel Services and Ramada Plaza Resorts had used Robin Leach, host of the television series "Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous," to push their packages. His involvement is still under investigation, although officials said it is unlikely he will have to pay a financial penalty.

"Those who accepted Leach's invitation were treated to 'Lifestyles of the Hoodwinked and Put Upon,'" said Florida Attorney General Bob Butterworth.

"In some instances the Bahamas cruise amounted to a one-day ferry ride and a game of bingo," Butterworth said.

Richard Epstein, the attorney for Leach and the two companies, said the settlement could cost the companies millions of dollars. Both companies, which have the same owners, represent about 90 percent of the complaints.

Some of the other states that have filed suit against the companies include New Mexico, Michigan, Arizona, Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Washington, Illinois, Connecticut, North Carolina, Ohio, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

Three killed in collision of small planes in Illinois

ZION, Ill. (AP) — Two small planes collided over a hospital parking lot Tuesday, killing three people, including a popular radio show host.

Bob Collins, the host of Chicago's top-rated morning program for the past decade, was in a plane that crashed onto the hospital's roof, said WGN-AM spokeswoman Debbie Linch. The other person on the plane, who was not identified, also was killed.

The other plane, a four-seat Cessna 172, crashed into a nearby street, killing the one person on board, said Zion Fire Chief David LaBelle.

Collins, 57, had been at the talk and sports station since 1974.

Collins co-owned the two seat aerobatic plane that crashed on the hospital roof.

The impact of the crash blew the windows out of the top floor of Midwestern Regional Medical Center. Two hospital workers were slightly burned and the hospital was evacuated, said hospital president Roger Cary.

The Cessna was registered to ATE of New York, a flying school. A message to the company's office in Chicago was not returned.

Preliminary reports indicated both planes were approaching the Waukegan Airport, near the site of the collision.

Zion is about 45 miles north of downtown Chicago, near the Illinois-Wisconsin line.

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Michigan Democrats hold caucuses on March 11 to choose between Vice President Al Gore and former U.S. Sen. Bill Bradley of New Jersey. But the vote comes four days after the March 7 primaries in states such as California, New York and Ohio that are expected to make Gore or Bradley the nominee.

The Michigan GOP primary, on the other hand, could be the Waterloo for either Bush's or McCain's presidential hopes. With candidates popping into the state to campaign and running ads on television, Michigan voters of all political stripes are paying attention to the race.

A Feb. 4-7 poll of 300 Michigan voters likely to vote in the presidential primary has Bush leading McCain 53 percent to 35 percent among Republican voters. But McCain does better among independents — 60 percent to 27 percent for Bush — and among Democrats, with 72 percent picking McCain compared to 21 percent for Bush. The EPIC/MRA poll has the men in a dead heat, with a margin of error of plus or minus 5.5 percentage points.

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BUSINESS

The Monroe Sunday News

Avalon's improvement Page 2D | **Stock prices** Page 3D | **Chocolate's popularity** Page 4D

section D
THE MONROE SUNDAY NEWS
SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 13, 2000

Charles Slat, business editor
phone: 242-1100, ext. 285

Business briefs

Small firms have tax angst

Understanding your personal 1040 tax form can seem complicated, but the forms are even more complex and daunting if you're a small business owner.

"For many small business owners, understanding the tax implications of owning a small business is a challenge," said Aida Alvarez, administrator for the U.S. Small Business Administration.

In fact, a new survey shows that the tax structure is so complicated that nearly half of all small business owners say that taxes are their biggest challenge for 2000.

According to the QuickBooks/TurboTax Small Business Survey, 41 percent of respondents said that taxes are one of the most daunting small business issues of the new millennium.

Secondary concerns ran the gamut.

About 31 percent said that finding and retaining employees was a top concern.

Twenty-three percent of respondents worry about regulatory issues.

And 23 percent also stress about securing financing for their businesses.

In addition, 13 percent said that developing a presence on the Internet was one of their biggest concerns for the coming year.

But although the majority of small business owners recognize the importance of e-commerce, most of them said they are more immediately looking to the Internet to help them handle their finances.

Reference checks big part of hiring

Reference checks still play a large role in hiring decisions, but many job seekers don't pay enough attention to lining up good references, according to OfficeTeam, a staffing service specializing in administrative professionals.

"Despite the candidate-friendly nature of the marketplace, the quality of an applicant's references still plays a key role in the final outcome," said Diane Domeyer, OfficeTeam executive director.

Some of the keys to having good references include

- Asking the permission of those you intend to use as references.
- Including people who will support the facts on your resume.
- Letting references know they may receive a call before you have your job interview.
- Keeping references informed about the status of your job search.

Once you find a job, thank references again for their assistance and keep them posted on your career progress, OfficeTeam recommends.

Automakers lead big advertisers

Automakers and major media companies dominated the list of the top 10 advertisers for the first half of last year, according to statistics from Advertising Age.

At the top of the heap was General Motors Corp., followed by DaimlerChrysler at a distant second.

Procter & Gamble Co. followed at third; Phillip Morris Co. was next, and Ford Motor Co. came in fifth.

Johnson & Johnson was sixth biggest spender, followed by AT&T Corp., Time Warner/MCI WorldCom, and Walt Disney Co.

Small firm has big idea

■ If Dundee-based PME's new concept takes off, so might the company, due to a legislative logjam over tax credits.

By CHARLES SLAT
Evening News staff writer

DUNDEE – It looks like a piece of plastic-coated cardboard, but it could force Bob Joyce to leave the state.

Mr. Joyce operates Plastic Machinery Enterprises (PME), a little firm in a nondescript building on N. Ann Arbor Rd. Its main business is repairing and rebuilding plastic-extrusion and molding machines.

Now his company may be on the verge of something big – a composite of recycled wood waste and plastic resin that Mr. Joyce calls "plastic wood sheet."

But if the product takes off, so might Mr. Joyce because Michigan doesn't provide tax incentives to firms that use recycled materials in manufacturing.

The plastic wood sheet recipe is a secret, but the product basically consists of sawdust and tiny plastic pellets, melded with some additives to form a strong, lightweight material that could be ideal for auto and furniture manufacturing and other applications, such as backing on chairs, drawers and drawer supports, car-door panels and boat floors and decks.

> *"I'm not gambling because I've developed a product people can use."*
>
> —Bob Joyce, Plastic Machinery Enterprises

More than 40 percent of the product is wood waste — scrap like sawdust that ordinarily would be landfilled. Mr. Joyce is is getting sawdust from a furniture-maker that would be landfilling about 400 pounds of it a day.

He also is using waste from both hard and soft woods, a technically difficult feat. "I'm the only one in the country mingling hard and soft woods," he explains.

Once the waste wood is combined with plastic pellets and heat is applied, an extruded sheet is formed that can be nailed, glued, painted, used with adhesives and cut with metal shears.

The uses seems limitless, Mr. Joyce says. "It can be used for anything where you're trying to substitute 100 percent plastic. It could use for backing on chairs, drawers and drawer supports, car-door panels, marine floors and decks."

Besides being strong and flexible, the product is about 20 percent cheaper than an all-plastic sheet, "and I'm using wood-waste, too," Mr. Joyce adds.

Mr. Joyce's plastic wood sheet is 100 percent recyclable, can be produced in various thicknesses up to about ¼-inch, and a few different colors.

Various industries are testing samples of plastic wood sheet to see if they can use them in their manufacturing processes, Mr. Joyce says, and he's optimistic he'll get a big contract eventually.

That's one of the reasons he's invested in equipment to produce prototype product and has committed a significant part of PME's 14,000-square-foot facility to research and development of plastic wood sheet.

"I'm not gambling because I've developed a product people can use," he says.

He's chagrined, though, because if he does get a contract that warrants a greater investment in equipment, chances are no tax breaks or other incentives will be available to him.

Mr. Joyce set up his business near Dundee initially enticed by land costs and closeness to US-23. He won tax incentives on his building, but there are no tax incentives if he invests further in machinery for his fledgling plastic wood sheet business. Ohio, on the other hand, has incentives and grants for businesses that incorporate recycled materials into their manufacturing processes.

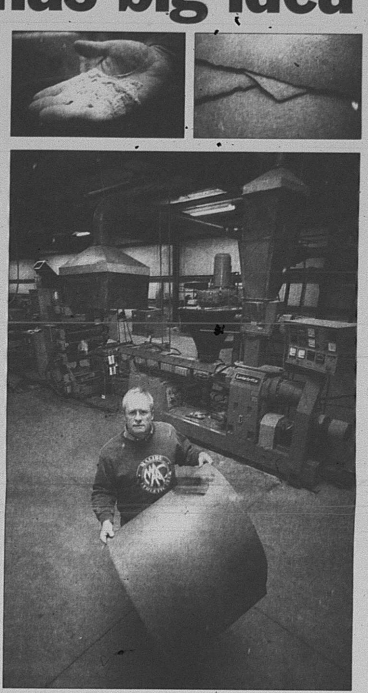
Two bills that would amend Michigan's Single Business Tax and provide up to a 20 percent tax credit for such machinery and equipment have been introduced in the House of Representatives, but have made it only through second reading. Neither Republican nor Democratic House members associated with the legislation can predict when, or if, the proposals will become law.

Mr. Joyce can't understand it, given his processes potential to make use of vast amounts of both scrap wood and scrap plastic and Michigan officials consisting boast about improving the state's climate for businesses.

"All these people are trying to get rid of this stuff, but the state can't help me," he says. "Ohio gives tax credits for people like me," adds the Sylvania, Ohio, resident.

Ultimately, if the plastic wood sheet business takes off, Mr. Joyce says he may be forced to relocate purely as a business decision.

"If this doesn't happen in Michigan, elsewhere will suffice," he says.



— Evening News photos by CARY CONOVER

Bob Joyce of Plastic Machinery Enterprises in Dundee (above) holds a sample of his product, which he calls plastic wood sheet. The product is made by combining wood waste and plastic resin. Sawdust and plastic resin (top right) are the basic ingredients to form the product, which, when finished, (top left) is lightweight and durable and could be ideal for many applications.

Hallmark branches out into the floral market

■ The service is order and delivery only. Customers won't be able to pick up bouquets at stores. Flowers also can be ordered over the Internet.

BY JASON STRAIT
Associated Press Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo.— The company that marketed "I love you" into the world's largest greeting card business has entered the arranged flower industry just in time for Valentine's Day.

Hallmark Inc., which holds 47 percent of the greeting card market, is starting to offer next-day delivery of what it claims are the "freshest flowers" available in the $15 billion floral industry.

It's the first new venture under the greeting card company's ambitious strategy announced in October to triple annual sales over the next 10 years.

"This is the first thing out of the box," said Hallmark spokeswoman Linda Odell. "It is something that customers have told us for some time that they expect from us."

Customers in five U.S. test markets can pick from 15 flower arrangements advertised at Hallmark stores. The bouquets vary from a dozen Santa Marta roses at $49.95 to 15 pink French tulips for $69.95, plus shipping costs.

However, shoppers can't walk out of a Hallmark store with a bouquet in-hand. Once purchased, an electronic order is sent to Memphis, Tenn., where the flowers are boxed along with a vase and shipped out for overnight delivery.

Odell said Hallmark's flowers are up to a week fresher because of the centralized Memphis greenhouse, creating a system that takes the bouquets from "the hands of the grower to the hands" of the customer.

— AP photo by RICH PEDRONCELLI

Pat Gasser, an employee at Carol's Hallmark Shop in Sacramento, Calif., shows how to order Hallmark flower arrangements. A new service from the card company allows customers to pick one of the flower arrangements displayed and use a direct line phone to order. The flowers will be delivered the next day by Federal Express.

At Carol's Hallmark store in Sacramento, Calif., bouquet sales have been slow, but better than expected since the product was introduced in November, said store owner Carol Denello.

"You have these men that just want to stop in on their way home or to a date to pick up flowers," she said. "Everyone waits to the last minute, that was my concern about it."

The Kansas City-based company launched Hallmark Flowers starting in October at stores in Albany, N.Y.; Charlotte, N.C.; Columbus, Ohio; Portland, Ore., and Sacramento. The flower arrangements also can be purchased over the Internet at the company's Web site, www.hallmark.com.

The project is tentatively set to run through Mother's Day, but could expand and become a permanent fixture, depending on its success.

"We think there is a lot of opportunity in this market," Odell said.

Hallmark's new venture is its first leap outside its traditional line of greeting cards and gifts. The company's goal is to increase annual sales from $3.9 billion in 1999 to $12 billion by 2010. That would mean an increase of 10 percent a year.

"They're not going to make $12 billion selling just greeting cards, I can tell you that. So I guess this is one way they plan on finding new revenue sources," said Eric Bosshard, a greeting card analyst with

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AUTO

The Monroe Sunday News

Avalon a quiet improvement

BY ANN M. JOB
For The Associated Press

You know a car is quiet when its engineers get exercised about "stone-pecking noise."

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Its positioning as Toyota's well-equipped, most spacious and sophisticated sedan put it squarely in competition with domestic-brand large cars for mainstream consumers. This is uneharted territory for Japan-based automakers, since Honda's Accord and Nissan's Maxima sedans are smaller and thus not direct competitors in the mainstream, full-size segment.

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Steve Sturm, vice president of marketing at Toyota Motor Sales U.S.A. Inc., said the Kentucky-built Avalon "is an American car ... It's like no other Toyota."

For the 2000 model, Toyota studied every bit of the Avalon to eliminate noise, vibration and harshness.

Besides a new, multilayer floor-carpet silencer, engineers added sound-deadening felt to the luggage compartment, revised door seals and thickened the side window glass, plugged dashboard holes, selected new tires and repositioned the windshield and wipers.

The result: a noticeable improvement to a car that was quite quiet to begin with.

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The result is up to 210 horsepower at 5,800 revolutions a minute, compared with 200 at 5,500 rpm last year.

Torque is 220 foot-pounds at 4,400 rpm, up from 195 at 4,700 rpm.

The full-size, front-wheel drive Avalon feels a bit more responsive now, quicker to react when the accelerator is jammed down.

Yet, the four-speed automatic transmission maintains smooth shifts, even in aggressive maneuvers.

And Toyota says fuel efficiency is preserved — one of the benefits of VVT-i, which Toyota has added to other models, too, including those with four-cylinder engines.

The Avalon is more fuel-efficient than some slightly larger domestic sedans.

But some domestics also offer more torque. For example, the 3.8-liter V6 in the Buick LeSabre produces a maximum 205 horses, but maximum torque is 230 foot-pounds at 3,700 rpm. The 4.6-liter V8 in the Mercury Grand Marquis produces 200 horsepower and 275 foot-pounds of torque at 3,000 rpm.

The Avalon's overall length and wheelbase is unchanged, but it's 1.4 inches wider. Back-seat legroom is 40.1 inches, compared with 38.3 inches in the 1999 Avalon. It all adds up to more leg room, head space and visibility in a car that seats six.

The real attention-grabber is the large cyber-age screen on the dashboard that gives you time, date, outside temperature and fuel economy. But it feels a bit odd to have to look at this multi-information display to find the odometer.

The body structure is stiffer and there are some mild tweaks in the rear suspension. This big car rode great on highways, but in the slalom, the body lean is noticeable. The light feel of the power-assist, rack-and-pinion steering didn't help either.

Every back-seat rider gets a full, three-point shoulder belt, and adjustable and locking head restraints. Side air bags for front-seat riders are standard, as are daytime running lamps and antilock brakes.

The 2000 Avalon is the first to offer an optional handling/safety package that includes traction control, vehicle skid control and supplementary brake assist in panic stops. Total cost: $850.

With more chrome up front, new Lexus-like headlamps and sheet metal all around that's a bit less rounded, "the improved exterior styling will be a primary reason for increased sales," Sturm said.

Buyers have median age of 56 and median family income of about $83,000, Toyota said. Just over half are men and 85 percent are married.

The previous generation Avalon consistently ranked much better than average in owner trouble reports, according to Consumer Reports.

- AP photo

2000 Toyota Avalon

Base price: $25,545 for Avalon XL, $30,005 for XLS.

As tested: $33,093.

Type: Front-engine, front-wheel drive, six-passenger, large sedan.

Engine: 3-liter, 24-valve, four-cam V6 with VVT-i.

Mileage: 21 mpg (city), 29 mpg (highway).

Top speed: NA.

Length: 191.9 inches.

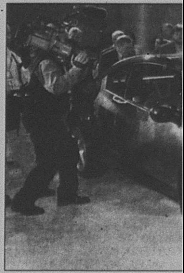
Wheelbase: 107.1 inches.

Curb weight: 3,428 pounds.

Built at: Georgetown, Ky.

Options: Leather trim package with premium stereo system (includes leather-trimmed seats, power driver seat with memory setting, extra power outlet, 16-inch alloy wheels and JBL sound system with in-dash, six-CD changer and seven speakers), $1,625; vehicle stability control with traction system and brake assist, $850, and cargo area mat, $158.

Destination charge: $455.



Chicago show

Pontiac unveils its new Piranha sports car (above) at the Chicago Auto Show in Chicago. Joel Plaskowski (standing, right), designer of the Chevrolet Traverse, introduces the small car at the auto show.

- AP photos by CHARLES BENNETT

Crashes suggest A

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP) — The sleek, ground-hugging Audi TT won acclaim for its futurist design and responsive handling when the German roadster came to market in 1998.

But what was once a driver's dream machine has been tarnished by a series of deadly crashes in which speed-loving Germans pushed the high performance car to the limit, lost control and rocketed off the autobahn.

Panic over the car's safety peaked when the former East German road rally champion Peter Hemmel totaled his TT and died last month.

Now Audi is responding to a wave of consumer concern with a voluntary recall to retrofit the cars with the latest braking technology called ESP, or Electronic Stability Program. It's the second stage in a recall program that earlier upgraded the car's suspensions and installed a rear spoiler.

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Getting your message to the (online) medium

Back in my glorious newspaper days there was seldom a quiet time in our newsroom. That phone rang off the hook from the minute I walked in the door to the time I turned off my computer.

Everybody wanted a story in the paper. Kids called about their good grades, women called about family reunions and men called to find out the scores from the high school games the night before.

It was a busy environment that worked well.

However, that way of getting your story out is changing as fast as it takes to answer a phone. The Internet is becoming a major force for stories and there are news sites creeping up everywhere.

Small business owners who want to get their press releases out on the Internet find out quickly that it's a different game than what they are used to. Phone calls go unanswered and faxed or e-mailed stories just aren't picked up with the fervor of a printed publication.

It's a perplexing problem.

Tim Kissman
Small Business Association of Michigan

While print journalists want a printed story in their hands, the Internet media doesn't want anything to do with your printed story other than making sure it's electronic and can be automatically loaded to their site.

As a general rule, they don't have beat reporters, or real journalists for that matter. Instead they have technicians that write software for your electronic submission via news release Web sites to make sure it can be updated on their Web site.

No fuss, no muss. You do all the work and the story gets its own page on the Web site your targeting. It must be pretty quiet in that newsroom, but the method is working.

It looks like it isn't going away any time soon, either. Here are a few tips to think about if you're planning on submitting a news release that targets the Internet.

Know the forum. Writing a press release is more important than ever. If you don't know how to write a good one, find somebody that does. Internet media don't want to respond to the press release, so include everything. Space is unlimited and they don't want, nor do they have the time, to edit your story. It's also nice to have interactivity includes, such as URL listings to your Web site or other interactive media. Get it out immediately, too. The Internet is open 24 hours a day and your story is relevant the minute you finish typing it.

Don't press it. Talking about a press conference is like speaking in tongues to online media. The great thing about online media is that it doesn't have to be local to appear that way. They could be miles away and don't want to cover your conference, but they will take that great written release.

Check the sites. Surf the Internet and take the time to see the different sites you can use to get a story out and how they want it delivered. There are some sites that want it called in, but the majority wants it done through special software. For a good list of Michigan online media sources go to www.mel.org/news/newsus.html#MICHIGAN.

FROM PAGE 1D

Hallmark (cont.)

Midwest Research in Cleveland.

Bosshard said that growth in the greeting card market has slowed in recent years to about 4 percent annually. Hallmark's 1998 sales were up 5.4 percent from 1997, and in 1996 sales were up 2.7 percent.

American Greetings, Hallmark's top competitor, also has branched out into new markets by manufacturing its own balloons and candles.

"The one common thread in the greeting card business is that it seems to be slowing. So you have all these companies grasping at other kinds of products," Bosshard said.

At Carol's Hallmark in Sacramento, Denello said she had been selling about four bouquets a week.

An average of five to 10 arrangements had been purchased a week at a Hallmark Creations store in Charlotte, said assistant manager Aimee Foote.

"I was very surprised that Hallmark got into it, but it's gone over really well," Foote said.

It didn't go over as well with florist Richard Lisenby.

Lisenby is co-owner of Elfrieda's Flowers Inc., just two doors down from Hallmark Creations in Charlotte.

He said Hallmark has not cut into his business and he doesn't expect what he calls Hallmark's impersonal delivery system to win over many Valentine's Day shoppers.

"I don't think the customer that orders it understands that what they're getting is a box of flowers and a vase," he said. "It's a paint-by-number floral kit."

And Bosshard, the analyst, believes that Hallmark could have trouble breaking into the arranged floral market because there are already so many choices.

"I don't see them as an immediate threat to florists," he said.

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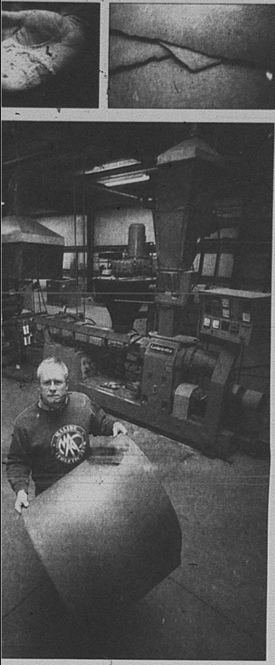

— Evening News photos by CARY CONOVER

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P photo by RICH PEDRONCELLI

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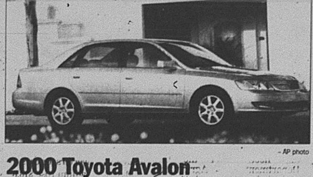


– AP photo

2000 Toyota Avalon

Base price: $25,545 for Avalon XL, $30,005 for XLS.

As tested: $33,093.

Type: Front-engine, front-wheel drive, six-passenger, large sedan.

Engine: 3-liter, 24-valve, four-cam V6 with VVT-i.

Mileage: 21 mpg (city), 29 mpg (highway).

Top speed: NA.

Length: 191.9 inches.

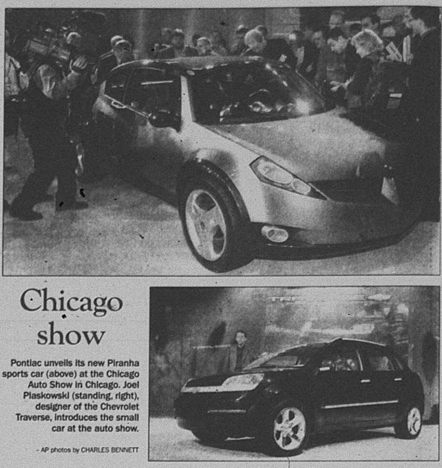
Wheelbase: 107.1 inches.

Curb weight: 3,428 pounds.

Built at: Georgetown, Ky.

Options: Leather trim package with premium stereo system (includes leather-trimmed seats, power driver seat with memory setting, extra power outlet, 16-inch alloy wheels and JBL sound system with in-dash, six-CD changer and seven speakers), $1,625; vehicle stability control with traction system and brake assist, $850, and cargo area mat, $158.

Destination charge: $455.



Chicago show

Pontiac unveils its new Piranha sports car (above) at the Chicago Auto Show in Chicago. Joel Piaskowski (standing, right), designer of the Chevrolet Traverse, introduces the small car at the auto show.

- AP photos by CHARLES BENNETT

Crashes suggest Audi too much to handle

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP) — The sleek, ground-hugging Audi TT won acclaim for its futurist design and responsive handling when the German roadster came to market in 1998.

But what was once a driver's dream machine has been tarnished by a series of deadly crashes in which speed-loving Germans pushed the high performance car to the limit, lost control and rocketed off the autobahn.

Panic over the car's safety peaked when the former East German road rally champion Peter Hommel totaled his TT and died last month.

Now Audi is responding to a wave of consumer concern with a voluntary recall to retrofit the cars with the latest braking technology called ESP, or Electronic Stability Program. It's the second stage in a recall program that earlier upgraded the car's suspensions and installed a rear spoiler.

Restoring the luster to the premium brand sports compact and regaining the trust of leery car fanatics will set the company back an estimated $75 million, Audi said.

Audi is still haunted by memories of the sudden acceleration allegations that nearly extinguished the brand in American markets during the 1980s. Investigators eventually cleared the carmaker of wrongdoing, but Audi is moving quickly this time to refit the $31,000 car despite its claim there are no design or manufacturing flaws.

"You're going over 100 miles per hour — you need to be trained," said Larry Webster, the technical editor for Car & Driver magazine.

"Anyone who thinks they can jump in a car and go over 100 is not a wise person. While today's cars are safer than ever, you do need to be trained to drive fast safely. It is not the responsibility of the car to do that. It's the driver's responsibility, first and foremost."

The first of five fatal crashes happened late last summer. And after several more nonfatal crashes, Audi announced in October an offer to replace the suspension and install a rear spoiler at no charge to all TT customers worldwide.

But with three more deadly crashes reported in January, Audi stepped up the pace. All told, Audi says it is investigating roughly 55 crashes — all of which, including the five fatal ones, occurred only in Germany. All five fatalities apparently occurred after the drivers pushed their cars past 110 miles an hour.

Beginning next month, customers can have the ESP system — which comes standard on all new Audi TTs — installed in their older models for about $325. The new technology brakes each wheel independently to prevent the tail end of the speedy compact from swinging out around curves and pulling the car off the road.

The hitch is that it's only available to customers who can bring their car to Audi's production plant outside Munich, Germany.

Getting your message to the (online) medium

Back in my glorious newspaper days there was seldom a quiet time in our newsroom. That phone rang off the hook from the minute I walked in the door to the time I turned off my computer.

Everybody wanted a story in the paper. Kids called about their good grades, women called about family reunions and men called to find out the scores from the high school games the night before.

It was a busy environment that worked well.

However, that way of getting your story out is changing as fast as it takes to answer a phone. The Internet is becoming a major force for stories and there are news sites creeping up everywhere.

Small business owners who want to get their press releases out on the Internet find out quickly that it's a different game than what they are used to. Phone calls go unanswered and faxed or e-mailed stories just aren't picked up with the fervor of a printed publication.

It's a perplexing problem.

While print journalists want a printed story in their hands, the Internet media doesn't want anything to do with your printed story other than making sure it's electronic and can be automatically loaded to their site.

Tim Kissman

Small Business Association of Michigan

As a general rule, they don't have beat reporters, or real journalists for that matter. Instead they have technicians that write software for your electronic submission via news release Web sites to make sure it can be updated on their Web site.

No fuss, no muss. You do all the work and the story gets its own page on the Web site your targeting. It must be pretty quiet in that newsroom, but the method is working.

It looks like it isn't going away any time soon, either. Here are a few tips to think about if you're planning on submitting a news release that targets the Internet.

Know the forum. Writing a press release is more important than ever. If you don't know how to write a good one, find somebody that does. Internet media don't want to respond to the press release, so include everything. Space is unlimited and they don't want, nor do they have the time, to edit your story. It's also nice to have interactivity includes, such as URL listings to your Web site or other interactive media. Get it out immediately, too. The Internet is open 24 hours a day and your story is relevant the minute you finish typing it.

Don't press it. Talking about a press conference is like speaking in tongues to online media. The great thing about online media is that it doesn't have to be local to appear that way. They could be miles away and don't want to cover your conference, but they will take that great written release.

Check the sites. Surf the Internet and take the time to see the different sites you can use to get a story out and how they want it delivered. There are some sites that want it called in, but the majority wants it done through special software. For a good list of Michigan online media sources go to www.mel.org/news/news-us.html#MICHIGAN .

FROM PAGE 1D

Hallmark (cont.)

Midwest Research in Cleveland.

Bosshard said that growth in the greeting card market has slowed in recent years to about 4 percent annually. Hallmark's 1998 sales were up 5.4 percent from 1997, and in 1996 sales were up 2.7 percent.

American Greetings, Hallmark's top competitor, also has branched out into new markets by manufacturing its own balloons and candles.

"The one common thread in the greeting card business is that it seems to be slowing. So you have all these companies grasping at other kinds of products," Bosshard said.

At Carol's Hallmark in Sacramento, Denello said she had been selling about four bouquets a week.

An average of five to 10 arrangements had been purchased a week at a Hallmark Creations store in Charlotte, said assistant manager Aimee Foote.

"I was very surprised that Hallmark got into it, but it's gone over really well," Foote said.

It didn't go over as well with florist Richard Lisenby.

Lisenby is co-owner of Elfrieda's Flowers Inc., just two doors down from Hallmark Creations in Charlotte.

He said Hallmark has not cut into his business and he doesn't expect what he calls Hallmark's impersonal delivery system to win over many Valentine's Day shoppers.

"I don't think the customer that orders it understands that what they're getting is a box of flowers and a vase," he said. "It's a paint-by-number floral kit."

And Bosshard, the analyst, believes that Hallmark could have trouble breaking into the arranged floral market because there are already so many choices.

"I don't see them as an immediate threat to florists," he said.

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NYSE Issues

NEW YORK (AP) — New York Stock Exchange trading for the week, selected issues.

PE Sls High Low Last Chg.

Currency trading quiet with stock plunge; dollar rises

NEW YORK (AP) — The dollar inched higher against the yen but its gains were held back by a selloff on Wall Street, which crimped demand for dollars.

In late New York trading, the dollar was quoted at 108.99 Japanese yen, up from 108.95 yen late Thursday.

The euro was quoted at 98.69 cents, up from 98.62 cents late Thursday.

The dollar has been on a strong streak against the yen and euro in recent sessions, but the currency struggled Friday amid a downturn in the stock market.

The 218-point drop in the Dow Jones industrial average was led by technology shares.

Overall, currency trading was relatively quiet.

A report showing a welcome slowdown in the growth of retail spending in January did little to dispel concerns that the Federal Reserve may still raise interest rates again this year to keep inflation at bay.

In other trading, the dollar was quoted at 1.6261 Swiss francs, down from 1.6292, and 1.4506 Canadian dollars, up from 1.4490. The British pound fell to $1.5921 from $1.6090.

Currencies of the 11 countries participating in the euro are no longer traded separately and are tied to the euro by a fixed rate.

Based on Friday's euro rate, the dollar was worth: 1.9824 German marks, down from 1.9832; 6.6487 French francs, down from 6.6514; and 1,962.57 Italian lire, down from 1,963.36.

NYSE Ups & Downs

NEW YORK (AP) — The following list shows the New York Stock Exchange stocks and warrants that have gone up the most and down the most in the past week based on percent of change.

No securities trading below $2 or 1000 shares are included.

Net and percentage changes are the difference between last week's closing and this week's closing.

AMEX Ups & Downs

NEW YORK (AP) — The following list shows the American Stock Exchange stocks and warrants that have gone up the most and down the most in the past week based on percent of change.

No securities trading below $2 or 1,000 shares are included.

Net and percentage changes are the difference between last week's closing and this week's closing.

Amex Leaders

NEW YORK (AP) — The following is a list of the most active stocks based on the dollar volume.

The total is based on the median price of the stock traded multiplied by the shares traded.

Name	Tot($1000)	Sales(hds)	Last
Nasdaq100Tr n	$11,768,183	591366	198 [illegible]
SPDR	$5,052,622	358342	139 51-256
DJIA Diamnds	$635,986	59438	104 [illegible]
InternetHTr n	$580,485	36055	154 [illegible]
InterDigCm	$436,760	114937	36 [illegible]
SP MidCap	$436,084	53181	81 [illegible]
BiotechTrst n	$304,174	16993	174 [illegible]
SP Tech	$292,836	53243	54 [illegible]
TelephData	$198,007	19224	98 [illegible]
US Cellular	$175,106	28243	59 [illegible]

NYSE Leaders

NEW YORK (AP) — The following is a list of the most active stocks based on the dollar volume.

The total is based on the median price of the stock traded multiplied by the shares traded.

Name	Tot($1000)	Sales(hds)	Last
LucentTech s	$5,708,399	1057111	53 [illegible]
AmerOnline s	$5,294,518	912848	56 [illegible]
GenlElec	$4,234,396	309080	133 [illegible]
NortelNetw s	$4,210,660	353837	118 [illegible]
NokiaCorp s	$3,476,180	173809	195 [illegible]
IBM s	$3,110,830	x266175	115 [illegible]
VodafneAirT s	$3,029,851	550882	54
EMC Corp s	$2,908,586	257397	114 [illegible]
TexasInst s	$2,787,048	201960	137 [illegible]
Motorola	$2,770,547	178745	151 [illegible]
Citigroup s	$2,545,311	471354	54
HewlettPkd	$2,516,481	204592	121 [illegible]
Compaq	$2,487,869	956873	25 [illegible]
WarnerLm	$2,463,777	262104	90
AT&T Corp s	$2,275,560	464400	48 [illegible]

Of Local Note

	Closed Fri.
Air Gas	[illegible]
American Tel and Tel	[illegible]
Andersons	7 7/16
Associates	18 ¾
BP-Amoco	46 ¾
CMS Energy	18 ¾
CSX	21 ½
Comerica	40 ⅛
DaimlerChrysler	63 15/16
Dana Corp.	21
Delphi Automotive	16 ⅛
DTE Energy	32 ½
Dow Chemical	105 ⅛
Eastman Kodak	58 ⅛
Elder Beerman	4 ⅝
Fifth-Third Bank	59 ⅛
Firstenergy	21 11/16
Ford Motor	46 ½
General Electric	133 ⅛
General Motors	73 15/16
General Tel. and El.	66 ¾
IBM	115 ⅛
Int. Paper (Union Camp)	42 11/16
Jefferson Smurfit	16 ⅝
Key Corp.	18 7/16
Kmart	8 ⅛
Lear Seating	22 ⅛
La-Z-Boy Incorporated	14
Micron Tech	71 ¼
Monroe Bank & Trust	34 ¼
Morgan Stanley-Dean Witter	66 ⅛
Monsanto	40 7/16
National City	20 ⅛
National Steel	7 ¾
Penney, J.C.	17 ¾
PepsiCo	34 ⅛
Pfizer	34 ⅛
Rite Aid	7 ½
Sears Roebuck	29 ⅛
Seaway Foodtown	20
Tenneco	8 7/16
United Industrial	8 ¾
USX	22 15/16
Utilicorp	17 13/16
Viacom	61 ⅛
Woolworth	6 ⅛
Worthington	13 ¾

(Courtesy of Morgan Stanley-Dean Witter)

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tudents 'stop out'

t far less selective colleges and versities also nurture their stu- ts.

n Diego State University ns with 26,000 undergraduates. t must live off campus; 75 per- hold down jobs.

its Freshman Success gram tries to orient newcomers timate classes of 15 while fac- members serve as mentors. school stresses activities on pus, hoping to bring students its orbit.

like undergraduates at more tive schools, 60 percent of San o State undergraduates need dial writing, math or both. disadvantaged students can n extra boost with summer es before college begins.

hat a school can do is help on argin, try to push the rates up, o make them better," said n Singer, San Diego State ciate vice president for aca- c affairs.

e school's six-year graduation is 37 percent, but Singer cts retention to improve soon. e others in the California system, San Diego State had e the top third of California high school graduates. But faced with swelling enrollment in 1998, the school got permission to be choosier.

"Just by raising the bar suggests we're going to have very good retention rates," Singer said.

Some students only need time to grow up.

In 1994, Bernadette McHenry glided into Rutgers University in New Brunswick, N.J. By sophomore year, she was cramming in work for both a daily campus newspaper and a weekly review, plus campaigns to improve faculty pay and student living conditions. Add socializing, and it all became tough competition for her schoolwork.

Busy at night, McHenry slept during the day — in lectures. "I was in this harried kind of daze," she recalled. "I always had something that had to be done."

One week of escape at home, in Lindenwold, N.J., was not enough to focus McHenry on school.

"I thought going to college would give me a sense of purpose. But it didn't," she said. "I didn't really know why I was there." ▸

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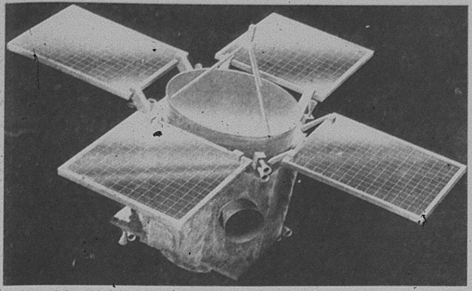


The is an artist's rendition of the Near Earth Asteroid Rendezvous spacecraft that was expected to slip into orbit around the asteroid Eros at mid0morning today.

Spacecraft set to orbit asteroid

LAUREL, Md. (AP) — Trouble-free and performing as planned, a robot craft was on target today to become the first spacecraft to orbit an asteroid in a Valentine's Day rendezvous with a space rock named for the Greek god of love.

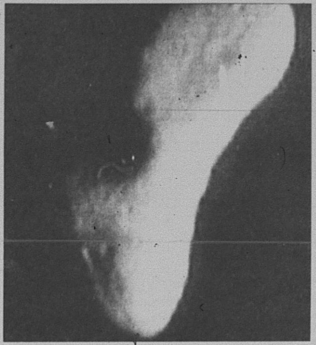
Mission officials said the Near Earth Asteroid Rendezvous, or NEAR, spacecraft was set to automatically fire its thrusters and settle into a 124-mile orbit of the gray, potato-shaped rock called Eros.

Thrusters were to fire automatically this morning.

Eros is so distant from Earth that it takes 14½ minutes for a radio signal confirming the rocket firing to reach NEAR mission control.

If successful, the spacecraft will start a yearlong study of Eros, conducting research that one day may help humans defend the Earth against a "killer asteroid" like the one thought to have wiped out the dinosaurs.

Mission officials said Sunday night that NEAR was humming along flawlessly, operating as expected on automatic instructions that were sent to the spacecraft on Saturday.



—AP photos

The asteroid Eros is shown in the photo taken Friday by the NEAR spacecraft from 1,609 miles away. The photo reveals (at lower left) a heart-shaped depression about 3 miles long.

No presidential bid for Trump

■ A feud in the Reform Party culminated Friday with the departure of Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura and ouster of a Ventura ally as the party's chairman.

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — New York tycoon Donald Trump said today he won't run for president because the Reform Party is "self-destructing" and can't provide the support a candidate needs to win.

"You could only win the whole thing with a totally unified party," Trump said on NBC's "Today."

After months of speculation about a possible candidacy, the colorful and controversial billionaire said he was dissuaded in part by the departure of Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura, who had been an ally of Trump's in the Reform Party squabbles. He also took a shot at former Republican Pat Buchanan, who is seeking the party's nomination, and his unlikely supporter, leftist activist Lenora Fulani.

"The Reform Party is a total mess," Trump said. "You've got Buchanan, a right-winger and Fulani, a communist, and they've merged."

DONALD TRUMP
Didn't rule out seeking the presidency in the future

Trump's announcement ends a lengthy flirtation with the notion that the real estate developer could tap his fortune for a long-shot bid to capture the White House as a third-party candidate.

Trump said he would no longer consider running for president or vice president in 2000, even if Ventura or others got a new party off the ground. "In a number of years I might consider it," Trump said.

Trump met over the weekend with advisers to consider the option of running as an Independence Party candidate, but determined that there is not enough time to get on state ballots. Trump considered that option out of respect for Ventura, who had been the Reform Party's highest elected official before leaving the party — he called it "dysfunctional" — last week to reinvigorate his state's Independence Party.

The Reform Party feud culminated last Friday with the governor's departure and the ouster of a Ventura ally as the party's chairman.

A fractious Reform Party meeting Saturday in Nashville, Tenn., returned power to allies of party founder Ross Perot, who has not ruled out running for president a third time.

While he never formally entered the race, Trump made a handful of campaign trips, hinted broadly for weeks that he would run and issued comprehensive health care and federal debt-reduction proposals. He held a single-digit ranking in most public polls and was not given much of a chance of winning the presidency.

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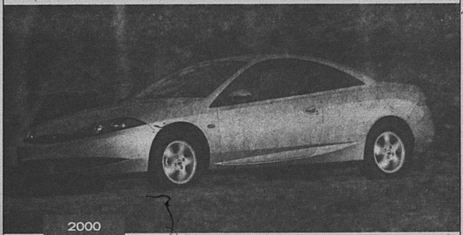

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MAXWELL HOUSE COFFEE $4.69 26 Oz. Can

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Vine Ripe TOMATOES 89¢ Lb.

MUSHROOMS 99¢ 8 oz. Pkg.

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FEB 14 2000

Valentine's Day brings smiles — ev

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — For the past 23 Valentine's Days, Judge Bernard Goodheart has managed to put a smile on many of the faces of those who appear before him.

Each Feb. 14, Goodheart, a judge of common pleas court, has honored his name by marrying couples in his courtroom at City Hall. He began this tradition somewhat accidentally, during his first year on the bench.

Monday marks his final ceremony. He plans to retire later this year, when he turns 70.

The first ceremony interrupted a jury trial as an unsuspecting couple wandered into Goodheart's courtroom on Feb. 14, 1977. The judge watched as a court officer turned them away. Minutes later, with testimony over, Goodheart asked why.

When the judge discovered that this couple had hoped to find a marrying judge, Goodheart issued an informal order of the court: Go find them.

"How could I turn them down?" he says. "I wouldn't be worthy of my name."

Since then, Goodheart's name has attracted more than 500 couples, including Norman Madsen and Charlene Brockington of Northeast Philadelphia, who plan to be married Monday.

Much like the first couple, Madsen and his bride-to-be stumbled into the opportunity.

Marriage license in hand, they saw Goodheart's name on the door, joked, paused, stopped laughing and started asking: Is this a marrying judge?

"We thought it was perfect for Valentine's Day," Madsen says.

After officiating at that first ceremony, decades ago, Goodheart began receiving calls. Would he oversee more vows? At first, he managed to confine the marrying to lunch breaks. But he concedes, "it grew and grew...it got too big."

The biggest gathering, a decade ago, included 30 couples, his mother as an observer — and a three-hour lunch break. Now Goodheart limits the day to 24 couples, by reservation. And he notes, "It still takes up to three hours."

To prevent overcrowding, each couple is assigned a time slot of five minutes. Some appreciate the low-cost convenience. Many acknowledge the romance.

"We both work in the city, and this means we don't have to run around to get a marriage license," says Robert Rosenberg, a resident of Yardley who is marrying Kathleen Lockhart of Philadelphia. He adds: "It seemed like a romantic idea."

The ceremonies, which in the

—AP photo by DAN LOH

Judge Bernard Goodheart stands in his Philadelphia courtroom. Goodheart, Philadelphia's black-robed cupid, has honored his name and brought joy to the lives of many by marrying couples on Valentine's Day in his courtroom at city hall.

MRI reveals strokes missed by scanners

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Super-sharp scanning machines are giving doctors a clear new window into the brains of stroke victims, revealing strokes that are missed three-quarters of the time by older scanners.

The device is a kind of souped-up MRI machine that can pinpoint spots of dying tissue deep within the brain during the first hours of a stroke, when a blood clot somewhere in the head is choking off the oxygen supply.

Until recently, diagnosing strokes was a leisurely affair, since doctors could do almost nothing for them. That changed about three years ago, when they learned that the clot-dissolving medicine TPA can reverse a stroke, just as it does a heart attack, if given within the first few hours of symptoms.

Suddenly, doctors want better tools to make on-the-spot decisions about care. This made the new MRI machines a major topic of discussion Friday at a meeting in New Orleans of the American Stroke Association.

"The question is, is it really worth the effort?" said Dr. David C. Tong of Stanford University. "There is no doubt you can see a lot more stuff. But does seeing all that actually make a difference?"

The answer from Tong's research and other work at the conference seems to be yes. They say the new machines, while expensive, offer information that helps doctors make more intelligent decisions for victims of strokes, which hit an estimated 700,000 Americans annually.

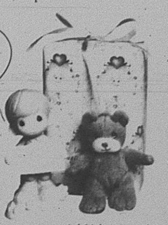
The new technology comes in two varieties: Diffusion-weighted imaging shows exactly which brain tissue is already dead. Perfusion-weighted imaging shows the parts of the brain that are still alive but starved of blood. Both work by measuring how easily water flows through the brain.

Standard magnetic resonance imaging machines that many hospitals already own can be upgraded to take the new scans for roughly $500,000. New MRIs now come with the new capabilities built in, and they cost between $1 million and $3 million. The pictures themselves take just a few minutes and cost the same as ordinary MRI scans, roughly $1,000 to $1,500.

"Hospitals are getting this technology as they upgrade their scanners," which they do about very five years, said Dr. Alison Elizabeth Baird of Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston.

Dr. Candice J. Perkins of Syracuse University, New York Stony Brook reviewed the results of the new scans on 118 stroke patients. During the critical first six hours, the scans revealed strokes that would have been missed three-quarters of the time by CT scans, now the standard method of checking stroke patients.

A Valentine's Day Gift for Your Special Someone



Pre-wrapped for your special Valentine, this adorable, affordable Precious Moments gift set is perfect for someone special. But hurry, this figurine and plush *Tender Tails*™ teddy offer is only available for a limited time and the figurine will be retiring on February 14th—so visit us today!

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Berkson calls for fewer refined carbohydrates, such as sugary pastries, and more nonstarchy vegetables.

Sherwin and Howard both back eating fewer calories but don't think much of diets that recommend certain types of foods, such as more protein and less carbohydrate, or more carbohydrate and less protein. "Varying the distribution of calories has absolutely no effect at all," Howard said.

Berkson also disagrees with Sherwin and Howard in recommending more antioxidants, especially alpha lipoic acid.

Recent lab studies of rat tissue, mostly in Europe but some in the United States, have turned up indications that alpha lipoic acid may fight development of diabetes and heart disease. But Sherwin and Howard see nothing to establish that it can fight insulin resistance syndrome in people.

8 Steps To A
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fore an infant's teeth appear, wipe gums
eals and before bed with a cotton gauze.
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r dentist to demonstrate proper brushing
ues. Improper brushing damages gums.

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■ Airport, Monroe clinch titles
1B/Sports
■ Teaching kids about money
1C/Your Money ▶

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Thursday
Partly cloudy
high
25°
6B/Weather

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Wednesday, February 16, 2000
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In the News

Are soap operas 'days of our lies?'

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Forget Jerry Springer. Some of the biggest lies on TV are on daytime soap operas.

That's what two graduate students at Brigham Young University have found after deciding to research just how many lies the characters on soaps tell.

EmmaLee Pryor and Suzanna Crage, students in BYU's communications department, conducted the research project called "Lying for Power: the Ethics of Lying Behavior in Soap Opera Relationships."

They found during one week of viewing that shows averaged five lies per hour, most often between people with close relationships. They also found female characters lied more than male characters.

Nation

GOP candidates clash in debate

Republican presidential candidates Sen. John McCain (left) smiles while listening to a point by Texas Gov. George Bush (center) as Alan Keyes looks on during the Republican presidential debate in Columbia, S.C., Tuesday. CNN broadcast the debate on "Larry King Live."
Page 7A

Local

Senior citizens want options to remain in their homes, officials say. **Page 3A**

The Gibraltar City Council will not send out fliers explaining Tuesday's election. **Page 3A**

Sports

Barry Sanders has been ordered to repay his signing bonus to the Detroit Lions. **Page 1B**

Today's obituaries

Robert N. Dietrich, 87, of Monroe.
Max J. Bortles, 78, of Milan.
Louis Frederick Jodry III, 69, of Whitehouse.
James W. Cupp, 60, of Temperance.
Shirley Lee Harmon, 69, of Danville.
George J. Tilk, 65, of Lambertville.
Janice H. Jarvis, Grosse Ile.
Cathleen Dzlendzlel, 18, of Monroe.

Page 13A

Index

Three sections – 30 pages

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Comics 7B
Community 4,6B
Courts 6B
Crossword 7B
Dear Abby 12A
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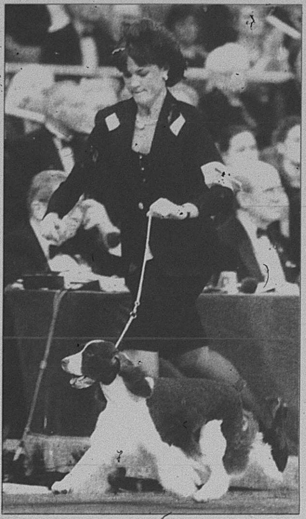
Entertainment 12A
Local Calendar 4B
Lotteries 2A
Markets 2A
Police 2A
Sports 1-3B
Stocks 2A
TV 7B
Upcoming 4B
Weather 6B

She's all that



— AP photo by MARK LENNIHAN

Samantha, whose home is Troy, Mich., won the best-in-show honors Tuesday night at the world's top-ranked Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show at Madison Square Garden in New York. Samantha is an English springer spaniel trained by Kellie FitzGerald. The 5½-year-old dog will be retiring, "going from here to be a mom," said FitzGerald, who's been working with Samantha for the spaniel's 2½-year career. Story, photo, Page 5A.

New plants, expansion give state No. 1 honors

LANSING (AP) — Michigan's wealth of new plants and expansions has made it No. 1 nationally for the third year in a row, Gov. John Engler said.

Michigan kept Site Selection magazine's annual Governor's Cup by attracting 2,174 new projects to the state in 1999, edging out California, which had 2,106 projects. Next on the list were Ohio, Texas and New York.

In the state, Oakland County led with 406 new projects, but Monroe County landed the No. 14 spot out of 83 counties with 24 new projects.

"What it means to me is no more of this Rust Belt nonsense. We truly are the economic heartbeat of the heartland," Engler said Tuesday, standing by a pedestal holding the crystal 1999 Governor's Cup.

To celebrate, staff members surprised him by pouring confetti from a Gatorade container over the governor's head.

"Oh well. It's worth it," Engler said with a smile. As the confetti clung to his hair, he quipped, "Fills in some of the blank spaces."

The Detroit area was named the magazine's No. 1 metro area for the third consecutive year. Detroit attracted 1,133 new or expanded facilities last year

See **ECONOMY**, Page 13A

By the numbers

The number of 1999 major business development projects by county, as listed by the Michigan Economic Development Corp.

1. Oakland, 406
2. Wayne, 405
3. Macomb, 250
4. Kent, 198
5. Washtenaw, 123
6. Ottawa, 65
7. Ingham, 53
8. Genesee, 47
9. Livingston, 38
10. (tie) Muskegon, 36, Kalamazoo, 36
12. Allegan, 33
13. Saginaw, 32
14. (tie) Calhoun, 24, **Monroe, 24**

Bedford seeks to expand library

■ While a bond issue still is not on the ballot, officials are working out details on the needed funds for the project.

By PAULA WETHINGTON
Evening News staff writer

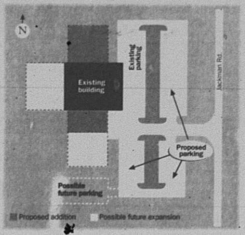
BEDFORD TOWNSHIP – Bedford library and township officials are gearing up for an August bond issue request for an expansion of the Bedford Branch of the Monroe County Library System.

"This is now getting down to some brass tacks," township Trustee Med Barr said at Tuesday's township board meeting. "I think it's a 'go.'"

The board did pass a resolution that will allow further research on the library project, including an exact calculation of the needed finances. That resolution does not, at this point, formally put the issue on the ballot, but township officials said they are expecting to have a bond issue request in August. The township owns the

See **BEDFORD**, Page 13A

Bedford library future



—Evening News map by ROB GORCZYCA

▶ *Bedford may expand township hall — 2A*

Dundee village expands by 71 acres in transfer

By SCOTT NEINAS
Evening News staff writer

DUNDEE – The Village of Dundee is growing by 71 acres.

Tuesday night, the village council passed 6-1 a resolution to enter into a land transfer agreement with Dundee Township, meaning two parcels along M-50 across from Cabela's, could fall under the village's jurisdiction. Virtually overnight the properties became among the most coveted in the county after Cabela's, an outdoor equipment retailer, last spring announced its plans to open a 220,000-square-foot facility on the northwest corner of US-23 and M-50.

Cabela's owns a sliver of property, 20 acres, that's included in the land transfer. It's adjacent to Robert Helle's 51.6 acres, also included in the agreement, that sit just west of the Shell gas station on the south side of M-50.

Holiday Inn Express has tentative plans to build a five-story hotel in the northwest corner of the Helle property, on eight acres.

Transferring the land into the village is necessary for developers so they can tap into its water system.

The township could mirror the village's actions tonight at a public hearing at 6 followed by a special meeting.

The agreement would give the village jurisdiction over the property for 50 years, at which time the contract can be renewed. The village and the township will split tax revenue from the properties.

What concerns the village and its residents, however, is how the rest of Mr. Helle's property will be developed.

For months, rumors have been swirling about other big projects coming to Dundee, including a regional-sized mall and an amusement park. The council is trying to dispel the rumors and worries by zoning the new property in a way that would give them premium control over who and what comes in.

Unlike property that already is in its jurisdiction, the village could zone the property coming into its hands quickly, without public hearings.

Village Manager Patrick Burtch envisions a "B-4 district" that would require businesses to build closer to the road with very stringent landscaping and architectural guidelines.

The council also has discussed zoning the rear

See **DUNDEE**, Page 13A

More than Cabela's coming to the area

DUNDEE — Since Cabela's announcement last spring to open a 220,000-square-foot outdoor equipment store on the northwest corner of M-50 and US-23, plans for nearby hotels, golf courses and subdivisions have been made. Here are some of the projects that have been proposed for the area:

■ Country Inn and Suites – A 36,000-square-foot, three-story, 68-room hotel has preliminary site plan approval for a spot next to the Shell gas station on M-50.

■ Holiday Inn Express – A five-story structure could go on the northwest corner of the Helle property west of the proposed Country Inn and Suites. Sources say the chain is waiting for the land transfer agreement to become final before buying land.

■ Hotels Development L.L.C. – Bought 2.55 acres on a new road west of Waterstadt Dr. from the village for $450,000. Reportedly the company wants to place a restaurant or hotel on the land.

■ A championship 220-acre golf course – an area one mile north of Cabela's off of Wilcox Rd. with 3,000 feet of frontage on US-23.

■ New subdivision – As part of the golf course development, a 200-home subdivision could be built north of the links. Condominiums and single-family homes would help pay for the golf course, which would cost at least $5 million.

Dundee 14-year-old pickup truck driver killed in crash

BY RAY KISONAS
Evening News staff writer

A 14-year-old boy driving a pickup truck lost control of the vehicle, struck a tree and was killed near Maybee Tuesday afternoon.

Benjamin Z. Cunningham, an eighth-grader at Dundee Middle School, died at the scene. His dog, which was in the truck, also was killed.

Monroe County sheriff's deputies are investigating how and why the youth was driving a vehicle illegally. It reportedly belonged to his parents. Deputies also are trying to determine if he took the truck without their permission.

The accident happened about 4:48 p.m. on Day Rd. west of Tuttle Hill Rd. at the London-Raisinville township border.

Deputies reported the youth was behind the wheel of a Ford Ranger pickup as it headed east on Day Rd. The driver lost control of the truck, which left the south side of the road and struck a tree. It glanced off, went airborne and struck another tree in midair. The truck came to rest upside down in a ditch.

The London-Maybee-Raisinville Volunteer Fire Department using the Jaws of Life helped remove the boy from the vehicle. However, he most likely died on impact, police said.

Deputies said Benjamin was wearing a seat belt and alcohol was not a factor.

Described as a popular student at Dundee Middle School, Benjamin competed on the school's swim team.

"He was very sociable, very well-liked," Dundee Community Schools Superintendent Bob Black said this morning.

Crisis teams were formed before school started this morning to help students cope with the tragedy, he said. Local clergy counseled kids in the school's gymnasium and teachers were instructed to excuse kids who wanted to talk.

"You try to do things as normal as possible," Mr. Black said. "But we redid lesson plans so they have time to consult with the crisis team."

Tuesday's accident was the fourth fatality on Monroe County roads this year compared to two at this time in 1999.

Any witnesses to the accident are asked to contact the Traffic Services Division at 240-7564 or central dispatch at 243-7070.

Evening News staff writer Scott Neinas contributed to this report.

FEB
16
2000

Doug Donnelly, city editor

Mason Schools preparing for bond issue

ERIE – The final list of recommendations is being worked out this week for an expected bond issue in the Mason Consolidated Schools district.

The Mason Schools Facility Exploratory Committee met Tuesday night to review the results of a community telephone survey that took place Saturday, and other research towards the proposed building renovations and additions. The price tag on the bond issue is expected to range from $9 million to $30 million, depending on what projects are included.

The committee volunteers want to do "what the community wants," said junior high teacher Jan Grodi.

Mrs. Grodi said volunteers spoke with 168 people during Saturday's survey and left messages about two upcoming public hearings for people who were not home when called.

There is a series of meetings and public hearings that will take place before the school board decides what proposal to put on the June 12 school election ballot. Those meetings will be:

■ **7 p.m. Thursday at Mason High School.** This is a work session with the committee and board of education to discuss the details of the various proposals.

■ **7 p.m. Monday at Mason High School.** This is school board's regular meeting, and the committee is expected to present its final recommendations at that meeting.

■ **7 p.m. Feb. 23 at Mason Junior High School.** This will be the first public hearing, at which school district residents can speak with the school board about the ideas and proposals.

■ **7 p.m. March 2 at Central Elementary.** This will be the second public hearing for school district residents and the school board.

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Bedford may expand townshi

■ Township officials say they're running out of room and an addition is needed. The project is at least two years away, they said.

By PAULA WETHINGTON
Evening News staff writer

BEDFORD TOWNSHIP – The offices and storage space at Bedford Township Hall are getting to be too small for the local government operations, so township officials are discussing plans for an addition and renovations to the facilities.

Such a project is likely two to five years down the road, according to discussion at Tuesday's township board meeting. Although one set of preliminary drawings shows an expansion from the front of the building, township officials have not decided where or how big the addition should be.

"It all depends on how much money we want to dedicate to this project," Trustee Walt Dindoffer said.

The hall at 8100 Jackman Rd. was built in 1966.

Mr. Dindoffer said about $350,000 should be enough for a 1,500-square foot addition. "We're in a very good financial position to do this job," he said.

But the board members want to get some ideas and suggestions from employees on the best way to improve the building, so that the new space could last 30 years like the current building did.

Trustee Robert Schockman said the facility discussions have included constructing a new 40-by-60-foot building for the township's police station, which is a substation of the Monroe County Sheriff's Departament. He described the current police offices as "a tin shed."

The current police space could be converted into storage. Clerk Nancy J. Tienvieri said state law requires the township to save so many original documents that there is little room left in the building for storage.

There also have been repeated requests to place a better roof or insulation over the board meeting room, as heavy rain, sleet and even aircraft overhead can be heard easily during meetings.

In other business, the board:

■ Held a public hearing on whether to create a special assessment district for installation of eight street lights in the Eagle Ridge subdivision. No property owners or residents attended the hearing, but based on written notices sent to the township officials, the board approved the street light request. There are 51 lots, each of which will be billed an installation fee of $23.44 and an annual fee of $15.91.

■ Appointed Douglas Wilhelm, Daniel Volker, James Lykowski and Russell Deland as probationary firefighters for the Temperance Unit of the volunteer fire department. Chief John Bofia said he will have more new recruits to present to the board at an upcoming meeting.

■ Bought life insurance for all full-time employees of the township. The board already

had approved such
fighters. The annual
$6,700 for the group
July 1, which was
Michigan Township

■ Accepted the
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■ Appointed forme
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■ Approved $1,500 t
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Tienvieri is leading
promotion efforts.

■ Scheduled a joint s
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boards are dealing wi
be at the planning com
sion at 7 p.m. March 1

Meetings Calendar

TONIGHT

■ **Dundee Township Board**, public hearing and special meeting, 6 p.m., Dundee Township hall, 179 Main St., Dundee.

■ **Gibraltar Schools Board of Education**, work session on reopening Weiss Elementary School, 5 p.m., Stark Center, 19370 Vreeland Rd., Woodhaven.

■ **Monroe County Emergency Medical Authority**, 6 p.m., board of commissioners chambers, Monroe County Courthouse, 125 E. Second St.

■ **Jefferson Schools Board of Education**, special meeting on administrators contracts, 6:30 p.m., Administration Building, 2400 N. Dixie Hwy.

■ **Monroe Port Commission**, 7 p.m., port terminal office, 2929 E. Front St.

■ **Dundee Township Planning Commission**, 7 p.m., township hall, 179 Main St., Dundee.

■ **Rockwood City Council**, public hearing on community development block grant funds, 7 p.m.; regular meeting, 7:30, Rockwood Community Center, 32001 Fort St., Rockwood.

■ **Monroe Custer Airport Advisory Board**, 7:30 p.m., Custer Airport.

■ **Monroe Historic District Commission**, 7:30 p.m., first-floor conference room, Monroe City Hall, 120 E. First St.

■ **Monroe County Community Mental Health Services Board**, 7:30 p.m., board room, Department of Mental Health, 1001 S. Raisinville Rd.

■ **Monroe Zoning Board of Appeals**, 7:30 p.m., first-floor conference room, city hall, 120 E. First St.

■ **Petersburg Water Advisory Board**, 7:30 p.m., Petersburg City Hall, 24 W. Center St.

THURSDAY

■ **Monroe County Board of Health**, 8:15 a.m., 650 Stewart Rd.

■ **South County Water Board**, 10 a.m., South County Water System building, [illegible] Temperance.

■ **Raisinville Township Board**, 1 p.m., township hall, [illegible] Maybee Rd.

■ **Jefferson Schools**, superintendent community meeting, 1 p.m., Administration Building, 2400 N. Dixie Hwy.

■ **Whiteford Schools Board of Education**, special meeting to discuss building and facility needs, 6 p.m., 6655 Consear Rd., Ottawa Lake.

■ **Bedford Township Economic Development Corp.**, 7 p.m., township hall, 8100 Jackman Rd., Temperance.

■ **LaSalle Township Planning Commission**, public hearing, 7 p.m., LaSalle Township Hall, 4109 LaPlaisance Rd., LaSalle.

■ **Frenchtown Township Planning Commission**, 7:30 p.m., township hall, 2744 Vivian Rd.

Police Blotter

Arrests made

■ Arrested for investigation were:

Ahmed A. Hassan, 49, 11440 Robinshire Dr., Temperance.

Neil S. Scott, 23, 12153 Bristol Dr., Carleton.

Jeffrey S. Bunn, 27, 1469 Green Way.

Lannie R. Cairl, 30, 895 Patterson Dr.

Robert E. Miller, 36, 2937 Fourth St., Detroit Beach.

■ Arrested on warrants were:

Robert Richardson, 23, Milan.

Richard Woodruff, 42, 8611 Surfwood Dr.

Erin Y. Mullin, 23, address unavailable.

■ Arrested on traffic violation charges were:

Jason R. Gayer, 22, 54 S. Monroe St., Apt. 1.

Christopher Cantrell, 20, 3269 Englewood Dr.

Lowell D. Albain, 54, 4574 Summerfield Rd., Petersburg.

Daniel Rosebaro, 37, Adrian.

Lawrence Olmstead, 31, Lambertville.

Phillip G. Robson, 46, Trenton.

Dundee, Monr closer to wate

BY SCOTT NEINAS
Evening News staff writer

DUNDEE – A contract has been presented to the Dundee Village council that gives it the option of buying its water from the City of Monroe.

After a month of stepped-up talks, Village Manager Patrick Burtch said Tuesday the deal could give village residents soft water from Monroe by Dec. 1 at a low increase.

"The average home would pay $6 more a month, and that's the maximum," Mr. Burtch told the council Tuesday night.

He added that depending on construction costs and savings from shutting down its own water facility, residents could see their water bill stay the same.

"There've been times when we've been able to pull a rabbit out of our hat," to save taxpayers money, he said.

Monroe officials say the village will pay about $1.02 for 100 cubic feet of water.

Dundee will be billed as a single customer to Monroe. Water pumped along M-50 past Nieman Rd. will be on the village's account. The village, in turn, will continue its current metering system.

Mr. Burtch said the $3 million to $3.5 million project would be cheaper than constructing a new water reservoir that the village needs and would give residents "soft" water.

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Whiteford sets meeting on tru

OTTAWA LAKE — Whiteford Township officials have set the date for the next meeting on a developer's proposal to build a truck stop at the Sterns Rd. exit off US-23.

The township's planning commission will meet at 7:30 p.m. March 7 at Whiteford Middle School, 665

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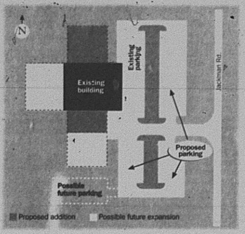
Bedford library future



— Evening News map by ROB GORCZYCA

▶ *Bedford may expand township hall — 2A*

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ing into its hands quickly, without public hearings.

Village Manager Patrick Burtch envisions a "B-4 district" that would require businesses to build closer to the road with very stringent landscaping and architectural guidelines.

The council also has discussed zoning the rear

See **DUNDEE**, Page 13A

More than Cabela's coming to the area

DUNDEE — Since Cabela's announcement last spring to open a 220,000-square-foot outdoor equipment store on the northwest corner of M-50 and US-23, plans for nearby hotels, golf courses and subdivisions have been made. Here are some of the projects that have been proposed for the area:

- Country Inn and Suites – A 36,000-square-foot, three-story, 68-room hotel has preliminary site plan approval for a spot next to the Shell gas station on M-50.
- Holiday Inn Express – A five-story structure could go on the northwest corner of the Helle property west of the proposed Country Inn and Suites. Sources say the chain is waiting for the land transfer agreement to become final before buying land.
- Hotels Development L.L.C. – Bought 2.55 acres on a new road west of Waterstadt Dr. from the village for $450,000. Reportedly the company wants to place a restaurant or hotel on the land.
- A championship 220-acre golf course – an area one mile north of Cabela's off of Wilcox Rd. with 3,000 feet of frontage on US-23.
- New subdivision – As part of the golf course development, a 200-home subdivision could be built north of the links. Condominiums and single-family homes would help pay for the golf course, which would cost at least $5 million.

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teachers were instructed to excuse kids who wanted to talk.

"You try to do things as normal as possible," Mr. Black said. "But we redid lesson plans so they have time to consult with the crisis team."

Tuesday's accident was the fourth fatality on Monroe County roads this year compared to two at this time in 1999.

Any witnesses to the accident are asked to contact the Traffic Services Division at 240-7564 or central dispatch at 243-7070.

Evening News staff writer Scott Neinas contributed to this report.

FEB
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2000

THE RECORD
The Monroe Evening News
Doug Donnelly, city editor
242-1100, news1@monroenews.com

Mason Schools preparing for bond issue

ERIE – The final list of recommendations is being worked out this week for an expected bond issue in the Mason Consolidated Schools district.

The Mason Schools Facility Exploratory Committee met Tuesday night to review the results of a community telephone survey that took place Saturday, and other research towards the proposed building renovations and additions. The price tag on the bond issue is expected to range from $9 million to $30 million, depending on what projects are included.

The committee volunteers want to do "what the community wants," said junior high teacher Jan Grodi.

Mrs. Grodi said volunteers spoke with 168 people during Saturday's survey and left messages about two upcoming public hearings for people who were not home when called.

There is a series of meetings and public hearings that will take place before the school board decides what proposal to put on the June 12 school election ballot. Those meetings will be:

- **7 p.m. Thursday at Mason High School.** This is a work session with the committee and board of education to discuss the details of the various proposals.
- **7 p.m. Monday at Mason High School.** This is school board's regular meeting, and the committee is expected to present its final recommendations at that meeting.
- **7 p.m. Feb. 23 at Mason Junior High School.** This will be the first public hearing, at which school district residents can speak with the school board about the ideas and proposals.
- **7 p.m. March 2 at Central Elementary.** This will be the second public hearing for school district residents and the school board.

Bedford may expand township hall

- Township officials say they're running out of room and an addition is needed. The project is at least two years away, they said.

By PAULA WETHINGTON
Evening News staff writer

BEDFORD TOWNSHIP – The offices and storage space at Bedford Township Hall are getting to be too small for the local government operations, so township officials are discussing plans for an addition and renovations to the facilities.

Such a project is likely two to five years down the road, according to discussion at Tuesday's township board meeting. Although one set of preliminary drawings shows an expansion from the front of the building, township officials have not decided where or how big the addition should be.

"It all depends on how much money we want to dedicate to this project," Trustee Walt Dindoffer said.

The hall at 8100 Jackman Rd. was built in 1966.

Mr. Dindoffer said about $350,000 should be enough for a 1,500-square foot addition. "We're in a very good financial position to do this job," he said.

But the board members want to get some ideas and suggestions from employees on the best way to improve the building, so that the new space could last 30 years like the current building did.

Trustee Robert Schockman said the facility discussions have included constructing a new 40-by-60-foot building for the township's police station, which is a substation of the Monroe County Sheriff's Departament. He described the current police offices as "a tin shed."

The current police space could be converted into storage. Clerk Nancy J. Tienvieri said state law requires the township to save so many original documents that there is little room left in the building for storage.

There also have been repeated requests to place a better roof or insulation over the board meeting room, as heavy rain, sleet and even aircraft overhead can be heard easily during meetings.

In other business, the board:

- Held a public hearing on whether to create a special assessment district for installation of eight street lights in the Eagle Ridge subdivision. No property owners or residents attended the hearing, but based on written notices sent to the township officials, the board approved the street light request. There are 51 lots, each of which will be billed an installation fee of $23.44 and an annual fee of $15.91.
- Appointed Douglas Wilhelm, Daniel Volker, James Lykowski and Russell Deland as probationary firefighters for the Temperance Unit of the volunteer fire department. Chief John Bofia said he will have more new recruits to present to the board at an upcoming meeting.
- Bought life insurance for all full-time employees of the township. The board already had approved such insurance for the firefighters. The annual cost to the township is $6,700 for the group term proposal starting July 1, which was arranged through the Michigan Township Association.
- Accepted the resignation of Sharon Hubbard from the Economic Development Committee.
- Appointed former township supervisor Pearl Albert-Green to the park commission, succeeding Marty Mohr who resigned.
- Approved a resolution allowing the Monroe County Road Commission to arrange for repairs on the storm system and roadway in Bedford Industrial Park. The storm sewer drain has worn out over time, and some concrete pavement on Sulier Road collapsed as a result. The repairs are going to cost between $13,000 and $19,000, and assessments would be done on nearby properties to help pay for the project.
- Approved $1,500 towards local promotion and advertising with the 2000 U.S. Census. Township officials want every local resident to be counted this spring, preferably with the mail-in forms, so that the area can get an accurate share of state and federal funding. Tienvieri is leading the township's census promotion efforts.
- Scheduled a joint session with the township planning commission to discuss the pending sign ordinance and other issues that both boards are dealing with. The joint session will be at the planning commission's next work session at 7 p.m. March 1.

Markets

Technology slump takes recess

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks moved higher in early trading today as a pair of strong corporate profit reports lifted technology stocks from their recent slump.

In the first hour of trading on Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average was up 20.32 at 10,738.41.

	Closed Tues.	10:30 today
Air Gas	6 3/4	6 3/4
American Tel. and Tel.	48	48 11/16
Associates	18 7/16	18 11/16
BP-Amoco	47 3/8	48 11/16
CMS Energy	19 3/8	18 9/16
CSX	22	22 1/4
Comerica	40 5/8	40 9/16
DaimlerChrysler	66	64 1/4
Dana Corp.	23	23
Delphi Automotive	17 1/8	17 1/2
DTE Energy	33	33 1/8
Dow Chemical	108 15/16	107 3/16
Eastman Kodak	57 13/16	58 5/8
Elder Beerman	4 3/4	4 5/8
Fifth Third Bank	58 11/16	58
Firstenergy	21 5/8	21 5/8
Ford Motor	46 3/8	45 3/8
General Electric	137 1/2	135 7/8
General Motors	74 1/16	72 13/16
General Tel. and El.	64 3/4	65 1/2
IBM	117 1/16	116 3/8
Int. Paper (Union Camp)	43 5/16	43
Jefferson Smurfit	18 11/16	18 1/16
Key Corp.	18 9/16	18 1/4
Kmart	8 1/4	8 3/16
Lear Seating	24 1/2	23 1/2
La-Z-Boy Incorporated	14 1/2	15
Micron Tech	69	68 5/16
Morgan Stanley-Dean Witter	65 9/16	65 9/16
Monroe Bank & Trust	34 1/2	34 1/2
Monsanto	41 1/8	40 9/16
National City	19 3/4	20 1/8
National Steel	7 5/16	8 1/16
Penney, J.C.	16 9/16	16
PepsiCo	34 3/16	34 1/8
Pfizer	35 7/16	34 13/16
Rite Aid	7	7 1/16
Sears Roebuck	29 1/4	29 3/8
Seaway Foodtown	19 1/8	19 1/8
Tenneco	8 1/4	8 3/16
United Industrial	8 5/8	8 9/16
USX	24 11/16	24 3/4
Utilicorp	17 5/8	17 13/16
Viacom	59 1/4	57 7/8
Woolworth	5 11/16	5 7/8
Worthington	14 7/16	14 9/16

(Courtesy of Morgan Stanley-Dean Witter)

Local cash grain

Ida Farmer's Co-Op Co.

	Tues. 9 a.m.	Wed. 9 a.m.
No. 2 White Wheat	$2.06	$2.06
No. 2 Red Wheat	$2.21	$2.21
Corn	$1.87	$1.89
Soybeans	$4.68	$4.75

2000 New crop prices

No. 2 Red Wheat	$2.41	$2.41
Corn	$2.08	$2.10
Soybeans	$4.89	$4.93

Prices are subject to change.
Regularly updated grain prices are available on infoNOW at 242-4636, selection 3500.

Eggs

DETROIT (AP) — Detroit loose egg prices for Tuesday: Jumbo 78-81, extra large 69-75, large 67-72, medium 56-61, small 25-29.

Meetings Calendar

TONIGHT

- **Dundee Township Board**, public hearing and special meeting, 6 p.m., Dundee Township hall, 179 Main St., Dundee.
- **Gibraltar Schools Board of Education**, work session on reopening Weiss Elementary School, 5 p.m., Stark Center, 19370 Vreeland Rd., Woodhaven.
- **Monroe County Emergency Medical Authority**, 6 p.m., board of commissioners chambers, Monroe County Courthouse, 125 E. Second St.
- **Jefferson Schools Board of Education**, special meeting on administrators contracts, 6:30 p.m., Administration Building, 2400 N. Dixie Hwy.
- **Monroe Port Commission**, 7 p.m., port terminal office, 2929 E. Front St.
- **Dundee Township Planning Commission**, 7 p.m., township hall, 179 Main St., Dundee.
- **Rockwood City Council**, public hearing on community development block grant funds, 7 p.m.; regular meeting, 7:30, Rockwood Community Center, 32001 Fort St., Rockwood.
- **Monroe Custer Airport Advisory Board**, 7:30 p.m., Custer Airport.
- **Monroe Historic District Commission**, 7:30 p.m., first-floor conference room, Monroe City Hall, 120 E. First St.
- **Monroe County Community Mental Health Services Board**, 7:30 p.m., board room, Department of Mental Health, 1001 S. Raisinville Rd.
- **Monroe Zoning Board of Appeals**, 7:30 p.m., first-floor conference room, city hall, 120 E. First St.
- **Petersburg Water Advisory Board**, 7:30 p.m., Petersburg City Hall, 24 W. Center St.

THURSDAY

- **Monroe County Board of Health**, 8:15 a.m., 650 Stewart Rd.
- **South County Water Board**, 10 a.m., South County Water System building, 3640 Lewis Ave., Temperance.
- **Raisinville Township Board**, 1 p.m., township hall, 98 Ida-Maybee Rd.
- **Jefferson Schools**, superintendent community meeting, 1 p.m., Administration Building, 2400 N. Dixie Hwy.
- **Whiteford Schools Board of Education**, special meeting to discuss building and facility needs, 6 p.m., 6655 Consear Rd., Ottawa Lake.
- **Bedford Township Economic Development Corp.**, 7 p.m., township hall, 8100 Jackman Rd., Temperance.
- **LaSalle Township Planning Commission**, public hearing, 7 p.m., LaSalle Township Hall, 4109 LaPlaisance Rd., LaSalle.
- **Frenchtown Township Planning Commission**, 7:30 p.m., township hall, 2744 Vivian Rd.

Dundee, Monroe closer to water pact

BY SCOTT NEINAS
Evening News staff writer

DUNDEE – A contract has been presented to the Dundee Village council that gives it the option of buying its water from the City of Monroe.

After a month of stepped-up talks, Village Manager Patrick Burtch said Tuesday the deal could give village residents soft water from Monroe by Dec. 1 at a low increase.

"The average home would pay $6 more a month, and that's the maximum," Mr. Burtch told the council Tuesday night.

He added that depending on construction costs and savings from shutting down its own water facility, residents could see their water bill stay the same.

"There've been times when we've been able to pull a rabbit out of our hat," to save taxpayers money, he said.

Monroe officials say the village will pay about $1.02 for 100 cubic feet of water.

Dundee will be billed as a single customer to Monroe. Water pumped along M-50 past Nieman Rd. will be on the village's account. The village, in turn, will continue its current metering system.

Mr. Burtch said the $3 million to $3.5 million project would be cheaper than constructing a new water reservoir that the village needs and would give residents "soft" water.

"You shouldn't have to wipe off your shower door every time you use it," he said, referring to mineral deposits made on laundry and glass shower doors from Dundee's "hard" water.

The council will review the contract and will try to make a decision on it by March 7.

In other business, the council:

- Discussed an overlay zoning provision (B-3) for Tecumseh St. In concept, the downtown business district would grow out from the village center instead of commercial development encroaching east from US-23. Houses along Tecumseh would be allowed to convert to small businesses.
- Heard a report from Mr. Burtch that revenue for the general fund should increase 20 percent next year. This year's fiscal budget will be close to $1.1 million, up from $958,000 the previous year, but revenue, not including land sales, should surpass that figure. Mr. Burtch said the village is on track to have a $300,000 surplus when the budget year ends Feb. 29.
- Heard Mr. Burtch and Trustee James Roe recommend that the new street running west off Waterstradt Commerce Dr. be named Powell Dr., after outgoing President Darrell Powell. The Council is taking suggestions for the circular drive that will run off Cabela's Blvd.

Whiteford sets meeting on truck stop plan

OTTAWA LAKE — Whiteford Township officials have set the date for the next meeting on a developer's proposal to build a truck stop at the Sterns Rd. exit off US-23.

The township's planning commission will meet at 7:30 p.m. March 7 at Whiteford Middle School, 6655 Consear Rd.

It will be the second public hearing with the township planning commission on a rezoning request.

The rezoning, if granted, would allow the construction of a Flying J Inc. travel plaza just east of Sylvania-Petersburg Rd.

HOW TO REACH US

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Police Blotter

Arrests made

- Arrested for investigation were:

Ahmed A. Hassan, 49, 11440 Robinshire Dr., Temperance.

Neil S. Scott, 23, 12153 Bristol Dr., Carleton.

Jeffrey S. Bunn, 27, 1469 Green Way.

Lannie R. Cairl, 30, 895 Patterson Dr.

Robert E. Miller, 36, 2937 Fourth St., Detroit Beach.

- Arrested on warrants were:

Robert Richardson, 23, Milan.

Richard Woodruff, 42, 8611 Surfwood Dr.

Erin Y. Mullin, 23, address unavailable.

- Arrested on traffic violation charges were:

Jason R. Gayer, 22, 54 S. Monroe St., Apt. 1.

Christopher Cantrell, 20, 3269 Englewood Dr.

Lowell D. Albain, 54, 4574 Summerfield Rd., Petersburg.

Daniel Rosebaro, 37, Adrian.

Lawrence Olmstead, 31, Lambertville.

Phillip G. Robson, 46, Trenton.

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The 'Big Money Ball'
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Evening 460

Tuesday Daily-4
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Evening 4021

Tuesday Cash Five
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Tuesday Keno
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40 42 46 47 51 52 53
57 58 60 61 70 72 77

OHIO LOTTERY

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Midday 537
Evening 691

Tuesday Pick 4
Midday 6977
Evening 5927

Tuesday Buckeye 5
6 8 14 18 23

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SECOND FRO…
The Monroe Evening News
Doug Donnelly, city editor

Domestic violence takes toll …

- Besides the human costs, domestic strife can invade the workplace and affect the bottom line, a corporate security expert says.

By CHARLES SLAT
Evening News staff writer

The signs of an employee suffering from domestic violence can be as subtle as increased absenteeism, loss of productivity or a change in mood, or they can be as apparent as a black eye, harassing phone calls or vandalism to vehicles.

"Beyond the obvious signs that affect the victims, it's also going to affect the business – the bottom line," said Michael Lynch, director of corporate investigation for Detroit Edison Co. Besides the attendance and productivity issues, it could lead to higher insurance premiums, disruption of the workplace or, ultimately, loss of the employee, he said.

Mr. Lynch discussed the impact of domestic violence on the workplace during a Monroe County Chamber of Commerce Koffee Klub session Tuesday morning at the Links at Lake Erie golf clubhouse.

He said employers could do their part by adopting workplace violence policies that raise employee awareness about domestic violence and provide guidance to employees and managers about how to assist the victims with who they may work.

"Adoption of workplace violence policies is not only the right thing to do, it's good business, too," he said.

He said Detroit Edison adopted such a policy in October and it already has produced some success stories. And he advised employers that they cannot assume they will be insulated from any domestic violence problem. "For us, it happened probably twice a week until recently," he said.

"If a victim ends up going to a shelter or living with a relative after they leave home, the workplace becomes the place where their significant other knows they can find them," he said.

MICHAEL LYNCH
Director of corporate investigations for Detroit Edison Co.

He said harassing or "problematic phone calls" to the victim at work are an early symptom. "This is probably the first thing that happens because the spouse or boyfriend can't get them at home," he said.

"There's a plethora of signs – small signs — that occur prior to an incident," he added.

Employers can address the issue by adopting policies that support the victims, offer counseling and alternative work schedules, or even alternative work locations. Such a policy might include having corporate security or human resource per-

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City of Gibraltar

Council won't send out fliers

GIBRALTAR – An attempt to have the City of Gibraltar provide a fact sheet on a controversial rezoning referendum Tuesday has been torpedoed.

Councilwoman Kathy LaPointe tried to get the city council Monday night to mail fliers to residents explaining the housing development proposed by Made in Detroit Inc. But her motion died for lack of support.

"I was a little disappointed," Mrs. LaPointe said this morning. "I thought it was important to get a fact sheet out on the issue. It's been so confusing and I want to make sure they have an (informed) vote. We would just stick to the facts and not take a position or tell them how to vote."

Election 2000

Some opponents of the waterfront housing proposal and a nine-hole golf course planned in Humbug Marsh along the Gibraltar-Trenton border aren't sure how to vote. A flier with facts about the development would help voters make a decision, she said.

Councilman John Connolly agreed that perhaps more information was needed to clear up confusion about the zoning. The Friends of the Detroit River, a group that wants to save the marsh from development, already has circulated a flier and another one won't help, Councilwoman Kathleen Walz Law said.

"The more we try to explain it, the muddier it gets," Mrs. Walz Law said this morning. "It's so complex… we (need to) keep it simple. If you want to preserve the marsh, then vote yes. We're trying to encourage people to vote with their feet. Everything else is just politics."

The referendum is part of the presidential primary election. The only local issue is whether the land for the project off W. Jefferson Ave. should be rezoned from a planned residential development (PRD) to a planned unit development (PUD). A yes vote would show opposition to the housing project while a no vote could be construed as support for the development, Mrs. Walz Law said. Opponents of the project would rather see an R-1 (single-family residential) zoning and that's why the Friends' group successfully undertook a petition drive to get the rezoning on the ballot.

Both she and Mrs. LaPointe said they would prefer an R-1, which would limit the size and scope of the project.

They added the development won't be affected much if the proposal passes or fails because a PRD and PUD have many similarities. "Nothing's going to change, whether it's a PRD or a PUD," Mrs. Walz Law said.

However, the outcome will send a message to the community of how much support there is for the development.

"It's important to get out and vote and (let the council see) who's supporting the project and who's not," Mrs. LaPointe said.

Shiny new truck

— Evening News photo

Connie Towler sprays the back of her daughter Shannon's truck Tuesday at Lino's Car Wash, 15327 S. Dixie Hwy. … pictured) was washing her truck for the first time after getting it a month ago. She works two jobs and has sa… a year to buy the truck. "We usually bond on Tuesdays," the elder Ms. Towler said, referring to the day both hav…

Senior citizens want options to remain in their homes long…

BY CYNTHIA RAMNARACE
Evening News staff writer

Low-income senior citizens who can live alone no longer should have an option other than a nursing home.

Those who want to remain in their own homes should be given all the resources available to make it possible for them to do so.

These were the prevailing issues discussed Tuesday during the Community Forum on Senior Citizen Issues held at St. Mary Center.

Testimony from experts in the field of senior housing was delivered during the 2½-hour forum, which was hosted by the Area Agency on Aging 1-B, United Way of Monroe County, Monroe County Opportunity Program (MCOP) and the following Monroe County agencies: Commission on Aging, Health Department and the Network on Homelessness.

AAA 1-B will use the input received as it decides how to spend $15 million set aside from community-based services for older adults. The federally mandated agency covers six counties, including Monroe.

"It takes a partnership of services … to blend dollars together and get services to older women and men who need them," said Sandra Reminga, director of AAA 1-B.

Beth Tobin, program coordinator for the Housing Bureau for Seniors in Ann Arbor, said educating seniors about the services available to them is vital.

Most seniors, she said, choose to stay in their own homes, but problems such as the cost of utilities, upkeep and repair to their homes can make that a daunting feat.

She discussed programs available that can help. They are:

> *"It takes a partnership of services …. to blend dollars together and get services to older women and men who need them."*
>
> —Sandra Reminga, Director of AAA 1-B

- The Property Tax Foreclosure Program provides loans that can help seniors pay their taxes.
- The Homeshare Program, used in Washtenaw County, finds compatible younger people to become roommates of senior citizens. The boarder pays rent and helps with chores and provides companionship.
- The Home Equity Conversion Program helps seniors use their investment in their home to pay outstanding debts.
- A Reverse Mortgage allows those who no longer owe money on their homes to turn equity in their home into cash that can be used for repairs, modifications or needed services.
- The Elderly Eviction Prevention program works to educate apartment management companies about the special needs of seniors. It's not uncommon for people to become forgetful and not pay the rent, for example.

Sally Pritchett of MCOP advised today's baby boomers to start thinking about readying their own homes for the day when they might need wheelchairs or chair lifts. Widen doorways where possible and when building or buying, opt for a single-level residence with a paved driv…
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Ms. Tobin stressed tha…
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Bernie Fegan, admi…
Bedford Elderly Care…
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I told my husband I
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. He estimates it might
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a lot of turmoil, and I
deserve some loyalty.
hould do?

— **Faithful in Washington**

Dear Abby

Universal Press Syndicate

Dear Faithful:

Mind your intuition. Finding a decent printer is as easy as visiting the library and checking out Consumer Reports. At most, it should take a couple of hours.

I urge you to do the following: Seek the advice of an attorney. It's important that you know what the laws are in your state that affect the division of family assets. If your husband is in business for himself, you may also need the advice of an accountant. If he's having an affair he may have already started hiding money that belongs to both of you.

If you don't have your own credit rating, establish one. You may need it. Begin upgrading your job skills and prepare a resume in case you have to find a job.

Then give your husband an ultimatum. You deserve some loyalty. You shouldn't have to share your husband with his hairdresser or any other woman.

Dear Abby:

As a retired nurse, I think someone needs to correct the stereotyping of elderly people as complainers. There is a fine line between complaining and explaining.

The elderly in our society are, generally, people who have been hard workers most of their lives and, in my experience, are mostly embarrassed by their limitations.

The next time Mom or Dad or Uncle Charlie seems to be complaining, listen up! It may be important.

— **Bea Hyvare, R.N., in Minnesota**

Dear Bea:

You could be right. However, if a relative complained repeatedly to me about the same ailments, my first response would be: "Does your doctor know how you've been feeling? What did he (or she) have to say about it?"

Saul Bellow adds trophy to collection

NEW YORK (AP) — Novelist Saul Bellow has a new award to keep his Nobel Prize company.

Bellow, 84, received the lifetime achievement award during The New Yorker Book Awards Monday at the New York Public Library.

Bellow was cited for such books as "Seize the Day," "Henderson the Rain King," "Mr. Sammler's Planet," and "Herzog."

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down to you (PG-13) (1:30 4:15) 7:30 9:50
BICENTENNIAL MAN (PG) (12:50 3:40) 6:50 9:40
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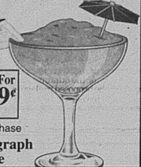

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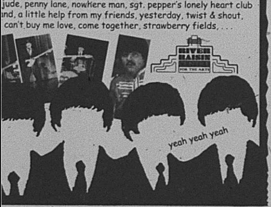

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Dad writes Reno again to seek Elian's return

HAVANA (AP) — The father of Elian Gonzalez has written again to Attorney General Janet Reno, demanding that the boy be returned to him, saying he does not recognize the courts hearing the custody battle.

Juan Miguel Gonzalez's second letter to Reno in as many weeks was published in Cuba Tuesday on the front page of the Communist Party daily Granma.

"I formally object to the legal moves made or being made by those who are arbitrarily retaining Elian," Gonzalez said in the letter, dated Monday. In the letter, he said he does not recognize the jurisdiction of the U.S. court system, which is weighing an attempt by 6-year-old Elian's Miami relatives to block his return to Cuba.

In Washington, Justice Department spokeswoman Carole Florman said the letter was received Monday night through the State Department. "We're reviewing it," Florman said.

Gonzalez also asked Foreign Minister Felipe Perez Roque to arrange for Cuban diplomats in the United States to visit Elian.

"We are worried not only about his prolonged kidnapping," Gonzalez wrote in a letter published in Granma today. "We lack direct information about the concrete conditions to which he is subjected in his daily life."

"I beg that you insist with the authorities of the United States that they grant this visit," Gonzalez wrote.

Elian has been the focus of an international custody battle since he was rescued from an inner tube off the Florida coast Nov. 25. The boy's mother and 10 other people died when their boat sank en route from Cuba to the United States.

Elian is staying with his paternal great-uncle Lazaro Gonzalez, who is fighting to keep the boy with him in the United States. Cuban exiles in Miami say the boy's mother died to give him freedom in the United States and the Cuban government maintains Elian is being improperly kept from his father.

Lawyers for the relatives in Miami filed a brief in federal court Monday arguing the Immigration and Naturalization Service cannot return Elian to Cuba without holding a political asylum hearing.

U.S. government lawyers have moved to dismiss the Miami relatives' suit, arguing that they have no legal standing in the boy's case. The INS ruled last month that only Elian's father has the right to speak for the boy in immigration matters.

In his first letter earlier this month, Gonzalez pressed Reno to return the boy to him. He said that in the meantime, his son should be placed with Manolo Gonzalez, another great-uncle in Miami. Manolo has said he supports the child's return to Cuba.

FROM PAGE 1A

Bedford (cont.)

library building, which is at 8575 Jackman Rd.

"I want to commend you for your decision," Elizabeth Koster of Lambertville, a Monroe County Library System trustee, told the board. "It is very exciting."

Mr. Barr said he has high hopes that township voters would pass a bond issue for the building addition, since the proposed millage at 0.7 mills for 10 years is not a high amount. That would pay for about $3.5 million in improvements to the library branch, according to written reports that he and Supervisor R. LaMar Frederick gave to the board.

Under the proposal, there would be room for almost twice as many books, a larger local history room and computer area, and additional parking spaces. The new wings would go on the sides of the existing building.

The Monroe County Library System also is likely to be on the August ballot with an operating levy. The county trustees voted at their meeting Monday to proceed with the operating levy request, but the amount for that hasn't been determined yet. It also has to be approved by the Monroe County Board of Commissioners before it can be put on the ballot.

Township Clerk Nancy J. Tienvieri said she thought it will be confusing to have two library issues on the same election ballot.

Mrs. Koster said she understood those concerns, but hoped the township and county officials could work together to get both issues passed.

At the county level, voters already have rejected two attempts for a millage increase for the library system budget. Without more income, library officials say they will have to deal with deep budget cuts.

The Bedford branch has outgrown its available space much sooner than expected, Nancy Bellaire, assistant director for the library system, said after the meeting. The branch opened in 1974 to replace two smaller libraries and already has had one expansion.

The library nearly was doubled in size in 1988. That project was funded with a $600,000 bond issue. In 1994, the township spent about $54,000 for in renovations, which included a new circulation desk and new carpeting.

Mr. Frederick said a Bedford Township library bond issue would be intended for the building improvements. But the ballot language is being worked out so that if there are any leftover funds, the remaining money can be used for utility bills. The library staff salaries, township officials said, should be the responsibility of the library board.

Dundee (cont.)

parts of the parcels agricultural so developers wanting to bring in large "box" stores, such as a Wal-Mart, would have to get the land rezoned.

The measure to proceed with the land transfer was approved after a brief public hearing.

Trustee J.C. Meehling cast the lone dissenting vote. He didn't comment Tuesday night but previously has expressed concerns about what would go on the rest of the property.

Land transfer agreements are considered easier, friendlier ways for villages and cities to acquire property. Annexations, which have occurred in the past in Dundee, can take longer if a township appeals them and takes its case to the Michigan State Boundary Commission.

Unlike a previous land transfer agreement between the village and the township, no village water taps are being guaranteed to the township as part of the deal.

Economy (cont.)

— almost double its nearest competitor, Chicago, which had 646 projects.

Michigan's projects involved more than $21 billion dollars in investments. To be counted, projects must have at least $1 million in new investment or reinvestment, 20,000 or more square feet of new construction or create 50 or more jobs. They cannot be retail or residential construction.

The Michigan Economic Development Corp., which is responsible for attracting new businesses to Michigan and encouraging expansions, does not track whether every new project that's announced actually is built, MEDC officials said.

Engler said the growth in new investment or reinvestment since 1994 is a sign companies are getting the message that Michigan has made its tax policies and business climate better for business.

Oakland and Wayne counties led the list of counties gaining the most developments in 1999, with each having just over 400. Macomb, Kent and Washtenaw counties held the next three spots.

Engler said part of Michigan's success relies on the efforts being made by regional economic development staffs.

"We've been blessed in this state to have some outstanding local partners," he said.

Deaths

Shirley Lee Harmon

Jan. 27, 1931-Feb. 13, 2000

DANVILLE, Ky. – Homemaker Shirley Lee Harmon, 69, of Danville, formerly of Monroe, died Sunday.

Services were held at noon today at Evans Funeral Home, Goshen, Ohio. The Rev. Herman Meadors officiated. Burial was in Myers Cemetery, Goshen.

Born Jan. 27, 1931, in Monroe, she was the daughter of Charles H. and Katherine (Butler) Meadors. She married Carl Harmon Jr.

Surviving are a daughter, Naomi Meadors of Danville; four brothers, Dennis H., Gillis E., Kenneth and Ralph; two grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband and three brothers, Charles, Jerry and Carson.

Memorials may be made to American Cancer Society.

Funerals

EDITH MARIE BARRONS

Among the survivors of Edith Marie Barrons, 77, of Mesa, Ariz., formerly of Huron Township, who died Jan. 22, is a daughter, Pamela (Barrons) Rush of Brownstown Township.

Her name was reported incorrectly in Tuesday's Evening News.

CHARLES E. HARRIS

Charles E. Harris, 66, of Holland, Ohio, formerly of Monroe County, who died Saturday, was survived by a sister, Mrs. Jack (Norma) Wertenberger.

She was identified incorrectly in Monday's Evening News.

JOAN HAUT FAIRCHILD

A memorial service has been set for Joan Haut Fairchild, 58, of Tacoma, Wash., formerly of Monroe County, who died Jan. 22.

Services will be held at 11:30 a.m. Saturday at St. Charles Catholic Church, Newport. The Rev. William Tindall, pastor of the church, will officiate.

Astronauts may be able to complete mapping

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Thanks to fuel-efficient changes in steering and flushing aboard space shuttle Endeavour, NASA is optimistic that astronauts can complete their mapping of the world.

By Tuesday, flight controllers had come up with 17 ideas for conserving fuel aboard Endeavour, ranging from changes in shuttle maneuvers to changes in urine disposal. Five were implemented.

The astronauts have had to use more shuttle fuel than planned to keep a 197-foot radar antenna mast pointed in the right direction. Thrusters on the shuttle are being fired more often to compensate for a malfunctioning thruster on the end of the mast.

"Quite frankly, I'm optimistic that we're not going to fold our tent early," said mission operations representative Milt Heflin. "But I've got to tell you also that I'm probably a couple days away from coming here and telling you that we're there. But we're well on our way."

Earlier in the week, NASA said the astronauts might have to cut the mapping mission a day early. The mission to create a 3-D map of the Earth's terrain was supposed to continue until Sunday.

As of this morning, the crew had mapped more than 32 million square miles of terrain at least once. That's an area roughly equivalent to the size of Africa, Australia and North and South America combined. Before the mission is done, NASA hopes to have about 48 million square miles mapped.

The radar is working so well that engineers feel comfortable giving Endeavour more room to move in orbit, reducing the number of shuttle thruster firings, Heflin said. By maneuvering Endeavour more slowly, additional fuel can be saved.

NASA also is changing the way the astronauts flush urine from the shuttle.

Engineers noticed that less fuel is used to steady the shuttle when waste water is dumped overboard through a nozzle than when the liquid is discarded through an evaporator system. So Mission Control has advised the astronauts to go with the nozzle.

Louis Frederick Jodry III

Sept. 1, 1930-Feb. 13, 2000

WHITEHOUSE, Ohio – Monroe High School, Monroe, graduate Louis Frederick Jodry III, 69, of Whitehouse, formerly of Monroe County, died at noon Sunday at St. Luke Hospital, Maumee, Ohio, where he had been for a week.

Services were held today at Hope United Methodist Church. Burial was in Highland Memory Gardens, Waterville, Ohio. Peinert Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

LOUIS FREDERICK JODRY III

Born Sept. 1, 1930, in Monroe, he was the son of Louis and Evelyn (Hobe) Jodry. He married Sally (Druschel) Jarrins in 1965.

He was employed by the U.S. Postal Service, Maumee, retiring in 1990. He also had worked for the Western Hotel chain.

He served in the Air Force for three years

He graduated from MHS in 1949 and from the University of Denver, Denver, with a bachelor's degree in hotel administration. He was a member of Hope United Methodist Church, where he sang in the choir and directed the bell choir for 22 years. A Boy Scout leader in Portland, Ore., and Seattle, he enjoyed building, woodworking and playing the hammered dulcimer, psaltery and organ.

Surviving are his wife; two sons, Jeffrey Jarrins of Toledo and Louis F. V of Providence, R.I.; four daughters; Allison (Jodry) Johnson of Severn, Md., Linda Jodry of Austin, Texas, Wendy (Jodry) Green of Morgantown, N.C., and Jill (Jarrins) Wolfe of Sebastion, Fla.; a brother, Richard of San Antonio; a sister, Patricia Vincent of Monroe, and eight grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Memorials may be made to Lou Jodry Music Memorial fund at Hope United Methodist Church.

James W. Cupp

Jan. 11, 1940-Feb. 15, 2000

TEMPERANCE – Services have been set for James W. Cupp, 60, of Temperance, formerly of Monroe, a member of the LaSalle Volunteer Fire Department, LaSalle, 1973-75, who died at 12:55 a.m. Tuesday in his home. He had been seriously ill for 1½ years.

Friends may call from 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday and from noon to 9 p.m. Friday at Rupp Funeral Home, Monroe, where services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday. The Rev. Fred Smith will officiate. Burial will be in LaSalle Township Cemetery, LaSalle Township.

JAMES W. CUPP

Born Jan. 11, 1940, in Middlesboro, Ky., he was the son of John C. and Anna M. (Eldridge) Cupp. He married Mary K. Sulfridge Dec. 1, 1963, in Monroe. She died Feb. 12, 1994. On July 1 in Toledo, he married Barbara L. Rutledge.

For 35 years, he was employed by Ford Motor Co., retiring in 1998.

A 1958 graduate of Monroe High School, Monroe, he served two terms as Sunday school superintendent at True Gospel Missionary Baptist Church, Monroe, and three terms as vacation Bible school director at Kentucky Park Missionary Baptist Church, Monroe.

Surviving are his wife; his father of Middlesboro; a son, James W. II of Newport; a stepson, Gerald L. Robinson II of Dundee; a daughter, Denia A. Cupp of LaSalle; a stepdaughter, Julie A. Robinson of Temperance; a brother, John C. Jr. of Middlesboro; two sisters, Cathy Bailey of Houston and Wanda Baker of Eaton Rapids, and two grandchildren.

In addition to his first wife, he was preceded in death by his mother.

Memorials may be made to the charity of the donor's choice.

Obituaries published by *The Evening News* in its news columns are provided free of charge as a public service. Parties desiring specifically worded obituary announcements may place them through paid advertising. The notices are boxed and when possible appear on the same page as obituaries.

George J. Tilk

June 12, 1934-Feb. 15, 2000

LAMBERTVILLE – Marine Corps veteran George J. Tilk, 65, of Lambertville died Tuesday at St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center, Toledo.

Friends may call from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday at Bedford Funeral Chapel, Temperance, where services will be held at 1:30 p.m. Friday. The Rev. Dale Kleimola, pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Milan, will officiate. Burial will be in Whiteford Union Cemetery, Ottawa Lake.

GEORGE J. TILK

Born June 12, 1934, in Detroit, he was the son of John and Carolyn (Frey) Tilk. He married Jean Laubrich Feb. 21, 1958, in Detroit.

For 22 years, he was a tool maker at General Motor's Powertrain plant, Toledo, retiring in 1996. Prior to that, he worked for 15 years as an aeronautical engineer for Teledyne Corp., Toledo.

He was involved with the Junior League at Southern Michigan Sportsman's Club and Junior Sailing at Western Lake Erie Sailing Club. He was a member of Southern Michigan Sportsman's Club, Western Lake Erie Sailing Club, Jolly Roger Sailing Club and Local 735, United Auto Workers. He enjoyed casinos, gambling, traveling and especially trips to Mexico and Florida.

Surviving are his wife; a son, Jeffrey G. of Temperance; a daughter, Mrs. Louis (Pamela J.) Wojtowicz of Milan; a sister, Helen Jenkins of Carleton, and two grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Mercy Memorial Hospice of Monroe.

Janice H. Jarvis

February 14, 2000

Janice H. Jarvis of Grosse Ile, died February 14, 2000.

She was the loving companion of Jack Willingham, dearest mother of Kimberly, Shawn and Joy Magdich; dear sister of Richard, Jack (Beverly), and Laurie (Tom) Randazzo. She was the loving grandmother of Bronte.

Janice will lie instate Wednesday from 1 to 9 p.m., at the Czopek Funeral Directors, 2157 Oak St., Wyandotte, where funeral services will take place at 10:30 a.m., Thursday and at 11 a.m. at St. Patrick Church, Wyandotte.

Paid Death Notice

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Max J. Bortles

Dec. 14, 1921-Feb. 12, 2000

MILAN – Max J. Bortles, 78, of Milan died Saturday in his home.

Private graveside services were held. Friends may call from 10 until a memorial service at 11 a.m. Saturday at Peoples Presbyterian Church. The Rev. Frank Dunbar will officiate. Ochalek-Stark Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Born Dec. 14, 1921, in Milan, he was the son of Floyd and Ella (Hurrelbrink) Bortles. He married Marilyn Gerstler Aug. 2, 1946.

He retired from Local 190, Plumbers and Pipefitters.

He served in the Army during World War II, serving in the 82nd and 101st Airborne infantries.

A member of Peoples Presbyterian Church, he also was a member of Earl Gladfelter Post 268 American Legion; Lodge 335, Loyal Order of Moose, and Schwaben Verein of Ann Arbor.

Surviving are his wife; two daughters, Mrs. Gordon (Sherry) Milner of Onsted and Mrs. Clyde (Nancy) Hall of Milan, and three grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Leon.

Memorials may be made to the charity of the donor's choice.

Robert N. Dietrich

Robert N. Dietrich, 87, of Monroe died at 4:45 p.m. Tuesday in the Lutheran Home.

Services are pending at Rupp Funeral Home.

Cathleen R. Dziendziel

October 29, 1981 - February 12, 2000

Cathleen R. Dziendziel, 18, of Monroe, died in an auto accident Saturday.

She was the beloved foster daughter of Matthew and Terri Kopcsek, sister and cousin of Charyl, Shannon and Stephanie Kopcsek of Monroe Township; loving foster niece of Paul and Sandra Oestrike and Falen of Clermont, FL.; loving niece of Robert (Patty Dziendziel) Sanders and family; and Michael and Timothy Dziendziel and beloved boyfriend Daniel Brewer.

Also, she is survived by her maternal grandmother, Mrs. Robertson of Lincoln Park, her mother, Mrs. R. Williams; her father, John Dziendziel of Frenchtown Township, a sister, Anna Dziendziel, brothers, Johnny and Michael Dziendziel as well as many aunts, uncles, classmates, co-workers and beloved friends.

Cathleen was an employee of Elder Beerman, former employee of Meijer, Ernie's Gathering Place and Independent Dairy. A graduate of Ida High School, she was a student at Monroe County Community College studying to become a social worker.

Friends may call from 7 to 9 p.m. tonight and from 10 a.m. until 9 p.m. Thursday at Capaul Funeral Home. Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Ida. The Rev. John LaCasse, pastor, will officiate. Burial will be in Maplewood Cemetery, Ida.

(Paid Death Notice)

Winter Beauty

Have you seen new fallen snow on the pines and balsams? There is a new and changing beauty as winter comes to Roselawn. The beauty of all of our winter decorations is the heritage of our park. Roselawn, Monroe County's most beautiful memorial park.
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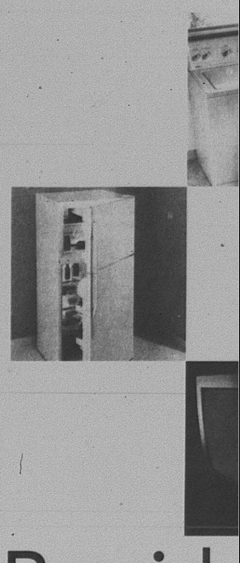

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rise in lymphoma

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uggests being overweight
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"The immune perturbations that give you lymphoma are pretty complex. This is not going to be the equivalent of lung cancer and smoking — it's going to be a little more subtle to tease out," cautions NCI epidemiologist Patricia Hartge, who just began a large study in Detroit, Los Angeles, Seattle and Iowa to pinpoint risk factors.

Similar studies are planned in Spain, Germany, Italy and Britain.

But the big news is in experimental immunotherapy — genetically engineering cells called "monoclonal antibodies" that seek out cancer and trigger the immune system to attack it.

One, called Rituxan, already is sold, targeting lymphomas that carry an antigen called CD20. Now scientists are developing monoclonal antibodies to target CD30, CD22 and CD25 antigens — and thus treat more types of lymphoma.

8 Steps To A Beautiful Smile

1. Brush after meals and snacks.
2. Floss daily.
3. Visit your dentist twice yearly.
4. Even before an infant's teeth appear, wipe gums after meals and before bed with a cotton gauze.
5. Make sure your drinking water is fluoridated.
6. Avoid sugary and starchy snacks all the time.
7. Avoid high acid foods like lemons. They can damage teeth.
8. Ask your dentist to demonstrate proper brushing techniques. Improper brushing damages gums.

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James R. Ziemiecki, D.D.S.

132 Cole Rd. Monroe

- Jail bond sale on hold
3A/Local
- Easing the stress of tax time
1C/Your Money
- Ida slips past Mason
1B/Sports ▶

Tonight
Mostly cloudy
low 45°

Thursday
Showers
high 55°

6B/Weather

THE MONROE
Evening News

AN EMPLOYEE-OWNED NEWSPAPER
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Wednesday, February 23, 2000
50 cents

Milan Township
Distribution center referendum
✓ No: 403 Yes: 350

Gibraltar
Referendum
No: 395 ✓ Yes: 603

Michigan GOP Primary
✓ McCain: 50% Bush: 43% Keyes: 5%

Huge rail center plan rejected

By SCOTT NEINAS
Evening News staff writer

MILAN – Milan Township voters showed up in record numbers Tuesday to reject plans for a railroad distribution center.

The proposal to approve the township board's intentions of rezoning 941 acres of land on the northeast corner of US-23 and Cone Rd. failed 403-350 in one of the most heated election campaigns the township has ever seen.

Representatives of Ann Arbor Railroad Properties said they weren't done yet, however.

"We started out at 20 percent (support) and ended up at 46 percent. That's quite a turnaround," said Chuck Hall, a spokesman for AARP. "With the momentum we've achieved ... it makes a very strong statement."

Railroad officials say they will meet today and study the options they still have.

Mr. Hall said that submitting another rezoning request to the township and starting the process over again wasn't being ruled out.

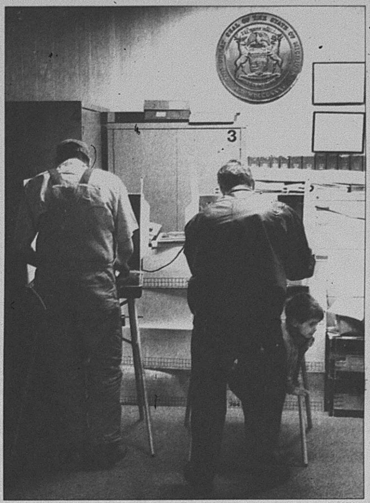
"Given the support we've had, that's certainly an option," he said.

Meanwhile, members of the Milan Area Concerned Citizens, a local group opposed to the project,

See MILAN, Page 15A

Election 2000

▶ *What's next for Milan Township? — 2A*
County contributes money to Bush — 3A
A primary analysis — 3A
The Engler effect nil — 8A
More primaries Tuesday — 8A
McCain leads in delegates — 8A



— Evening News photo by TRAVIS HARTMAN

Chris Brockman (left) of Milan Township came straight from his construction job to vote at the Milan Township Hall Tuesday night. On the ballot were the presidential primary and the Ann Arbor Railroad plan. Jeff Reau (right) of Milan Township gives his son Zachary, 3, an early taste of the election process.

Milan Township election had all the right stuff

It had the stuff that good elections are made of: tears, jeers and mud.

The mud came from the weather, the tears and jeers came from the ones who trudged through it.

More than 600 people were drawn to the Milan Township Hall to vote for Republican presidential nominees, fire and road millages and, of course, the railroad distribution project.

Add to that the 139 absentee ballots and you have the township's biggest turnout ever, according to township Clerk Emily Bowerman.

At 5:30 p.m., voters' cars' tires spun in the mud in the hall's circular drive, their boots, speckled with dirt, squished up the front porch of the hall and into the precinct. Four ballot boxes kept the line moving, but it was a steady line all the same.

In all, 767 township residents

See VOTING, Page 15A

Gibraltar passes Made in Detroit rezoning issue

BY DEAN COUSINO
Evening News staff writer

Voters in the City of Gibraltar have approved rezoning waterfront property for the Made in Detroit Inc. housing project, but the real impact of the vote is still unknown.

In a referendum Tuesday, voters easily passed the issue, 603-395. That means zoning for the 400 acres off W. Jefferson Ave. in an area called Humbug Marsh will revert from a planned residential development (PRD) to a planned unit development (PUD).

But that's not what opponents of the project wanted when they led a petition drive last fall to save the marsh and place the rezoning on the ballot. They had hoped to change the land use back to R-1 (single-family residential), which would prohibit development of a nine-hole golf course and invoke further limits on the project. However, an earlier mistake in the rezoning process left the project with a PRD, which allows for a mix of condominiums, greenways and a golf course.

A PUD allows a mix of housing and office uses and greenways with some restrictions. But that's not as good a tool for local control as a PRD or R-1, Councilman John Connolly said.

"The vote didn't do any-

See GIBRALTAR, Page 15A

McCain claims he sees 'new majority'

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sen. John McCain, rearmed by a double victory over Gov. George W. Bush, said today he is building a "governing coalition" and believes more Republicans will join in — not fear his reach for Democratic and independent voters. An unflinching Bush said he would still win the GOP nomination.

Boarding a plane bound for Spokane, Wash., one of three states holding primaries next week, McCain acknowledged he's "got a long way to go" but said he could attract more Republican voters.

"If they want a governing coalition, we've proved

See McCAIN, Page 15A

— AP photo by MATT YORK

Republican presidential candidate Sen. John McCain of Arizona kisses wife Cindy during a victory speech Tuesday night in Phoenix. McCain won primaries in Michigan and his home state.

Huron rejects 2 issues; Milan, Bedford okay levies

By DEAN COUSINO
Evening News staff writer

Millage issues in Bedford and Milan Townships passed, while two issues in Huron Township failed.

Bedford voters were deciding on a levy for bus service, while Milan voters were deciding fire and road taxes, all renewals.

In Huron Township, a police tax increase went down to defeat as did a park tax increase.

Following is a roundup of those election results.

Huron Township

HURON TOWNSHIP — Layoffs may be in order following defeat of a 3-mill property tax hike for Huron Township police operations Tuesday.

Voters rejected the 10-year millage hike 1,379-1,333.

They also turned down a request for a .25-mill tax increase for five years for parks and recreation, 1,545-1,123.

The police tax outcome left Police Chief James Caygill bitter.

"We didn't get a lot of political help, (but) I'm primarily disappointed with the people of Huron Township," he said Tuesday night. "Our police department has been doing a good job. Some of them are really good officers. It's a sad situation for them. (The people) are vulnerable now."

With federal grants expiring in the next two years and the lack of local funding, the department will be forced to lay off 10 full-time officers and seven part-time officers, Chief Caygill said. Many of the officers on the 27-member force were added with federal COPS grants that covered a majority of their salaries and benefits for up to three years. All of the grants expire by 2002. Part-time people will have to go first under the union contract, he said.

The police department already is levying more than 1 mill as part of two voter-approved millages passed between 1988 and 1993. Both of those expire in 2005. Without the 3 mills, though, the department will end the year with a deficit of $400,000, Treasurer Jarrod Barron said earlier. By 2004, that deficit would rise to $2.6 million if no additional income is generated, he said.

Mary Lou Carey, a former township clerk, said the millage hikes were more than what senior citizens like herself could afford. Plus the chief doesn't even live in the township, so he wouldn't pay the tax.

"We already have a tax (for police)," Mrs. Carey said this morning. "When you are on a fixed income, 3 mills for 10 years is a lot of money. (The board) did not convince the people why they needed this. They didn't tell the people anything."

Chief Caygill said the board

See MILLAGE, Page 15A

Local issues

Milan Township
.75 mill road millage renewal

Yes	560
No	361

Milan Township
1.25 mills for fire department

Yes	575
No	172

Huron Township
3 mills for police operations

Yes	1,333
No	1,379

Huron Township
.25 mill for parks and recreation

Yes	1,123
No	1,546

Bedford Township
.1 mill public transportation levy

Yes	2,153
No	1,294

County narrowly backs Bush

Monroe County voters narrowly backed Texas Gov. George W. Bush in Tuesday's presidential primary.

County residents cast 7,141 votes for Gov. Bush with 7,064 voting for Sen. John McCain. Running a distant third was Alan Keyes, who garnered 569 votes from county residents.

Other Republicans receiving votes was Steve Forbes (97), Gary Bauer (41) and Orrin Hatch (12). None of the three remain in the presidential race.

Among Democrats, the only candidate on the ballot, Lyndon LaRouche Jr. picked up 163 votes even though state party leaders are not recognizing Tuesday's primary results.

Donald Trump, on the Reform Party ticket but no longer seeking the nomination, received 45 votes.

In the News

GOP primary race sets turnout record

DETROIT (AP) — This year's Republican presidential primary was one for the record books.

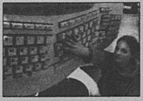
It attracted more voters than any other Michigan GOP presidential primary, and winner John McCain captured more votes for himself than were cast in the entire 1996 Republican presidential primary.

With 97 percent of precincts reporting, 1,211,106 people had voted in Tuesday's primary. Fifty percent supported McCain, 43 percent supported Texas Gov. George W. Bush and 5 percent supported Alan Keyes.

McCain had 610,588 votes, more than the 524,161 cast in the 1996 Republican presidential primary. His totals also topped voting in the 1980 primary, in which Michigan voters overwhelmingly backed Bush's father.

At a Bush rally Tuesday, Secretary of State Candice Miller said had expected about 14 percent of Michigan's 6.7 million registered voters to go to the polls. Instead, more than 18 percent voted Tuesday.

World



Largest computer fair opens Thursday

Isabelle Manevall poses with an extra large mock-up keyboard at the Cebit fair in Hanover, Germany, Tuesday. Opening Thursday, the Cebit fair is the biggest for information technology and telecommunications in the world. Some 7,800 exhibitors from 63 countries present their latest products until March 1. **Page 10A**

Sports

Juan Gonzalez arrived at the Detroit Tigers' spring training site, but still won't say if he plans to sign with the team. **Page 1B**

Owens Community College has signed Ida girls basketball standout Erin Gallagher. **Page 3B**

Today's obituaries

- **Osben D. Tolen Jr.**, 64, of Double Springs, Ala.
- **Magdelina Mirka**, 86, of Monroe.
- **Alice Mary Raymond**, 96, of Monroe.
- **John M. Reed Sr.**, 40, of Monroe.

Page 15A

Local

The Monroe County Plat Board gave its okay for the development of the 17-lot subdivision known as Riveredge Estates. **Page 2A**

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Community	4-6B
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Editorials	4A
Entertainment	13-14A
Local Calendar	4B
Lotteries	2A
Markets	2A
Police	2A
Sports	1-3B
TV	7B
Upcoming	4B
Weather	6B
Your Money	1-4C

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THE RECOR
The Monroe Evening News

Doug Donnelly, city editor

Police Blotter

Shots fired at county house

No one was injured in a drive-by shooting where a gunman fired several shots into a London Township house Monday night.

Sheriff's deputies reported at least three shots struck windows in a house in the 5500 block of Oakville-Waltz Rd.

Witnesses reported seeing a white Chevrolet Cavalier drive slowly past the house. A man in the back seat was seen firing what appeared to be a shotgun toward the house. The car then sped off. A witness told deputies four pops were heard.

Reports said three windows, including the picture window, were damaged by gunfire. Two weapons were taken from the house for safekeeping, deputies said.

Arrests made

- Arrested for investigation were:

Leslie S. Clute, 22, 942 E. Ninth St.

Duane Slaughterbeck, 21, 570 Cypress St.

Adam M. Swope, 19, 3072 Lakeshore Dr.

Bonnie McDonough, 28, no address available.

Brian C. Dye, 29, 58 E. Second St.

Mark W. Loss, 42, 120 W. Substation Rd., Temperance.

Joseph K. Stanton, 24, 209 Bittersweet Trail.

Timothy McGraw, 26, 9241 W. Timberview Dr.

- Arrested on charges of driving while under the influence of liquor were:

Robert Weatherholt, 33, 416 Kentucky Ave.

Travis E. Read, 26, 8615 Gidget Ct., Newport.

Linda S. Danford, 42, no address available.

- Arrested on warrants were:

Pedro F. Perez, 19, Detroit.

Edward M. Koch, 19, 1643 S. Custer Rd.

- Arrested on traffic violation charges were:

Robert K. Swinkey, 40, 1115 Huber Dr.

Mark E. Rice, 36, 1070 Feltis Dr., Temperance.

The Evening News regularly publishes reports of criminal and civil proceedings from the time of arrest through final disposition of the case. Readers are reminded, however, that every person is innocent until proven guilty.

Developer gets okay for Riveredg

By JOSHUA KENNEDY
Evening News staff writer

Developer Dan Rice let out a huge sigh of relief Tuesday afternoon when the Monroe County Plat Board recommended approval of his 17-lot subdivision, Riveredge Estates.

The recommendation means the plat will be forwarded to the state. State approval is necessary before construction at the 5.3-acre site on N. Custer Rd. where Monroe's first Catholic cemetery was rediscovered can begin.

The approval follows on the heels of an agreement between Mr. Rice, the Friends of St. Antoine and the City of Monroe that was approved two weeks ago by all parties.

That agreement, which says the Friends through the Community Foundation of Monroe County will raise money to buy the three lots from Mr. Rice and enough to landscape and memorialize the property before turning it over to the city, was necessary for the plat board's approval.

In December, the plat board, consisting of Monroe County Commissioner Dale Zorn, county Clerk Geri Allen and county Treasurer Norman Blanchett, tabled Mr. Rice's request to approve the plat until a resolution dealing with the first three lots, where the cemetery appears to be, was hammered out.

At Tuesday's meeting, Mr. Blanchett and Mr. Zorn asked about the agreement's time frame. The agreement between the Friends and Mr. Rice is for nine months with a three-month extension.

"If, after 12 months the Friends haven't met their goal, the agreement can be avoided by Mr. Rice," Mr. Zorn said. "I'd like to hear from Mr. Rice what are his plans if after the 12 months there still isn't enough money?"

Mr. Rice said he would renegotiate a time element with the group and proceed from there. Mr. Zorn asked that the statement be written into the board's minutes.

"I think that's the most important issue here," Mr. Zorn said. "More time."

Mr. Blanchett moved that the board approve the plat and the motion was approved unanimously.

Inside local Government

– a guide to governmental agencies around the Monroe County region

Bedford Township Planning Commission to hold three

BEDFORD TOWNSHIP – Three public hearings are on tonight's agenda for the Bedford Township Planning Commission.

The planning commission meeting is at 7 p.m. at the Bedford Township Hall, 8100 Jackman Rd., Temperance.

The agenda items are:

- A special approval request for a seasonal greenhouse near the Food Town grocery store at Secor and Sterns Rd. The seasonal greenhouse would be at the southwest corner of the intersection, which is in a general commercial district. Mr. Frederick said this is an annual request by the property owners.

- A preliminary site plan approval for a planned unit development overlay for a condominium development at 2925 Smith Rd. This is on the south side of Smith Rd. near Secor Rd. The proposed development is for a 78-unit condominium project on land that is zoned R-2A. Mr. Frederick said the details on such a projec
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Meetings Calendar

TONIGHT

- **Monroe County Board of Commissioners**, physical resources committee, 3 p.m., board chambers, Monroe County Courthouse, 125 E. Second St.
- **Monroe County Community College**, Board of Trustees, 7 p.m., room A-173B-C, Administration Building, 1555 S. Raisinville Rd.
- **Mason Consolidated Schools Board of Education**, public hearing on ideas and proposals for possible bond issue, 7 p.m., junior high school.
- **Bedford Township Planning Commission**, 7 p.m., township hall, 8100 Jackman Rd., Temperance.
- **Luna Pier Economic Development Corp.**, 7 p.m., city hall, 4357 Buckeye St., Luna Pier.
- **Monroe Recreation Advisory Commission**, 7:30 p.m., council chambers, Monroe City Hall, 120 E. First St.
- **Luna Pier Planning Commission**, 7:30 p.m., city hall, 4357 Buckeye St., Luna Pier.
- **Monroe County Opportunity** Program Board of Directors, 7 p.m., 912 Huber Dr.
- **Monroe County Mental Health Authority** Board, 7:30 p.m., 1001 S. Raisinville Rd.

THURSDAY

- **Flat Rock Cable Communication Commission**, special meeting on contract negotiations with Comcast, 6 p.m., conference room A, municipal building, 25500 Gibraltar Rd., Flat Rock.
- **Jefferson Schools Board of Education**, 7 p.m., Hurd Road Elementary School, 1960 Hurd Rd.
- **Luna Pier City Council**, 7:45 p.m., city hall, 4357 Buckeye St., Luna Pier.
- **Flat Rock Library Advisory Board**, 7 p.m., conference room A., municipal building, 25500 Gibraltar Rd., Flat Rock.

City of M

Property ow with sidewal

Six property owners along N. Telegraph Rd. took turns telling the Monroe City Council Tuesday that putting sidewalks on the east side of Telegraph is a bad idea.

Many of the property owners expressed anger that they were before the council regarding the sidewalk issue again.

The council tried to approve a special assessment district last year, but the measure died in a 3-3 vote. The property owners cited public safety concerns regarding citizens walking along the side of the fast moving road.

The council did not discuss any of the concerns. Since it was a public hearing, no action was taken on the matter.

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Action items

There were four items up for council action at Tuesday's regular meeting. The council approved all four of them in about eight minutes:

- An ordinance to approve edi-

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- For information about the Monroe County 4-H horse and pony tack sale, those interested may call Terri at 379-1341. The phone number was incorrect in Saturday's Evening News.

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HE RECORD
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gets okay for Riveredge Estates

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"I think that's the most important issue here," Mr. Zorn said. "More time."

Mr. Blanchett moved that the board approve the plat and the motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting ended with the board members thanking Mr. Rice for his patience during the last six months, during which time no construction has taken place at the site, located between Frenchman's Bend and Cranbrook Estates.

"I'd like to commend you and the friends for your diligence in pursuing this," Mr. Blanchett said.

Mr. Zorn echoed him.

"I know this has been a trying event for you, but I think today's commitment to extend the time is probably a great relief to the friends," he said.

Mr. Rice said he was happy to see that things were finally going to start moving forward toward construction.

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■ A request to rezone property at the northwest corner of Secor and Dean Rds. The request is to rezone from R-2B, single family residential, to C-3, general commercial. Mr. Frederick said there is an existing business at that location and township officials are asking that the zoning conform to the usage.

alendar

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City of Monroe

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Action items

There were four items up for council action at Tuesday's regular meeting. The council approved all four of them in about eight minutes:

■ An ordinance to approve editorial, grammatical and style changes to citywide ordinances.

■ An amendment to the planning and zoning code allowing the new use of upper story residential dwelling units in local and general commercial zoning districts.

■ An amendment revising the city's flood plain ordinance to specific federal requirements, and the fourth item was an amendment allowing lots of 30 feet or greater in frontage to be developed or divided, considering the change is consistent with the existing neighborhood.

■ In the consent agenda, Councilman William Burkett pulled the proposed 2000-01 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget, and Councilwoman Suzanne Gartz pulled a resolution endorsing the Downriver Linked Greenways Program. The consent agenda, complete with 13 items, passed unanimously without discussion.

The CIP budget was put on the table and Councilwoman Dorothy Edwards said she disagreed with spending $35,000 on a sprinkler system at St. Mary's Park on W. Elm Ave. Councilman Mark Worrell agreed and asked City attorney Conly Crossley if the budget could be amended to remove the sprinklers. City finance director Michael O'Connell said the budget should be passed and the $35,000 line item could be dealt with when the council looks at approving the city's operating budget in April. The proposed CIP budget unanimously passed.

■ The Downriver Linked Greenways resolution was put on the table next. City planner James Tischler told the council the resolution would allow the city and other downriver cities to collaborate on grant issues together making for better and stronger odds in capturing federal dollars for improving greenways between the city and the downriver area. The item passed unanimously.

— *By Joshua Kennedy*

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Markets

Techs focus of mixed stocks

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks were mixed in early trading today, as investors shifted their attention back to the technology sector.

In the first hour of trading, the Dow Jones industrial average was down 64.53 at 10,240.31.

The technology-focused Nasdaq composite index was up 37.01 at 4,419.13. The Standard & Poor's 500 index was off 6.39 at 1,345.78.

	Closed Tues.	10:30 today
Air Gas	6 1/16	6
American Tel. and Tel.	46 3/8	46 5/8
Associates	17 15/16	17 3/8
BP-Amoco	45 1/16	44 5/16
CMS Energy	18 1/4	18 1/8
CSX	22 1/8	21 15/16
Comerica	37 3/4	36 9/16
DaimlerChrysler	64 1/2	63 5/8
Dana Corp.	22 1/2	22 3/8
Delphi Automotive	17 3/8	17 3/8
DTE Energy	31 13/16	31 1/4
Dow Chemical	114 1/8	112 3/8
Eastman Kodak	59 15/16	61 13/16
Elder Beerman	4 9/16	4 5/8
Fifth Third Bank	54 3/8	53 1/4
Firstenergy	20 1/16	20 1/8
Ford Motor	44 1/16	43 15/16
General Electric	129 5/8	129 7/16
General Motors	73 5/8	72 1/4
General Tel. and El.	61 7/8	61 1/16
IBM	111	109 9/16
Int. Paper (Union Camp)	41 1/2	41 1/4
Jefferson Smurfit	16	16 5/16
Key Corp.	17 7/16	17 7/16
Kmart	8 1/2	8 9/16
Lear Seating	22 1/2	22 1/4
La-Z-Boy Incorporated	14 13/16	14 11/16
Micron Tech	64 1/2	64 5/8
Morgan Stanley-Dean Witter	62 5/16	63
Monroe Bank & Trust	34 1/2	34 1/2
Monsanto	39 3/4	39 3/4
National City	18 3/4	18 1/2
National Steel	7 1/4	7 5/16
Penney, J.C.	17	16 13/16
PepsiCo	34 11/16	34 1/2
Pfizer	33 1/2	33 3/8
Rite Aid	6 3/4	6 3/4
Sears Roebuck	27 3/4	27 15/16
Seaway Foodtown	19 7/8	19 7/8
Tenneco	8 1/8	8
United Industrial	8 9/16	8 5/8
USX	23 11/16	23 5/8
Utilicorp	17 1/16	17 3/4
Viacom	54 15/16	55
Woolworth	5 11/16	5 5/8
Worthington	13 7/8	13 5/8

(Courtesy of Morgan Stanley-Dean Witter)

Local cash grain

Ida Farmer's Co-Op Co.

	Tues. 9 a.m.	Wed. 9 a.m.
No. 2 White Wheat	$2.07	$2.01
No. 2 Red Wheat	$2.22	$2.16
Corn	$1.89	$1.87
Soybeans	$4.83	$4.77

2000 New crop prices

No. 2 Red Wheat	$2.39	$2.35
Corn	$2.09	2.08
Soybeans	$5.03	$4.95

Prices are subject to change.
Regularly updated grain prices are available on infoNOW at 242-4636, selection 3500.

Eggs

DETROIT (AP) — Detroit loose egg prices for Tuesday: Jumbo 63-66, extra large 65-60, large 52-57, medium 41-46, small 25-29.

Lotteries

Multi-state Lottery

The Big Game
33 35 36 40 43
The 'Big Money Ball'
11

MICHIGAN LOTTERY

Tuesday Daily
Midday 947
Evening 868
Tuesday Daily-4
Midday 6687
Evening 9943
Tuesday Cash Five
6 12 20 23 25
Tuesday Keno
3 5 12 16 20 36 38 40
44 45 48 52 54 55 56
64 65 67 68 69 72 75

OHIO LOTTERY

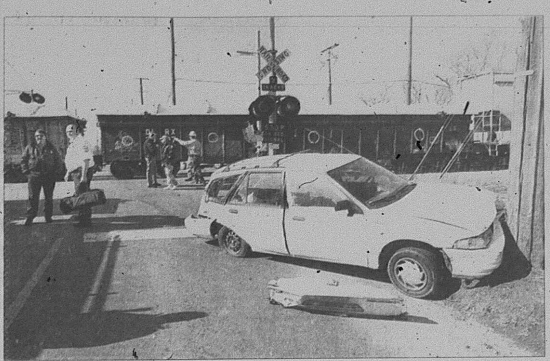
Tuesday Pick 3
Midday 711
Evening 133
Tuesday Pick 4
Midday 1249
Evening 7402
Tuesday Buckeye 5
1 3 8 14 30

infoNOW
Lottery results
242-4636
(after 8:30 p.m.)
Ext. 1370 MI Results
Ext. 1375 OH Results

SECOND FRONT
The Monroe Evening News

Doug Donnelly, city editor

Car-train wreck



Evening News photo by TRAVIS HARTMAN

A 19-year-old Monroe man escaped with minor injuries when a train on W. Front St. between S. Roessler St. and S. Telegraph Rd. struck his car Tuesday afternoon. Henry Ford was treated in Mercy Memorial Hospital. Monroe Police Cpl. Brett Ansel said Mr. Ford was driving east when he drove around at least three vehicles that were stopped and waiting for the train to pass. Cpl. Ansel said the gates were down and the bells and whistles were activated, but Mr. Ford told him he was in a hurry. As his car crossed the tracks, the train clipped the rear of the Ford Escort, which came to rest against the telephone pole. The accident, investigated by Patrolman Richard Ohanesian, happened about 1:07 p.m. The car's hatchback was dislodged and thrown almost into the River Raisin nearby. Gale Fairbairn was on the opposite side of the tracks when the crash happened. She works as a secretary at Monroe High School and knew Mr. Ford from when he attended the school. "I'm really glad I was here," she said, "and I think he was happy to hear someone call him by his name." Mr. Ford was cited on a charge of reckless driving. The Monroe Fire Department assisted at the scene.

Two leave building authority

■ Joseph Buick and Sidney Wellborn Jr., two at-large members of the panel, resigned prior to a vote on a bond sale for the new jail.

By RICHARD KHAVKINE
Evening News staff writer

The two at-large citizens sitting on the Monroe County Municipal Building Authority have resigned.

Joseph Buick and Sidney Wellborn Jr. resigned from the five-member authority Feb. 16 just prior to that body's vote on the $1.5 million bond issue related to cost overruns at the new minimum security jail being built in Monroe Township.

In a letter addressed to the building authority Secretary Michael Bosanac, Mr. Buick wrote that "it is no secret" that neither he nor Mr. Wellborn "do not, and have not supported the inmate dormitory project." Mr. Buick and Mr. Wellborn signed the letter.

Aside from Mr. Buick and Mr. Wellborn, the panel's majority is made up of county officials. Mr. Bosanac is the county purchasing director while the other two members are Monroe County Administrator Charles Londo and Mark Braunlich, the county's legal adviser, who is appointed by the board.

Despite the resignations, the authority was able to forward a resolution approving the sale of the bonds to the county board of commissioners that same night. The board ulitmately didn't go through with the sale of the bonds, however, deciding Tuesday to wait a decision on the bond sale pending the outcome of a federal grant application that could offset the costs of the project.

The building authority serves as the funding agent for county construction projects and does not formulate or approve policy matters. Members serve six-year terms. Mr. Wellborn had served on the panel since 1972.

Mr. Buick was on the building authority two years. He said he was "not necessarily" aware that the county was considering the bond sale to finance a new jail when he was appointed.

"I understand that the job of the building authority is not to determine the merit of a project such as the new dormitory. Our function is to be a body to review financial activities such as bond sales and payment of debt," Mr. Buick said. "I did it (resigned) because I didn't agree with the project. I'm not supportive of the jail dormitory project and I voted no initially and I'm stepping down because I don't want to be a part of the process in any capacity."

Mr. Wellborn, who served as the authority's chairman, and Mr. Buick voted against the initial bond sale in November, 1998. That sale, for $7.725 million, allocated approximately $2.5 million for infrastructure improvements at the county courthouse and county buildings downtown. The balance, approximately $5 million, was designated to build the jail complex at Dunbar and LaPlaisance Rds. The cost of the jail by itself, however, stands at $7.4 million.

Mr. Buick said his ongoing opposition to the bond sales stems from "the way (the project) was sold to the township and the county's residents."

He said that the cost overruns and recent bond sale did not affect the timing of his decision to resign.

While county officials insist that the initial projected cost of the jail – $5 million or less, including land acquisition costs – was preliminary, Mr. Buick nevertheless questioned how the cost of the project was determined initially. Mr. Buick said he was not convinced that an expansion of the downtown jail was explored thoroughly. He also said that a declining incarceration rate posed some unanswered questions as do the county's tentative agreements to house Immigration and Naturalization Services detainees.

Mr. Londo, while emphasizing the policy neutral nature of the agency, nevertheless expressed his regret at the resignations.

"I am disappointed they decided to resign their appointment. They are both very fine people and they were both terrific assets to that authority," he said. "I guess they have their reasons."

Bond issue for jail costs on hold for now

County summary

A summary of the Monroe County Board of Commissioners meeting Tuesday:

- **Starting time:** 7 p.m.
- **Ending time:** 7:42 p.m.
- **Attendance:** Gail Hauser-Hurley, excused.
- **Votes taken:** 7
- **Discussions before votes:** 4
- **Items postponed:** 0
- **Public hearings:** 0
- **Public comment:** Two people addressed the board.
- **Next meeting:** 7 p.m. March 7.

Action items

■ The board approved the sale of $2.5 million in bonds to facilitate the construction of water system improvements in Erie Township. The county will acquire the materials and construct the water system while the township will pay the principal and interest on the bonds.

■ The board approved a matching grant of $4,000 in in-kind contributions to pay for the planting of 2,500 trees in West County Park in Dundee Township. The statewide program is financed by Detroit Edison Co. and administered by the state Department of Natural Resources.

■ The board approved a list of year 2000 self-help road and bridge projects. The self-help program pools moneys from municipalities, the Monroe road commission (25 percent each) and the county (50 percent) to fund road and bridge projects.

By RICHARD KHAVKINE
Evening News staff writer

With a $3.7 million grant application still making its way through federal channels, the Monroe County Board of Commissioners Tuesday night unanimously voted to opt out of a $1.5 million bond issue designed to cover the increased costs of the minimum security jail being built in Monroe Township.

The county recently applied for a series of Immigration and Naturalization Service grants, including one that could help defray building costs at the complex substantially.

The cost of the project stands at $7.4 million. The additional bond sale was put in motion to help offset the higher than anticipated $5 million cost of the project.

Last spring, the Army Corps of Engineers designated part of the property the county wanted to build the jail on as protected wetlands. The move forced the county to move the project about 500 feet from its original spot. The change, county officials said, contributed to higher costs for things like road, sewer and utility line extensions.

A much larger administrative wing than originally designed also contributed to the higher price tag.

The jail complex, being built on a 155-acre parcel at Dunbar and LaPlaisance Rds., is scheduled to open in August.

An initial bond sale of $7.725 million, approximately $5 million of which was designated for the jail project and the rest for renovations at and around the county courthouse, was given final approval in late 1998.

The supplemental $1.5 million bond issue before the commissioners Tuesday night received a preliminary go-ahead from the commissioners in September but needed a final approval from the board before they could be issued. The board decided to hold off on proceeding with the bond sale.

County Administrator Charles Londo told the commissioners that Jail Administrator Kenneth Sieg was given no timetable by INS officials on when a decision on the grants would be made.

Should the county not receive enough grant money to pay for the project, it will take funds out of the county's reserve account to pay bills while the commissioners revisit the bond issue. The bond agreement is flexible enough to allow the county to repay its reserve account through an eventual bond sale, officials said.

County voters give heavily to Bush

By JOSHUA KENNEDY
Evening News staff writer

Monroe County has contributed significantly to the 2000 presidential election race and most of the money coming out from county voters is heading toward Texas Gov. George W. Bush.

Gov. Bush, running for the Republican nomination, is by far the leader for money raised in Monroe County. As of Feb. 1, the latest date data are available, Michigan was Mr. Bush's fifth largest fund raising state at $2,210,198 and Monroe County donated almost 2 percent of that.

According to the Center for Responsive Politics, a nonpartisan organization tracking the 2000 campaign fund raising patterns, Monroe County residents are responsible for raising $43,580 for Gov. Bush.

Democrats Bill Bradley and Vice President Al Gore managed to raise only $2,000 collectively throughout the county. That's about 2.3 percent of the total amount raised here for each candidate.

Compare that to the 89.9 percent Gov. Bush got, the 4.9 percent former candidate Gary Bauer got, and the .5 percent Pat Buchanan got from Monroe County.

The majority of the money from the county came from Lambertville, Temperance and the City of Monroe. Together, Lambertville and Temperance donors gave $21,000 to Mr. Bush's campaign. That's 48 percent of the total amount of money raised in the county.

City donors gave $14,700, or about 33.7 percent of the county's total, to Gov. Bush.

Among those donors who gave money to the Bush campaign is Gary Wilbert, who works at Bay Corrugated Container Inc.

"George W. Bush is the best qualified candidate to be the next president," Mr. Wilbert said. "I have no doubt about it that he's the best candidate. I wouldn't have sent him money if I didn't believe in him."

Although corporations cannot make contributions to campaigns, their employees can. Across Monroe County, employees and other people affiliated with Bay Corrugated donated 16 percent of the total amount raised here, or $7,000.

"I'm glad to hear that," Mr. Wilbert said. "That speaks well of our company."

The next biggest donors to the Bush campaign in Monroe County were the Bateses of Temperance. Collectively the Bateses, comprised of Allan Bates, Betty Bates, Charles Bates and Lucille E. Bates, gave $5,000 to Gov. Bush's effort.

Current numbers weren't available to compare Monroe County to the rest of Michigan.

Presidential funding across Monroe County

Location	Amount	Candidate
Azalia	$0	
Carleton	$0	
Dundee	$0	
Erie	$0	
Ida	$80	Buchanan
Lambertville	$9,500	Bush
	$1,000	Gore
LaSalle	$1,000	Bush
Luna Pier	$0	
Maybee	$0	
Milan	$0	
Monroe	$14,700	Bush
	$1,000	Bradley
Newport	$500	Bush
	$150	Buchanan
	$85	Bauer
Ottawa Lake	$65	Bauer
Petersburg	$2,000	Bush
Samaria	$0	
South Rockwood	$0	
Temperance	$11,500	Bush
	$2,000	Bauer

Totals based on [illegible] presidential campaigns [illegible] 1999 as reported to the [illegible] Commission [illegible]

Totals from Monroe County

Bush	$39,200	89.9%
Buchanan	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bauer	$2,1[illegible]	4.9%
Gore	$1,000	2.3%
Bradley	$1,000	2.3%
Total	$43,580	

Source: [illegible]

Black History Month

Floyd and Nancy Edwards will celebrate their 48th wedding anniversary this year.

Floyd and Nancy Edwards

Name: Nancy, 85, and Floyd, 83, Edwards

Born: Mrs. Edwards was born in 1914 in Tiptonville, Tenn., and raised in Missouri. Mr. Edwards was born in 1916 in Seminole, Okla.

Came to Monroe: Mr. Edwards came here in 1943 to run a crane for Morris May at Monroe Scrap Co.

Employment: Mr. Edwards worked as a heavy crane operator for Marty Selvidge Construction and Fritz Brothers Construction. He also worked at the Fermi plant for Big Taylor Construction and Walbridge Construction Co. He retired in 1994.

Mrs. Edwards worked as a cook, nurse and caregiver in several homes. "I worked at the Holiday Inn when it first came here," she said.

Mrs. Edwards also worked as a nurse's aide in Trenton, Ann Arbor and in Monroe at Beach Nursing Home.

Family: Mr. and Mrs. Edwards will celebrate their 48th wedding anniversary this year. They have no children.

Quote: "We didn't have children of our own, but all of the black and white children around here belong to me," Mrs. Edwards said.

"We don't worry about the snow they see, after us," said Mr. Edwards." I love them all and I ask God to bless them all.

This feature highlights some of Monroe County's African-American citizens. The series is written by Denise A. Gray.

FEB 23 2000

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Our View

Democrats' choice: Br

The contest for the Democratic nomination for president may be over by Saturday, March 11, when Michigan Democrats meet in statewide caucuses. Right now Vice President Al Gore looks to be well ahead of former New Jersey Sen. Bill Bradley.

Nevertheless, right now the better candidate and arguably the one most able to beat the Republican nominee is Mr. Bradley.

The two men are not far apart on most issues. A recent survey by Congressional Quarterly found that, from 1985 to 1992, when they were in the Senate together, the two voted the same way on 72 percent of key votes.

Some of the starkest contrasts came on defense issues, with then-Sen. Gore voting against cuts for the B-2 bomber and the Strategic Defense Initiative ("Star Wars") and in favor of using military force against Iraq. Mr. Bradley voted the opposite way in each case. For the most part, however, the two basically were well within the centrist-to-liberal wing of the party.

Nevertheless, there are some other crucial differences. Mr. Gore, for example, has been much more of a big-spender than his rival. From 1990 to 1992, he voted to spend more money than any other senator. And now his presidential platform includes lots of new spending plans. Most notably, he would spend an extra $115 billion on education, including funds for smaller classes, smaller schools and universal preschool, sending gobs of money to the states with federal strings attached. In contrast, Mr. Bradley proposes spending just several billion more on education.

Both would increase federal controls for environmental purposes. But Mr. Gore
goes as far as to endors
opposed by the Senate
some say could force
coal and oil use by 40 p

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accused Mr. Bradley of
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U.S. troops to Bosnia.

To be sure, politicians
their records, but Mr.
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who would say anythin
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Bradley has: Would Mr.
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In a year when
Republican nominee i
the anti-Clinton, questi
are paramount if Dem
beat their opponent. M
way short on this cru
Bradley has not, and he
uisite experience and
earned the party's nod
bearer.

> ▶ To the point
> *Questions of character should loom large in the party's vote in the upcoming Michigan caucus.*

Cut marriage tax pen

There's good news for Americans who are paying higher taxes simply because they are married. Congress is moving to eliminate the so-called marriage penalty. President Bill Clinton supports reducing it — and it's an election year. So the chances of tax relief being passed appear high.

The problem is that an estimated 42 percent of married couples – about 25 million couples – who file jointly pay higher taxes than if they were two unrelated individuals. The tax code especially hits married couples when each individual earns about the same.

For example, a couple with $40,000 gross annual income each, for a total of $80,000, pays an extra $1,530 in taxes. Even a couple with a far more modest income of $15,000 each, for a total of $30,000, the marriage penalty is $218.

Recently the House passed a bill that would offset the tax code's marriage penalty by raising the standard deduction, expanding the upper limit of the bottom (15 percent) tax bracket and raising the earned income tax credit for low-income working couples. These steps would cut the penalty to zero in both the
aforementioned examp
ple earning $80,000 co
couple earning $30,000
plan would deliver $1
relief over 10 years.

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drumbeat for relief.
been debating a reduc
riage penalty for yea
action is now.

> ▶ To the point
> *Congress and the federal government should grant tax relief to couples who are paying higher taxes because they are married.*

to watch loony TV? Lots of people!

V Comment

llionaire" isn't about Rick
l. It's about TV.
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, providing you put them
hile they do it.
cond Law of Television:
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d, the inmates of North
's Davidson County Jail
watching. There, no TV is
Just TV stars.
here," Deborah Norville
el's last week, "because
to give you an inside look
t's really like inside jail."
nside Edition," the syndi-
wsmagazine the anchors,
had entered Davidson
Jail as an honest-to-gosh
for five days.
e're not talking Christiane

Amanpour reporting from Kosovo. But you'd never have guessed from the buildup for Deborah Behind Bars. Check the announcer's snarling intro to her first report, then remind yourself this isn't a "Saturday Night Live" spoof.

"Doing time in Cell Block A! No special treatment. Just bars. And you will see it all. The booking. The rules. The shackles. The prison stripes.

"And no makeup!"

Over and over we were reminded that it's "the toughest jail in America," a title granted by Sheriff Gerald Hege, the man who runs it. A law-and-order P.T. Barnum, he, like his celebrity guest, is a TV star of sorts: Since last summer, Hege has been the host of Court TV's jailbird chat show, "Inside Cell Block F."

Now he was Norville's host at the pinkest jail in America. For some reason, Hege has had everything painted pink. On TV it looked divine.

Norville had to maintain the goofball pretext for this stunt: that she was penetrating prison life as just another inmate, subject to the same tough policies that governed everybody else.

Meanwhile, "Inside Edition" viewers might have quibbled that no other inmate was attended by TV cameras and a producer as she mopped a floor or did a guest shot on CNN's "Larry King Live."

During five days in the slammer, Norville took pains to find some larger truths of jail life. Mostly what she found was that her fellow inmates were "very respectful" of one another's privacy."

Unlike — come to think of it — her.

t boldy and ask guy out

sually shy, but I confess I
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y:
ghter is being married
mer. She will graduate
ege in May from a
Texas. We live on the
st where the wedding

will take place. Her fiance lives in Arizona where they will make their home.

The problem is they don't have the money to ship gifts to Arizona. I was wondering if it would be proper to ask people to take a picture of the gift they intended to buy, and wrap it in a box along with a check so my daughter can purchase the item when she arrives in Arizona. Is that tacky? Please advise.

Planning A Wedding

Dear Planning:

It would be improper to bring up the subject of monetary gifts, even if it is "prettied up" by requesting that the guests enclose a photo of the gift they had in mind.

However, if you are asked what your daughter needs or prefers, you may respond by explaining that a check would be the most practical gift.

Bridge

can see, five spades dou-
sy to make because of the
mond position.
d a club. After winning
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nable line is to ruff, play
o the dummy, ruff anoth-
return to dummy with a
nd run the hearts from
Then they split 4-4, declar-
e, not needing luck in dia-
they are 5-3, she can ruff
hand for a diamond lead
ummy's king.
, Fran discarded a dia-
t trick two, cashed
top trumps, threw anoth-
ond on the second top
ffed a heart in hand, and
mond for plus 850.
Fran pointed out that with
queen of spades, Alan
ve redoubled!

North 02-23-00
♠ K Q
♥ A K 10 7 3
♦ K 6 5 3
♣ 9 8

West
♠ J 3
♥ J 6 5 2
♦ A Q
♣ 7 6 5 4 2

East
♠ 4
♥ Q 9 8 4
♦ 9 8 4
♣ A K Q J 3

South
♠ A 10 9 8 7 6 5 2
♥
♦ J 10 7 2
♣ 10

Vulnerable: Both
Dealer: North

South	West	North	East
		1♥	2♣
3♠	5♣	Dbl	Pass
5♠	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening lead: ♣ 7

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Evenings 7:00 and 9:05
Matinees Sat., Sun., Thurs. 1:00 and 3:05
Kevin Spacey
AMERICAN BEAUTY R
Evenings 7:00 and 9:00
Matinees Sat., Sun., Thurs. 1:00 and 3:00
Snow Day PG

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Tennessee Williams
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February 26 – 8:00 pm
February 27 – 3:00 pm
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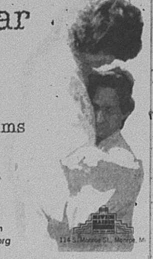

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RIVER RAISIN CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

FROM PAGE 1A

Milan (cont.)

hugged each other when the count was announced at Milan Township Hall and celebrated at their election night headquarters at the Monroe Bank & Trust branch at Sanford and Milan-Oakville Rd.

The group had forced the referendum by collecting and submitting more than 500 signatures to the township from people who said they were against the development.

Robert Kanitz, a township resident, waited with board members, media and representatives of the two sides at the township hall until the results were announced at 11:35 p.m.

"I knew it was going to be that way," he said, referring to the proposal being denied.

At issue were plans to build a mammoth vehicle distribution center on the property where new GM cars and trucks would be transferred from rail cars to semi haulers, which would then take the vehicles to dealerships.

Supporters of the plan say the township's property tax revenue from the site would be double what it is now. Other monetary benefits were being offered to the township's schools and infrastructure projects, as well as an annual $150,000 "impact fee" payment to the township.

Opponents of the project don't want the extra truck and train traffic and worry that the industrial nature of the facility would ruin the township's rural flavor, as well as pollute it.

The election drew a steady stream of voters all day. There were people lining up before polls opened at 7 a.m. and there were stragglers coming in just before polls closed at 8 p.m. to fill out ballots. A total of 767 residents voted in the election, 63.9 percent of the approximately 1,200 registered voters.

The turnout was more than election officials had planned for. Ballots that could be electronically counted ran out before 5:30 p.m.

After the polls closed, the election committee had to read, tally and count 159 votes, manually. The vote tallies were announced to the interested parties an agonizing 3½ hours later.

Township Clerk Emily Bowerman confirmed it was the largest turnout ever recorded.

"I had no idea ... I should have had that in mind," Ms. Bowerman said.

Said Diana Schauer, the election committee chairman: "I'm tired, I want to go home."

Railroad firm has several options

BY SCOTT NEINAS
Evening News staff writer

MILAN – What now?

Ann Arbor Railroad Properties has given every indication that it won't just go away after its project was 54 votes short of going ahead Tuesday.

The company has a variety of options at its disposal and will meet today to discuss them.

Some say the township's decision could be overturned by federal authorities based on interstate commerce regulations.

Others say the company could have a chance of getting its way in circuit court, much like mining companies do, because they are limited in the number of places it can build the kind of operation it wants.

And company officials have talked about what people in Milan Township might fear even more – a repeat of the same process that just ended.

The company could resubmit a request to the township board at a future date to rezone 941 acres on the northeast corner of US-23 and Cone Rd. to construct a railroad distribution center.

The board, which approved the measure 3-2 previously, would likely pass it again, and in turn, a petition could be filed again forcing another referendum.

"That's certainly an option," Chuck Hall, a company spokesman, said.

But for now, work has stopped on the project. It was halted, in fact, after the proper amount of petition signatures were submitted to the township, causing the referendum.

The company already has bought 40 acres of property near the distribution site and has options on the rest. Those options could be renewed when they expire.

Voting (cont.)

voted, 63.9 percent of the 1,200 registered.

Even so, some close to the railroad issue wondered why there weren't more.

"They care enough to register, and they're not here for this?" one man asked.

But had they all shown up, the vote tally still could be pending.

The township had 620 electronically readable ballots. They ran out of those before 5:30 p.m.

Every vote cast after that had to be hand counted by the election staff, and about 10 p.m., an hour after many thought the count would be finished, that's exactly what they did.

"I've never counted paper ballots before," one worker said.

"We'll learn," said another.

So in the mud-stained township hall, the counting started. Onlookers behind a barrier wall of chairs, mostly railroad and anti-railroad people and media, sat patiently and watched them work.

Township Trustee Phil Bowerman and his wife, Emily, the clerk, brewed some coffee, the first of at least three pots that would be made.

"Better make it three scoops," Mr. Bowerman said to his wife.

During the scoring, one person read a single ballot while three others recorded what she read on a score sheet. Two others monitored both the reading and the recording.

"John McCain – fire, yes – roads, yes – railroad…no…" one worker said.

The recorders marked the votes with slashes, crossing a group of four to make the fifth.

"Five," they all droned, while doing it.

"George W. Bush – fire, no – roads, no ("five….") – railroad, yes."

At 11:09 p.m. they finished reading and recording.

Now they began counting and tallying.

Adding up the bunches of fives, totaling them, then adding those to the numbers on the tape from the ballot counting machine, the commission had what everyone was waiting for at 11:35 p.m.

The railroad numbers were announced and two supporters of the cause against the development hugged, tears in their eyes.

Back at the railroad headquarters, on Cone Rd., across the freeway from the township hall, it was busy.

Employees walked around talking on cell phones, others typed data into laptops, some talked to reporters and some loyal, dejected supporters of the project sat around on the back porch as midnight approached.

"It was a shame, it's just prolonging the measure," said township resident Phil Heath.

And then the jeers.

In the driveway of the railroad headquarters, project supporters and representatives went to their cars to go home.

The sounds came from the freeway, honking, then a small group of cars drove slowly down Cone Rd. past the house, some of them leaning on their horns, others beeping in rapid bursts.

They paused for a moment at the railroad tracks, just east of the house, and continued, the sound of the horns trailing off into the night, their tires kicking up more mud from the sloppy dirt road.

— Scott Neinas

Issues (cont.)

should put the issue back on the ballot.

The parks proposal would have raised $70,379 the first year for operation and development costs. About half of the funds would have gone to senior citizens programs and facility needs. The rest was earmarked to seek grants for a future community recreation facility.

Bedford Township

BEDFORD TOWNSHIP – The Bedford Township dial-a-ride program, which provides public transportation for area citizens, will continue with the help of a local levy that township voters approved Tuesday.

The request was for .1 mill for five years, a reduction in milage from a .15-mill levy that will expire soon at the end of its three-year run.

The final tally was 2,153-1,294.

Nancy J. Tienvieri, Bedford Township clerk, said Tuesday morning's voting traffic was "light, but steady." Twenty-five percent of the registered voters in the 14 township precincts eventually cast ballots, which Deputy Clerk Garnet Francis said was higher than expected for the election. But it was not clear, Mrs. Francei added, whether the levy or the presidential primary sparked local voters to come to the polls.

Lake Erie Transit provides the dial-a-ride program. Rides are available on a reservation basis within Bedford Township and to selected TARTA bus transfer sites in Toledo. The service began operations in 1980 and provides 900 to 950 rides a month for senior citizens, people with disabilities, teen-agers and other people who are not able to drive themselves across the community.

The estimated revenue for the first year of the levy is $60,750, which pays about 60 percent of the bus service budget. Mark Jagodzinski, general manager of the Lake Erie Transit Commission, which operates Monroe County's public transportation system, said before the election that without the levy or other local funding, the program would end. Federal grants that used to pay a large part of the budget are no longer available.

The owner of a $100,000 home will pay less than $10 a year toward the levy.

Milan Township

MILAN – Milan Township voters overwhelmingly passed two millage renewals that will go toward fire protection and road improvements.

A 1.25-mill fire protection millage passed 575-172 and the .75 mill roads millage passed 560-161.

The five-year millages are renewals of measures township voters passed five years ago, although some said the township, and the county, needs to do more to fix the roads here.

Kari Morningstar said she came to vote, in part, to do something about "our lousy roads."

"I'm from northern Michigan. They get more snow than we get here but they do a better job of removing it. This is pathetic," she said, adding that her snow shovel had been stolen from her driveway.

Last year the road millage brought in $32,000, which couldn't even pay for applications to keep dust down on dirt roads, township officials said, adding that they, however, were grateful for residents supporting the millage.

Before the election, Treasurer Sharon Jaworski said the township was paying for all of its road repairs from the general fund.

The fire millage brought in $54,000 last year, which went toward giving the township's share to a multi-jurisdictional fire department, based in the City of Milan.

— Evening News staff writers Paula Wethington and Scott Neinas also contributed to this report.

Gibraltar (cont.)

"The vote didn't do anything," Mr. Connolly said Tuesday night. "It's too bad the thing got messed up. It's kind of a pain."

He and Councilwoman Kathleen LaPointe agreed residents sent a message that the land should be rezoned again to an R-1. Mrs. LaPointe said the council has the authority to do that.

"Are we going to change the zoning? I don't know," she said Tuesday night. "It's just the beginning …We could change the zoning by a vote of council. This was a good opportunity for the people to tell us. Now it's our obligation to save the marsh — that's what the majority of people want."

The referendum likely will be a hot topic at Monday's council session.

Mr. Connolly said changing the land use to an R-1 may not be in the city's best interests.

"That could get us sued," he said.

An R-1 would eliminate a nine-hole golf course the developer was planning, but have no impact on building on Humbug Island, he said.

"They can still build more houses," he said.

He wondered, too, if the referendum "locked" the city into having a PUD for a certain period of time.

"We'll have to talk with the attorney," he said. "We don't want to put the city in jeopardy."

Made in Detroit officials said earlier they supported the change to a PUD, saying it would be more advantageous to the company and its plans for luxury homes.

William T. Merriweather, chairman and chief executive officer for Made In Detroit, said he was satisfied with the election and that the firm did not anticipate any change in its plans or schedules because of the PUD.

"Our commitment to build a world-class residential and recreational development that protects and enhances the environment and also helps to stimulate the economy of Gibraltar and the entire Downriver community remains steadfast," he said in a press release.

He added the company expects its appeal to the Army Corps of Engineers on a permit to be approved in early March. At that time, the firm will submit final plans to the city with construction to begin "shortly thereafter."

Kevin Piotrowski, a spokesman for the firm, said the company wouldn't be in favor of an R-1. The city would "have to consider all the ramifications" of another rezoning, Mr. Piotrowski said this morning.

"That's nothing we can control," he said. "What they may or may not do won't stop this project from moving forward. We expect our appeal to the corps to be approved in early March and want to start putting this project together. That's where our focus is."

McCain (cont.)

in Michigan that we can assemble that," McCain said at the airport in Phoenix this morning.

Bush tried to ease the blow of his defeat in battleground Michigan by noting he "won overwhelmingly" among Republican voters, who were narrowly outnumbered in their own primary, which McCain captured with votes from independents and Democrats. McCain also won at home in Arizona by a landslide.

Bush declared, "I'm going to be the Republican nominee," and said independents who voted for McCain would support him in November.

The victorious challenger and the hobbled front-runner turned today to the West Coast contests just ahead. McCain was campaigning in Washington state and Bush was in California.

Deaths

John M. Reed Sr.

July 21, 1959-Feb. 22, 2000

John M. Reed Sr., 40, of Monroe, a 1978 graduate of Monroe High School, died at 2:11 p.m. Tuesday at University of Michigan Hospital, Ann Arbor. He had been seriously ill for four weeks.

Friends may call from 5 to 9 tonight and from noon to 9 p.m. Thursday at Rupp Funeral Home, where services will be held at 11 a.m. Friday. The Rev. David Goudie, pastor of Calvary United Methodist Church, will officiate. Burial will be in Roselawn Memorial Park, LaSalle.

JOHN M. REED SR.

Born July 21, 1959, in Monroe, he was the son of Carlos R. and Eullalee (Price) Reed.

He was a carpenter for Local 567. He was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church.

Surviving are his parents of Monroe; a son, John M. Jr. of Monroe; two brothers, David R. of Monroe and Randy L. of Grass Lake, and a grandmother, Stella (Price) Henning, of Monroe.

He was preceded in death by three grandparents.

Memorials may be made to Michigan Heart Assocation.

Alice Mary Raymond

Sept. 4, 1903-Feb. 22, 2000

Alice Mary Raymond, 96, of Monroe, former owner of Brest Market on N. Dixie Hwy., died at 6:05 p.m. Tuesday at the Lutheran Home.

Friends may call from 3 to 9 tonight at Rupp Funeral Home, where the rosary will be prayed at 7. Services will be held at 9:30 a.m. Thursday at the funeral home and at 10 at St. Mary Catholic Church. The Rev. Anthony Sulkowski, pastor of the church, will officiate. Burial will be in Garden of Rest Memorial Park, Escanaba.

Born Sept. 4, 1903, in Monroe, she was the daughter of Gregory and Mary (Gee) LaPrad. She married Cletus Raymond Oct. 16, 1922, at St. Mary Catholic Church. He died July 29, 1988.

She and her husband also owned a grocery store on Eighth St. in Monroe and a dry cleaning plant in Wyandotte. She also sold real estate for several years. She retired in 1959 and moved to Escanaba, where she lived for 26 years.

She was a member of American Red Cross, Monroe Senior Citizens, St. Mary Catholic Church and the Ladies Auxiliary to the Escanaba Lodge, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

Surviving are several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by three brothers, August, William and Edward, and six sisters, Ida LaPrad, Sarah Leonard, Ceceila Reau, Laura Soleau, Josephine Gillespie and Clara Berry.

Magdelina Mirka

March 28, 1913-Feb. 13, 2000

Magdelina Mirka, 86, a resident of Greenbrook Manor, died around 4 a.m. Feb. 13 at the nursing home.

Burial will take place at 2 p.m. Thursday at St. Joseph Cemetery. A memorial service will be held at 8:15 a.m. Tuesday at St. Michael Catholic Church. The Rev. Stephen Rooney, pastor of the church, will officiate.

Born March 28, 1913, in Sombor, Yugoslavia, she was the daughter of Steve and Maria (Raich) Jurisich.

She was a homemaker.

Obituaries published by *The Evening News* in its news columns are provided free of charge as a public service. Parties desiring specifically worded obituary announcements may place them through paid advertising.

Osben Doyce Tolen Jr.

June 18, 1935 - February 13, 2000

DOUBLE SPRINGS, AL - Obsen D. Tolen Jr., 64, of Double Springs passed away Feb. 13, at Carraway Hospital in Birmingham AL.

Services were held Feb. 18 at Mt. Ebron Church and burial was in Mt. Ebron Cemetery, both in Double Springs. Nichols Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Surviving are his mother Pearl Hill of Double Springs; daughters, Kathleen Tolen of St. Clair, MI; Laura Richardson of United Arab Emirates and Valerie Tolen of East China, MI; sons Andrew Tolen of Portland, OR; Benjamin Tolen of Pasedena, MD, and Christian Tolen of Rochester, NY; brothers James T. Tolen of Manchester, MI and Edward L. Tolen of Monroe, MI and 2 grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his father Osben I. Tolen.

(Paid Death Notice)

Ferndale voters defeat anti-bias ordinance

FERNDALE, Mich. (AP) — Voters in this Detroit suburb narrowly rejected a controversial ordinance that would have banned discrimination against gays and other minority groups.

The proposal, which would have outlawed discrimination in a dozen categories, failed 51 percent to 49 percent Tuesday, according to unofficial returns.

The vote was 2,406-2,289.

"The silent majority are the ones that do things in Ferndale, and they were successful in defeating this," said former Mayor Robert Paczkowski, who led the campaign against the proposal.

The ordinance would have forbidden discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations and public services on the basis of race, religion, disability and other grounds.

It was the sexual-orientation category that brought the majority of opposition.

"We have no duel with the gay community," Paczkowski said. "We don't want them to push their lifestyle."

Protecting gays and lesbians was the goal of the ordinance's backers, including Mayor Chuck Goedert and the entire City Council.

The ordinance would have provided "the same protections everyone else enjoys," Councilman Craig Covey said.

"We're really, really disappointed," Covey, elected last fall as the city's first openly gay council member, said. "We'll probably take a breather and work on it again in a couple of years."

Tuesday's turnout — 28 percent of Ferndale's registered voters — was heavier than usual for primary elections, city officials said.

The vote's outcome is likely to resonate in other cities, from Royal Oak to Traverse City, where gay and lesbian residents are girding for similar fights, observers say.

Ferndale's City Council passed the ordinance last fall, but it was overturned in a petition drive.

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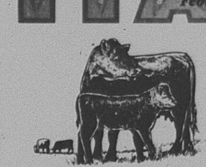

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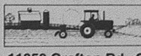

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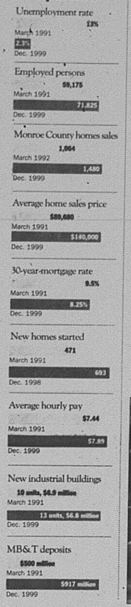
The boom's bloom

Economic comparison



■ Monroe County has reaped some of the benefits of the longest economic boom in history, but how long can it last?

By CHARLES SLAT
Evening News staff writer

It wasn't the worst of times, but it sure wasn't the best of times.

Indeed, overall, 1991 wasn't a very good year, but it was noteworthy if only because sometime in March, 1991, an American revival began.

Economists tell us that the month marked the end of America's last recession and began an economic boom that was so subtle at first, it wouldn't be recognized for nearly three years.

This month marks the 107th month of that economic expansion – the longest in American history.

How has it manifested itself in Monroe County? More homes, more jobs, higher wages and generally better prosperity.

Ronald D. LaBeau, president and chief executive officer of Monroe Bank & Trust, says if he had to pinpoint one thing that's made a big difference between then and now, it has to be "the wealth effect."

Despite recent stock market shudders, investors have seen some of the biggest stock gains since the Reagan administration. Many Americans are richer. And over the last few years, some have decided to tap that apparent wealth by buying stuff.

"People knew their investments in the market were doing well, but I don't think it really had an impact until maybe the last five years," Mr. LaBeau says. "Then they realized 'I've got a tremendous amount of money that's built up, and I can afford to spend some of it.'"

Clearly, some of those who have benefited from the expanding economy have squirreled away additional savings for the future.

But others are confident enough to splurge a little – whether on new wheels or restaurant meals. And it's that consumer confidence that also helps to keep the economy moving instead of stagnating.

Though one economic rule-of-thumb suggests that consumers traditionally spend only about 3½ cents of each additional dollar they accumulate, the accumulation rate has continued to grow, too, meaning more are spending more often.

For Tom Allen at Allen Chevrolet-Cadillac Inc. in Monroe, the consumption has been conspicuous in the form of growing sales.

"Trucks, which is your most expensive line, just continues to increase," he says. "Trucks are more expensive than cars and sales just continue to increase."

Five years ago, he adds, the truck price range was between $17,000 and $22,000. Now the prices run between $25,000 and $30,000 and sales are brisker.

His dealership just completed its best January ever and the sales pace so far this year is 15 to 20 percent ahead of last year.

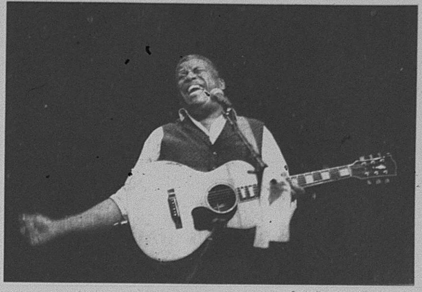
Cadillac sales are up, pumped in large part by the Escalade, a Cadillac sport utility vehicle that's been well received by

See **BOOM,** Page 5A

Workers at the Ford plant in Monroe walk out to their cars Thursday after work. Low unemployment is just one of the many benefits Americans are experiencing.

—Evening News photo by CARY CONOVER

A night of blues



— Evening News photo by TRAVIS HARTMAN

Robert B. Jones, the first performer at the 13th annual Black History Month Blues Concert Saturday night, explains that because B.B. King played an electric guitar, "He can hit a note, go to the bathroom, come back, and it's still going." Other performers were Henry Butler and Carl Weathersby. The musicians performed at St. Mary Center Auditorium in a concert sponsored by the Monroe County Library System and area businesses.

Anger in wake of Diallo verdict

NEW YORK (AP) — Anger and frustration seethed in parts of the city Saturday as New Yorkers struggled with the acquittal of four white police officers who killed an unarmed African immigrant in a barrage of 41 bullets.

"Killer cops have got to go!" shouted protesters as more than 2,500 people upset about the verdict in the Amadou Diallo case marched down Fifth Avenue in midtown Manhattan.

About 40 people were arrested when they sat down in the street near St. Patrick's Cathedral and blocked traffic.

Hours earlier, Diallo's mother told a crowd in Harlem she hoped her son's death would inspire people to fight against police brutality and improve understanding between police and civilians.

"It's about justice," Kadiatou Diallo said a day after the verdicts. "Nothing can replace Amadou ... but if his cause can help clarify this situation ... so that the people can live in peace, I think that would be a great honor for us."

In Newark, N.J., about 150 people protested the verdicts. About 50 people gathered outside Diallo's Bronx home, where several hundred had demonstrated after the verdicts were announced Friday.

The same indignation was evident in many of the 350 people who crammed into the Rev. Al Sharpton's National Action Network headquarters in Harlem for an emotional rally.

"Murderers!" they shouted. "Racist cops!" "We want justice!"

But a hush fell over the packed room when Diallo's mother approached the podium. As she thanked the audience in a soft voice for the support they had given her family, listeners cried out "Thank you!" and "We love you!"

Diallo said that after sitting through nearly a month of trial testimony and arguments, she still could not understand why her son died. The defense argument that her son's actions had

See **VERDICT,** Page 5A

Kroger employees, customers say goodbye

By DEAN COUSINO
Evening News staff writer

Carol Deaton can remember when the Kroger store on S. Dixie Hwy. opened like it was yesterday.

"It was a Sunday, Oct. 16, 1977," the Erie resident and cashier recalled Saturday morning during the store's final day of business. "That was my son's 15th birthday. We had 10 checkouts and they were lined out the door to get in. I think a six-pack of Pepsi was about 79 cents."

The store looked a little different Saturday as store officials and employees waited on customers for the last time. Amid hugs and tears, they said goodbye to one another, ending a company presence in the Monroe area dating back almost 70 years.

Ms. Deaton, 57, has been a loyal Kroger employee for 32 years and is one of six workers planning to continue working at the firm's Grosse Ile store. She remembers working at the former W. Front St. outlet where the Knights of Columbus hall is today.

"When this store opened, I think it was the biggest one around," she said. "We even had a couple of portable checkouts, we were so busy. It was funny, people kept asking us where's this or where's that and we didn't know."

There were no long lines this time as longtime customers trickled in to buy groceries or just to chat one last time with their friends behind the counter. Four checkouts were available, but only two were needed.

The store's closing announced in late January has been a big blow to the south Monroe area, especially to residents of the Mable H. Kehres senior citizens' apartments next door. Sarah McDaniel was one of the seniors who stopped Saturday with her little push-cart.

"I had to have some eggs," Ms. McDaniel said. "I've lived here seven years and come two or three times a week. When you need something, you'd come here. We're really tore up over this."

She got two hugs as she was leaving from cashiers Barb (Edwards) Lambrix and Marcelle Ramsey.

"They're friendly and it's a clean store. I can't say anything bad about it," Ms. McDaniel said.

Ms. Ramsey said "I'll call you sometime. Are you in the phone book?"

Mrs. Lambrix wiped tears away as she greeted another customer.

"It's like you're losing your friends," she said. "It's hard. I didn't think it would be this hard when I came in."

Members of the Monroe Missionary Baptist Church located just south of the store have offered rides to the seniors to shop at another grocery if they want.

Just about every day you could find Carl Porath in his wheelchair visiting the deli and shooting the breeze with employees like Dave Reed, produce manager.

"It's pretty sad. A lot of my friends are

See **KROGER,** Page 5A

— Evening News photo by TRAVIS HARTMAN

Kroger employee Dawn Lawson of Monroe (left) signs Pam Bryant's memory book that was made for her by a customer, while Bryant receives a hug from Mary Lymond of Monroe. Judy Thoma of Erie and Zak Wade of Monroe (right) look for something to do on the last day of work. Mary Sisung of Monroe snapped pictures of the tearful goodbye.

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Business

Home sales strong in '99

With 1,480 homes sold in Monroe County in 1999, it was a great year for home sales. But, a slowdown could be in the cards, local experts caution. **Page 1D**

Local

Voters in the Milan Area Schools' district will vote on a $49.9 million bond issue March 7. The money would be used to build a new high school and make other improvements. The Evening News takes a look at how Milan would spend the money if the issue receives voter support. **Page 1C**

Living

Just weeks after selling her children's books, a mother discovers she has a terminal form of cancer. **Page 1E**

Sports

Brad Ausmus is hoping for another solid year with the Tigers. **Page 1B**

Today's obituaries

- ■ **LaVern J. Barron,** 80, of Monroe.
- ■ **Hazel J. Eff,** 86, of Lambertville.
- ■ **Barbara Bush,** 57, of Flat Rock.
- ■ **James E. Treacy Sr.,** 63, of Dundee.
- ■ **Jacquoline Ann Adams,** 71, of Lambertville.
- ■ **Blain A. Healy,** 59, of Temperance.
- ■ **Gladys B. Krausse,** 79, of Monroe.
- ■ **Jesse P. Becerra,** 88, of Willis.
- ■ **Allard W. Splan,** of Monroe.

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FEB 27 2000

Racial tension fuels worst prison riot

■ As many as 150 prisoners from the Pelican Bay State Prison joined a fight Wednesday, escalating into a riot. Some critics say guards should do more to protect inmates from each other.

BY JEFF BARNARD
Associated Press writer

CRESCENT CITY, Calif. — When inmates stepped out of their concrete cellblocks and into the exercise yard at Pelican Bay State Prison, many were ready to fight — for their race and for their own survival.

Guards had kept them from mingling for almost six months, since an August riot, fearing another eruption of the racial tension that is a fact of life behind bars in California.

They couldn't keep them apart forever.

When fighting broke out Wednesday, it escalated into the state's worst prison riot in more than a decade.

As many as 150 inmates joined in. Hispanics converged on a smaller group of black inmates, most paying no heed to the guards' pepper spray, tear gas or rubber bullets. Guards finally used lethal force and shot 16 prisoners, killing one and critically wounding another. At least 32 others were stabbed or slashed by fellow inmates. No guards were injured.

Prison officials say most of the inmates probably felt they had little choice but to join the fight, that their social code demands they take sides in racial conflicts or suffer retaliation from other prisoners.

"A large part of the problem is a fraction of 1 percent of the inmate population that pushes their beliefs on the rest of the population," said prison spokesman Lt. Ben Grundy.

Pelican Bay, one of California's two maximum-security prisons, is filled well past capacity with the state's most violent criminals — 3,326 inmates in a facility built to house 2,280 — and has a history thick with violence.

In 1997, six inmates were killed in clashes between cellmates. Three were killed in 1998.

Earlier this month, two former guards were indicted on charges they violated prisoners' civil rights by arranging assaults on prisoners, one of them fatal.

Another guard was convicted on civil rights charges for shooting a prisoner after a fight in 1994.

— AP photo

A California Department of Corrections vehicle returns to Pel
Prison near Crescent City, Calif. Guards at the prison kept inma
gling for almost six months before fighting broke out Wedne
ing into a riot fueled by racial tension.

Inmate advocates argue the violence stems at least in part from mismanagement, noting that in 1995 a federal judge found prison officials had endorsed the use of excessive force.

At a National Prison Project conference in Washington, D.C.,

last week, some
called for an indepen
gation of the Pelican

The FBI, which alr
tigating allegations
violations at Pelican
will closely moni

At last — Bush, McCain battle heads for vote-ri

WASHINGTON (AP) — The topsy-turvy Republican presidential race, fought thus far on tiny or quirky battlegrounds, moves to the national stage with two weeks of voting in 25 states.

Texas Gov. George W. Bush hopes to hobble Sen. John McCain's campaign on the March 7 "Super Tuesday" and put him away March 14, when six Bush-friendly Southern states conduct GOP elections.

The Arizona senator hopes to clean up March 7, survive March 14 and drag the nomination fight deep into the spring.

Both hope to get a running start Tuesday, when Republicans make their choices in three states.

"Conventional wisdom is that Bush is still in the strongest position for the long haul," said Steve Duprey, chairman of the New Hampshire GOP. "But we all know how shaky conventional wisdom is this year."

The campaign already has passed through the first-test states of Iowa, New Hampshire and Delaware. Ultraconservative South Carolina went to Bush.

Michigan voted McCain, although the primary actually drew more non-Republicans than Republicans.

McCain holds a slight lead over Bush in the hunt for the 1,034 delegates needed to win the nomination. Bush holds a narrowing lead in the money chase.

"We're going national," Duprey said.

And so are the candidates, starting with voting Tuesday:

North Dakota

Bush has a clear advantage in state caucuses. McCain has not campaigned for the state's 19 delegates.

Virginia

Bush leads McCain by 11 points in a recent poll. Bush's local supporters, however, are complaining that his national brain trust is micromanaging the campaign. Worried that Democrats and independents can upset Bush in the open primary, his team is contacting people who voted in 1996 for moderate Republican Sen. John Warner, who is popular in independent-minded northern Virginia.

Washington State

Both campaigns say polls show them in a tight race. McCain hopes to avail of Washington voters' independent streak. The Arizonan has a strong organization, but Bush's is deeper.

Though Bush has been on the air longer, McCain is spending almost as much on TV ads in the run-up to Virginia and Washington, a reflection of how the Texan's financial advantage has been virtually erased.

After raising $70 million, Bush now has less than $13 million in the bank. McCain has nearly as much money.

California

The Big Kahuna, California awards 162 delegates to the winner. Half of McCain's "Super Tuesday" schedule and at least $2 million of his TV budget are dedicated here.

Bush has spent less, but plans to increase his buy.

News coverage may be more important than pricey advertising time, and McCain generated a lot of attention with his Michigan victory.

New York

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laws favor Bush an

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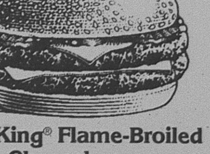

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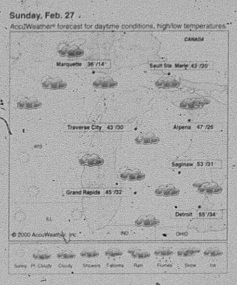
Weather Picture

Area forecast

Cloudy with a 70 percent chance of rain today, high around 50. For tonight, showers with a low of 40. For Monday, more showers expected; high around 45.

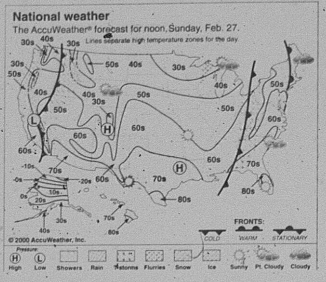
Sunday, Feb. 27

AccuWeather® forecast for daytime conditions, high/low temperatures



National outlook

Stormy weather will continue in the West today with showers and mountain snow from California and Washington into Montana. Rain will stretch from the Great Lakes to the Florida panhandle.



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EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

FROM PAGE 1A

Kroger (cont.)

here," Mr. Porath, 34, said with little emotion in his voice. "I'm going to miss being around here and talking with him."

Mr. Reed has practically raised his family at Kroger. A veteran with 29 years at Kroger, he once had three of his sons working at the store at the same time. They worked as baggers or in the meat department. Even his 90-year-old grandmother, Stella, shops at Kroger.

Mr. Reed, 47, said he has worked in other stores, but the Monroe one was the best because of the customers. He is going to the Grosse Ile store.

"I'd love to come back and finish my career in Monroe," the Monroe High School assistant varsity head football coach said. "Monroe has the friendliest people around. It's such a close-knit community."

Emily Ellison returned the compliment as she came through with her cart. After shopping at Kroger for 40 years, she was disheartened with the news of the closing.

"I like the personal touches," Ms. Ellison, a Monroe resident, said. "The girls know me and I like chatting with them: You don't have to 'dig for your license'" when she wants to cash a check.

She's not sure where she will shop now.

Louise and Nick Pillarelli just wanted "to see the girls."

"They're always so friendly," Mrs. Pillarelli said. "They know you when you walk in. We live about a mile away and it's so handy for us. When we heard they were closing, the first thing I said was 'oh no'."

Pam Bryant and Gwen Hamrick are assistant customer service managers and have a combined 16 years at the Monroe store. Both are headed to the Plymouth Rd. store in Ann Arbor, but say they are looking forward to a return to the Monroe area if Kroger opens another store nearby. Ms. Hamrick said she will miss the other employees

"It's like leaving your second family," she said. "You spend so much time with them. And everybody watches out for you."

Ms. Bryant said a number of customers have called offering their best wishes and expressing gratitude for friendly service.

"They say they don't get treated this good any where else," she said. "They're probably a little spoiled with us. The other stores will have to pick up the slack."

Ms. Bryant informally adopted fellow employee Russell Kerr as her "dad." The South Rockwood resident has worked at 10 different Kroger stores in the past 42 years, including the last seven at the Monroe store where he is grocery manager. He, too, is headed to Grosse Ile.

"Grosse Ile will be my last," the 58-year-old Kerr said. "I want to retire in four years. It will be about 10 miles closer to my home. With the price of gas going up, that'll help."

Employees exchanged phone numbers and painted a big "Thank You" in red-and-orange letters on the front wall. Customers brought in goodies. One brought a camera to take photos for keepsakes. Some just stopped to bid farewell before the 6 p.m. closing.

Today, many of the employees will gather one last time with Rick Hotchkiss, the store manager, and past retirees for a potluck. Several spoke of returning to the area if another Kroger store opens.

Boom (cont.)

those who are looking for a higher level of comfort, if not prestige.

Meanwhile, other factors have contributed to the economy's historic momentum. For example, as the stock market has climbed, tax rates on stock profits have dropped from 28 percent to 20 percent, providing more of an incentive for some investors to take their money and run out and buy things.

Recent statistics show that consumers, still flush with confidence, are putting aside less from their paychecks. The personal savings rate in the waning months of 1999 was 4.2 percent, compared with 5.1 to 5.5 percent in the late 1980s.

Alan Haynes, an area Realtor, says he senses more of a willingness on the part of people to take on debt, especially when it comes to homes. They either are adding onto existing homes or moving up to larger ones more readily than in previous years.

The average sales price for homes in Monroe County has climbed from about $84,700 in 1991 to $140,000 in 1999. Quarter-million-dollar-plus homes – a rarity several years ago – now are almost commonplace.

"The surprising thing is that the people buying those houses are my age," adds Mr. LaBeau, the banker. "You'd think they might be looking to downsize after the kids grow up and leave home, but that really isn't happening. Their moving to bigger homes so their grandchildren will have a place to stay when their kids are coming home."

But this urge to splurge hasn't diminished the growth of deposits. At Monroe Bank & Trust, for example, deposits have nearly doubled from the estimated $500 million in 1991.

It means the bank can make more loans for purchases of autos, homes and businesses. Though start-ups of small-business sole proprietorships have remained fairly steady in Monroe County since 1991, the number of new industries and industrial expansions has shown steady growth in recent years.

Mr. LaBeau senses that retailing in the county has ebbed and flowed, but substantial gains have occurred in industry.

Traditionally, hiring — or firing — by industry can have significant effects on the county's unemployment rate. So, perhaps understandably, Monroe County ended 1999 with record low unemployment.

Fewer people were out of work and more people were in the work force than at any time in the 30 years since Michigan began tracking unemployment statistics.

Not only does that generally mean more disposable income in the economy, it adds to the sense of consumer confidence in the economy. And it tends to drive up hourly pay as employers try to maintain staffing in a tight labor market.

Retailers have seen mixed results over the years. Analysts suggest this may be due partly to more sellers trying to tap the extra dollars generated by the economy, increasing competition.

Though 43 percent of Michigan's retailers saw increased sales in January, that was the lowest percentage since January, 1997.

Jimmie Vandegrift, who owns the Naturally Wood store in downtown Monroe, has sensed this in recent years. "My gross is actually not that much different, but I am making a profit," says the owner of downtown's largest retail establishment.

"I'm paying my taxes and paying my bills, but I feel we're kind of at a standstill." She's considering a new marketing emphasis to boost sales.

Larry Meyer, head of the Michigan Retailers Association, says a malaise early in the year isn't necessarily a surprise. "Given the industry's overall strong performance during the holiday season and throughout 1999, some fall-off could be expected," he says. But he says the economy remains strong and retailers probably are looking forward to the distribution of autoworker profit-sharing checks in March.

Indeed, while most agree that much of the last decade has been characterized by unprecedented historic growth, opinions vary on how long the bloom will last.

Much depends upon interest rates, of course.

"We think there's going to be at least a half-point increase through this year and, hopefully, that's all," Mr. LaBeau says.

David Littmann, chief economist for Comerica Bank in Detroit and one of the nation's most respected economic analysts, suggests that the Fed probably will raise rates about .75 percent this year to keep inflation under control.

Further slowing of the economy probably will result from higher gasoline prices, which can affect the auto and housing industries.

No recession is expected in the coming five years, he says, but a lot depends upon the outcome of the 2000 election.

If greater regulation, taxes and government spending result during the 2000-02 period, "then the U.S. economy will become stagflationary, with rising inflation and interest rates, greater unemployment and credit problems, flight of capital and probable recession in 2002-03."

Barring that, he adds, "the business expansion still has life."

Verdict (cont.)

drawn the officers' attention and led them to believe he had a gun caused her particular anguish, she said.

"The crime that they committed is to consider my son suspicious," she said. "That was the first crime. ... Our whole family are wondering why they said that everything that happened was because of Amadou's fault. Because we know he was a nice kid."

Jurors have avoided the media since the verdict, but juror Thomas Knowles, who answered the door at his upstate home, said the group was considering issuing a statement or speaking publicly today.

"It's been hell," he said, referring to the barrage of interview requests from reporters. He would not comment further.

At the midtown Manhattan rally, people marched along Fifth Avenue, chanting "Killer cops have got to go," and "It's a wallet, not a gun," a reference to the four officers' assertions that they thought the wallet in Diallo's hand was a gun.

Some members of the mostly young, multiracial crowd taunted police who tried to keep them on sidewalks. They marched south from 59th St. to Houston St., where some protesters were throwing trash cans and blocking traffic.

"I'm just outraged ... this is just the most blatant shooting of an unarmed black person, but it's not the only one," said marcher Bruce Kayton, 40. "If the races were reversed they would have been probably calling for the death penalty."

Many at the Harlem rally — where speakers included Democratic U.S. Reps Charles Rangel and Jose Serrano, Sharpton and New York Civil Liberties Union executive director Norman Siegel — echoed Diallo's mother's assertion that her son was a victim of racial profiling.

Sharpton promised to press on with legal action in the case, calling for federal criminal civil rights charges against the officers and saying he hoped Diallo's death would help improve the way police forces deal with black and Hispanic people.

"We're going to use this Amadou Diallo case to stop this in these United States once and for all," he said. "Just like we needed the federal government to come into Alabama and Mississippi 30 years ago, we need the federal government to come into New York to deal with the police today."

Sharpton compared the case to

Deaths

Jesse P. Becerra

Jan. 12, 1912-Feb. 24, 2000

WILLIS – Jesse P. Becerra, 88, of Willis, who was formerly employed by American Foundry for 29 years, died Thursday at the Dallas-Fort Worth Medical Center in Grand Prairie, Texas.

Friends may call from 5 to 9 p.m. Monday in Ochalek-Stark Funeral Home, Milan, where services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday with Pastor Wesley Rowe from Calvary Bible Church officiating. Burial will be in Marble Park Cemetery, Milan.

Born Jan. 12, 1912, in Texas City, Texas, he was the son of Margarito and Mary (Guiterrez) Becerra. He married Hilda Guilfoil Feb. 20, 1935, in Monroe.

After working at the foundry, he was employed at Pennisular Paper Co. and retired from there.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by four sons, Jesse of Haxtun, Colo.; Edward of Elgin, Okla.; Joseph of Medford, Okla., and David of Ponce DeLeon, Fla.; four daughters, Mrs. Robert (Judith) Gable of Maybee, Mary Colvin of DeFuniak Springs, Fla., Betty Capiuano of Dennison, Texas, and Mrs. Levi (Virginia) Hunter of Grand Prairie, Texas; 17 grandchildren, and several great-grandchildren.

Obituaries published by *The Evening News* in its news columns are provided free of charge as a public service. Parties desiring specifically worded obituary announcements may place them through paid advertising. The notices are boxed and when possible appear on the same page as obituaries.

Gladys B. Krausse

June 30, 1920-Feb. 25, 2000

Gladys B. Krausse, 79, of Monroe died at 11:30 p.m. Friday at Mercy Memorial Hospital. She had been ill for two weeks.

Friends may call at 1 p.m. Monday in Allore Funeral Home until services at 2 with the Rev. Damon Patterson, pastor of Monroe Missionary Baptist Church, officiating.

Born June 30, 1920, she was the daughter of Frank and Ozella (Palmer) McDonald.

She was employed as a housekeeper at Howard Johnson Motor Lodge.

Surviving are a son, Arthur Mink of Lancaster, Pa.; two daughters, Mrs. Carl (Elizabeth) Mesko of Newport and Mrs. Earl (Marcia) Harris of Stevensville, Mich.; two sisters, Thelma Reich of Brooklyn and Elvena Lord of Northport; four grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a sister, Frances Schippacasse.

Barbara Bush

FLAT ROCK – Barbara Bush, 57, of Flat Rock died Saturday at her home.

Services are pending at Arthur Bobcean Funeral Home, Flat Rock.

Jacquoline Ann Adams

Dec. 11, 1928-Feb. 23, 2000

LAMBERTVILLE – Jacquoline Ann Adams, 71, of Lambertville, known as the "Game Lady" when she was a educator for Bedford Public Schools for 29 years, died suddenly Wednesday in Portland, Ore., while visiting her daughter and grandchildren.

Friends may call from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday in Bedford Funeral Chapel, Temperance, where a memorial service will be held at 3.

Born Dec. 11, 1928, in Morristown, Minn., she was the daughter of Leland and Alice (Haugan) Sherratt.

She graduated from Battle Creek High School and earned a bachelor's degree from Western Michigan University in 1948 and a master's degree and a reading specialist degree from Eastern Michigan University.

She worked with children and earned her nickname for the educational and learning games she created and shared with others. She retired from the school district in 1995, two years after being named "Educator of the Year" by the Parent-Teacher Association. She also was past president of the Monroe County Reading Association.

Her memberships included the Delta Kappa Gamma, Phi Delta Kappa and the Michigan and International Reading Associations.

Surviving are two daughters, Jillonne of Lambertville and Mrs. John (Bonnie) Steeh of West Linn, Ore.; a brother, William B. of Colon, Mich.; a sister, Sally Nezamis of Kalamazoo, and two grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the Smith Road Elementary School Library.

Hazel J. Eff

June 11, 1913-Feb. 24, 2000

LAMBERTVILLE – Hazel Josephine Eff, 86, of Lambertville died of natural causes at 1:20 p.m. Thursday at Columbus Community Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, where she had been for two days after visiting her daughter.

There will be no visitation. A graveside service will be held at 1 p.m. Tuesday at the Lambertville Cemetery with the Rev. Richard Deisler, pastor of the Whiteford Wesleyan Church in Ottawa Lake, officiating. Farnham Funeral Home, Temperance, is in charge of arrangements.

Born June 11, 1913, in Toledo, she was the daughter of Charles and Dollie (Close) Timmons. She married Howard J. Eff Oct. 24, 1931, in Dundee. He died in January, 1994.

She was employed for 22 years as a tailor for J.C. Penney in Toledo until retiring in the early 1970s. She was a member of the Whiteford Wesleyan Church.

Surviving are her daughter, Mrs. Barbara Surbrook of Columbus, seven grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by a son, Haroldlee, earlier this month and a sister, Helen Clegg.

Memorials may be made to the church.

James E. Treacy Sr.

DUNDEE – James E. Treacy Sr., 63, of Dundee died at 6:48 p.m. Saturday in his home under hospice care.

Services are pending at Cover Funeral Home, Dundee.

Blain A. Healy

May 22, 1940-Feb. 26, 2000

TEMPERANCE – Blain A. Healy, 59, a Temperance resident for the past 32 years and the former owner and operator of the Old Mill Run Restaurant in Dundee, died at 5:59 a.m. Saturday in St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center, Toledo.

Friends may call from 4 to 9 p.m. Monday in Bedford Funeral Chapel, where a prayer service will be at 7:30. Cremation will follow.

Born May 22, 1940, in Detroit, he was the son of John and Val Jean (Jackson) Healy. He married Diane M. Belanger on Aug. 29, 1959, at St. Monica Catholic Church, Detroit.

He was employed as a salesman for 31 years for the Glass City Paper Co. He also owned the restaurant from 1983 to 1988. He retired in 1990.

He was an Air Force veteran in the Vietnam War. He was a member of the Placers Car Club of Point Place, Ohio, and formerly the Pine Setters Campers Club in Detroit.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by a son, Keith of Temperance; five daughters, Mrs. Dean (Michelle) Thayer of Petersburg; Mrs. Michael (Kristi) Smith of Temperance; Mrs. Matt (Robin) Bahls of Sylvania, Ohio; Mrs. Eric (Heather) Moore of Toledo and Mindy Dalko of Coral Springs, Fla., and 11 grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Dennis.

Memorials may be made to the Kidney Foundation.

Allard W. Splan

Allard W. Splan of Monroe died Saturday morning.

Services are pending at Allore Funeral Home.

Funerals

Marguerite L. Clum

Additional information has been received for Marguerite L. Clum, 82, of Monroe who died Friday.

She had been in poor health for two years. She graduated from Alleghany College in Mead, Pa., where she received bachelor's and master's degrees in education.

She is survived by two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

LaVern J. Barron

June 20, 1919-Feb. 26, 2000

LaVern J. Barron, 80, of Monroe, a lifetime member of Monroe Council 1266, Knights of Columbus, and a former employee of the Ford Motor Co. for 31 years, died at 9 a.m. Saturday at the Beach Nursing Home. He had been seriously ill for the past two days.

LaVERN J. BARRON

Friends may call from 4 to 9 p.m. today and from 1 to 9 p.m. Monday in Rupp Funeral Home, Monroe, where a rosary will be recited at 3 Monday. Members of the K of C will recite a rosary at 8 p.m. Monday. Services will be at 10:30 a.m. in the funeral home and at 11 in St. John Catholic Church, of which he was a member. The Rev. Terrence Kerner, pastor, will officiate and burial will be in St. Joseph Cemetery.

Born June 20, 1919, in Newport, he was the son of Louis and Stella (McLaughlin) Barron. He married Helen G. Calkins on June 14, 1941, at St. Charles Catholic Church, Newport.

He worked at Ford from 1950 until his retirement in 1981. Prior to that, he also was employed for the Monroe Auto Equipment Co. and Kelsey-Hayes.

He was a member of Local 723, United Auto Workers, and a volunteer firefighter for Ford. He also was a supporter of the Comboni Missionaries in Monroe and a member of the Holy Name Society at St. John's Church.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by four sons, Peter, Thomas and Cary, all of Monroe, and Joseph of Newport; five daughters, Mrs. James (Teresa) Thompson of Toledo and Pamela Barron, Mrs. Donald (Jorda) Monday, Mrs. Clyde (Georgianna) Henderson and Mrs. Gary (Carol) Pierce, all of Monroe; a brother, Melvin of LaSalle, and 19 grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by two brothers, Howard and Gerald; a sister, Irene Wolfe, and two grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to St. John's Church or the Comboni Missionaries.

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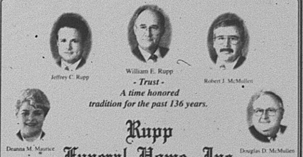

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Time's Going Fast

INCOME TAX APRIL 17

April 17 is fast approaching so it is time to think about opening an IRA or adding to your existing IRA to help reduce those taxes.

Rates on IRA CD's shown are as of 3/13/97 subject to change without notice. A penalty may be instituted by early withdrawal.

IRA CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT RATE

TERMS	RATE	APY
1 YR.	5.87%	6.00%
2 YR.	5.92%	6.05%
3 YR.	6.01%	6.15%
4 YR.	6.06%	6.20%
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Minimum CD amount is $500

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NCUA Equal Opportunity Lender

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27
2000

Specter of A

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — When Annie Newton puts her twins to bed, there are no goodnight kisses after nightly prayers.

She washes her hands before hugging the 10-year-old girls, and won't let them in the kitchen while she's cooking, for fear they might touch her blood if she cuts herself.

Newton doesn't have AIDS and she has tested negative for HIV, but, like millions of other sexual assault victims, she constantly fears the man who raped her gave her the deadly virus, which may not show itself until years after contact.

While Newton has been told that her attacker had AIDS, many other rape victims are left knowing only that the possibility exists.

Hundreds mourn dragged in car th

INDEPENDENCE, Mo. (AP) — Hundreds of mourners packed a church to say goodbye to a 6-year-old boy who died after being dragged along a highway as his mother's car was stolen.

About 800 people attended Friday's service for Jake Robel at St. Mark's Catholic Church.

They dabbed their eyes as soft music played in the background and slides of Jake were shown — from when he was an infant in the hospital to a recent Halloween outing when he dressed up as a werewolf.

"Jake has been described as a constant ball of energy, a bright light always shining," the Rev. Kevin Cameron said. "That light continues to shine."

Recalling the Halloween picture, pastor James Healy said, "That spark, that energy did not end on Tuesday."

Meanwhile, Jake's death has prompted a police review of a policy which allows a freed prisoner to catch a ride back to Independence from out-of-town jails.

GOP handgun raffl draws funds, critic

WESTMINSTER, Md. (AP) — A 66-year-old woman won a Beretta 9 mm semiautomatic pistol Saturday in a Republican Party raffle that that provoked opposition even within the party.

Helen Roop, a registered Republican and retired Carroll County finance department worker, opted for the handgun and shooting classes over the alternative first prize of $500. She must pass a background check before getting the pistol.

The fund-raiser for the rural county's Republican Central Committee succeeded beyond organizers' dreams, raising an estimated $13,000 for the party in Carroll County just west of Baltimore.

Handgun Control Inc., a Washington-based citizens advocacy group, considered the raffle "tasteless" and "inappropriate," spokesman Brian Morton said.

The event was criticized by some of the state's Republican leaders, including 1998 gubernatorial candidate Ellen Sauerbrey. Michael Steele, state GOP vice chairman, said it seemed "wrongheaded."

The raffle also prompted the resignation of Betty L. Smith, vice chairwoman of the Carroll County

Simpson sues compa over use of phone rec

LOS ANGELES (AP) — O.J. Simpson is suing a phone company over records he says show he couldn't have killed his ex-wife and her friend.

The lawsuit, filed this week in federal court, alleges that GTE Corp. violated Simpson's civil rights by refusing to turn over the phone records his lawyers subpoenaed a year ago. It says his ex-wife's parents have not provided written consent to release the records.

Although Simpson was acquitted at a criminal trial of killing Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman, he was found liable for the deaths in a civil trial.

The lawsuit seeks to prove that Nicole Brown Simpson was still alive and speaking to her mother, Juditha Brown, at 11 p.m. on June 12, 1994, the night she was killed. Testimony in his criminal trial placed the call at 9:37 p.m.

Simpson attorney Douglas E.

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Weather/Page 3A

Mr. Calm

Boyhood troubles shaped Henneman

Sports/Page 1B

A penchant for patches

Profile/Page 3A

Mexican deal no sellout

Editorial/Page 4A

The Monroe Evening News

164TH YEAR — NO. 197 (USPS 359-400) MONROE, MICH., TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 1989 35 CENTS

IN THE NEWS

Tall guy guards new gardens

EAST LANSING, Mich. (AP) — At 14 feet tall and 30 feet long, Wilbir stands out from other peacocks.

Of course, it's foliage, not plumage that Wilbir shows off, and he can't strut around and show off his tail because he's a peat sculpture.

He does, however, have 2,000 begonias blooming on his chest, head and tail, and has drawn some surprised looks at Michigan State University's new Horticulture Demonstration Gardens.

"When I first saw it, I thought it was a dinosaur," said Bobbie Haskell, who had come for an evening walk in the gardens.

"We put in the peacock to get a little attention and show how spectacular it's going to be," said Michigan State horticulture Professor Will Carlson.

Wilbir is short for "Will's Bird," after Carlson, who is in charge of the five-year garden construction project.

"It will be a world-class garden. It will probably be one of the finest in this country," he said.

When the gardens are finished in 1993, the flowers will bloom over 7½ acres and Wilbir will be the centerpiece of a circular entrance pavilion.

NATION

Secretary of State James Baker has made progress in talks with the Soviet Union and China. Page 8A.

Casual drug use is down in the U.S., but cocaine and crack addictions have grown, a drug abuse survey shows. Page 6B.

LOCAL

Turning waste to steam created a different kind of heat at Monday's Monroe city council meeting. Page 3A.

Mazda is seeking greater tax breaks from the City of Flat Rock. Page 3A.

SPORTS

Bedford outdefensed Ida Monday in a Monroe County Fair Girls Softball Tournament showdown. Page 1B.

Liz Renius is having a sterling summer in swimming. Page 3B.

Frank Viola has packed his bags and headed for the New York Mets. Page 3B.

WEATHER

Clear tonight; mostly sunny Wednesday. Low tonight, low 60s; high Wednesday, around 90. Details, Page 3A.

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More executions threatened

British, U.S. hostages named by captors

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Pro-Iranian extremists said they would kill another American hostage today, a day after kidnappers said they hanged a U.S. Marine, unless Israel frees a Shiite Moslem cleric it abducted.

Also today, a caller claiming to represent the group that kidnapped the Marine, Lt. Col. William R. Higgins, said a British hostage would be killed today unless the cleric was freed.

The deadline for an earlier telephoned threat against the Briton, Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite, passed this afternoon with no immediate word from the kidnappers.

The reported hanging and the threat today against American hostage Joseph James Cicippio presented President Bush with his first major hostage crisis.

On Monday, the pro-Iranian Shiite group that abducted Higgins, the Organization of the Oppressed on Earth, released a videotape of a man they said was Higgins dangling from a gallows.

JOSEPH CICIPPIO

TERRY WAITE

Higgins commanded a group of U.N. truce observers in south Lebanon when he was seized Feb. 17, 1988.

A second group of kidnappers later Monday said Cicippio would be killed if the Moslem cleric, Sheik Abdul Karim Obeid, was not freed by 6 p.m. today (11 a.m. EDT).

Israel has refused to release Obeid but has said it would swap him and other Shiite Moslem prisoners for three Israeli soldiers and other foreigners held hostage in Lebanon.

Cicippio's wife, Ilham, tearfully pleaded with his captors today to spare his life.

"Please don't execute him, please," she said at a news conference at the press center in east Beirut's Jedeideh area five hours before the deadline.

She read out a message to her husband: "Joe, I know the difficulty of the situation in which we are, but all I ask you is to keep your hopes high."

Cicippio, 58, of Norristown, Pa., was

See THREATS, Page 12

Bush considers U.S. response

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush today weighed U.S. options for responding to the reported hanging of Marine Lt. Col. William Higgins, and military action is "in the realm of the possible," an administration source said.

The official emphasized, however, that Bush had made no decision yet on a course of action.

Bush arrived at the Oval Office early today for an intelligence update on the situation in the Middle East. Kidnappers have threatened to kill another American hostage, Joseph James Cicippio, unless Israel releases a Moslem cleric by 11 a.m. EDT.

The U.S. official, who spoke on the

See BUSH, Page 12A

Evening News photo by Dona Stiefel

Post-fire demolition Crews from Homrich Wrecking, Inc. of Maybee clear away debris Monday as part of the demolition work at the Monroe Shopping Center. Most of the center was destroyed by an early morning fire June 1. The site is expected to be cleared of the rubble by early next week. Architects are preparing drawings for a replacement for the center.

Death report universally condemned

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Nations expressed horror, revulsion and skepticism today after a pro-Iranian group in Lebanon claimed it hanged Lt. Col. William R. Higgins because Israel refused to free a captured Shiite Moslem cleric.

The Soviet Union denounced the reported hanging and also faulted Israel for kidnapping Shiite Moslem cleric Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid.

In Tunis, an adviser to PLO chief Yasser Arafat denounced the reported execution of Higgins but said Israel bore the responsibility.

"We condemn the abduction of innocents and the taking of hostages and those who are the authors, and we condemn even more the State of Israel which practices state terrorism," Bassam Abu Sharif said.

Higgins' captors, who call themselves the Organization of the Oppressed on Earth, claimed they hanged Higgins on Monday because Israel refused to release Obeid.

Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Vadim Perfiliev read a brief statement saying, "We resolutely denounce this inhuman action.

"The fact that the aggravation of the situation in Lebanon, caused specifically by the abduction of Shiite leader Sheikh Obeid by Israeli commandos, has led to an escalation of acts of violence and terror, evokes profound concern," the statement said.

Condemnation of the purported hanging was widespread.

"It's an absolutely barbaric act, consistent with the worst dimensions of terrorism," said Prime Minister Brian Mulroney of Canada said of the Higgins death claim.

Japan condemned the reported hanging as "extremely shameful and inhuman."

The U.N. Security Council unanimously adopted a resolution that "condemns unequivocally all acts of hostage-taking and abduction."

Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar expressed "outrage and revulsion ... that an innocent man, serving the United Nations in the cause of peace, should be murdered in this fashion."

Higgins, of Danville, Ky., led a 75-man observer team attached to the U.N. peacekeeping force in south Lebanon when

See REACTION, Page 12A

Ohio firm plans large store for Frenchtown mall

By CHARLES SLAT
Evening News staff writer

Phar-Mor, a deep-discount drug and variety chain based in Youngstown, Ohio, said it intends to open a 56,000 square-foot store in Monroe sometime in early 1990 as an addition to the Frenchtown Square mall.

"It looks like the spring of 1990," said Carol Robinson, vice president of advertising and public relations for Phar-Mor.

The store is proposed for the north end of the mall next to the Sears store. It would be a bit larger than the Sears store, about the size of the Elder-Beerman store in the mall.

Phar-Mor stores typically employ 100 to 120 persons and emphasize its pharmacy and inventory of health and beauty aids, Ms. Robinson said.

But the Phar-Mor stores also offer cosmetics, greeting cards, non-perishable groceries, auto supplies, video rental, books and tapes and housewares, Ms. Robinson said.

Using a technique called "Power Buying," the chain purchases huge volumes of brand-name merchandise direct from manufacturers at the best possible price, keeping mark-ups low so that the bulk-buying savings can be passed to shoppers.

But the selective buying method also means the store doesn't feel compelled to stock every size, style or product 'everyday, Ms. Robinson said.

The privately held company was founded in Niles, Ohio in 1982 and now has 128 stores in 18 states. There are a dozen stores in the Chicago-area and most of the others are east of the Mississippi.

The Monroe store will be the company's first venture in Michigan.

Ms. Robinson said she expected construction to get under way soon.

Hurricane Chantal lashes gulf coast near Galveston

HIGH ISLAND, Texas (AP) — Chantal, the Atlantic season's first hurricane, whipped the Gulf Coast today with heavy rain and winds as high as 80 mph, forcing thousands to flee inland and frustrating the search for 10 men from a capsized oil rig.

Many residents waited out the storm, which moved ashore about 8:15 a.m. with winds that just barely qualified it as a hurricane.

"We get worse thunderstorms than this," said Betty Barrow, a 28-year resident who remained on High Island. "People are always casual about these things here. The old-timers don't worry about these things; they just stay."

The storm was blamed for the death of an oil rig worker lost off the Louisiana coast. Ten other oil workers were missing after their rig capsized while they were heading inland Monday to escape the storm, and swells up to 25 feet forced the Coast Guard to call off the search.

Coastal Louisiana and Texas received 5 inches or more of rain Monday and could receive 10 to 15 inches in the next two days, the National Weather Service said. Tornadoes were likely in Louisiana and eastern Texas.

Chantal hit land near High Island, midway between Galveston and Port Arthur, said the National Hurricane Center in Coral Gables, Fla. Winds of at least 39 mph extended 150 miles to the north and 125 miles to the south of the storm center.

At Galveston, 1,000 people were evacuated from an area of the city

See HURRICANE, Page 12A

Gozza leaving development post for similar position in Florida

Peter F. Gozza, the City of Monroe's economic development director, will be leaving for a new job in Pinellas Park, Fla., at the end of August.

Mr. Gozza confirmed this morning that he had accepted the job of executive director of Pinellas Park's Community Redevelopment Agency.

The decision to leave Monroe took a lot of soul-searching, he said.

"If this hadn't been such a great offer, we'd still be here, I'm sure," Mr. Gozza said this morning.

Mr. Gozza came to Monroe from Liberty, N.Y., in August, 1986, to serve as Monroe's first downtown manager for the Downtown Development Authority. He took over the reins of the community development department in October, 1987.

Mr. Gozza said he told City Manager James R. Wilhelm that, because of ongoing development in Monroe, he would stay through August and do anything he could to make the transition smoother.

Currently, the city's community development department is involved in River Raisin Run, a $50 million industrial, commercial and residential project proposed by Fortuna Development of Toledo, and a marina on the River Raisin, among other projects.

Pinellas Park, with a population of

See GOZZA, Page 12A

LATE NEWS BRIEF

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Democratic-controlled Senate Judiciary Committee refused today in a 7-7 tie vote to recommend confirmation of William Lucas as the nation's top civil rights enforcer.

The committee also rejected a proposal to send the nomination to the full Senate without a recommendation.

The action, mainly along party lines, leaves Lucas' nomination to head the civil rights division of the Justice Department in doubt. (Earlier story, Page 5A.)

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AP Laserphoto

The best of the worst Jason Koch, 13, of Salisbury, Mass., holds up something rotten in the state of Massachusetts. Jason won the Eastern Regional Rotten Sneaker Contest Sunday, and he and his 3-year-old sneakers will advance to the International Rotten Sneaker Contest in Montpellor, Vt.

Grand Island eyed as recreation area

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House has voted to grant national recreation-area status to the island off Michigan's northern coast that inspired Henry W. Longfellow's poem "The Song of Hiawatha."

If enacted, the bill would require the U.S. Forest Service to develop a plan for managing Grand Island. It would ban timber harvesting and mineral development in the recreation area. The 13,500-acre island is off the Upper Peninsula about 30 miles east of Marquette.

The bill would make Grand Island "more accessible to the public to enjoy its natural beauty and recreational values," said Rep. Dale Kildee, a Flint, Mich., Democrat, after the measure cleared the House on a voice vote Monday. "This is an important step in preserving this jewel in Lake Superior."

Rep. Bob Davis, a Gaylord, Mich., Republican whose district includes the Upper Peninsula, initially opposed the bill, saying enough Michigan land was publicly owned.

He said the latest version was acceptable because it envisions "a better balance of both environmental and developmental concerns."

The bill, expected to be introduced in the Senate this week, calls on Congress to spend $10 million to buy Grand Island and establish a lodge, educational facility, campsites, trails and public docking facilities there. It also seeks a transportation linkup with the mainland.

A spending bill that cleared the House July 12 included $3.5 million to begin acquiring the land. A Senate budget bill approved last week didn't include the expenditure.

Supporters will push for the funding when a joint conference committee develops a compromise spending package.

Most of the island is undeveloped, although it has some roads and summer houses. It is home to a variety of wildlife including bear, fox, grouse and deer.

Torch ignites attic fire

OTTAWA LAKE — Workers using a torch accidentally ignited an attic fire that left black soot but no injuries Monday at the Hardy & Dischinger Co. in Ottawa Lake.

The fire broke out around 9:45 a.m. when heat or sparks channeled up the wall, said Chief Robert Dickerson of the Ottawa Lake Volunteer Fire Department. His crews were on the scene about an hour.

Employees at the piping company used extinguishers to control the fire, he said. The aluminum-constructed building is at 8511 Brown St.

No estimate on damages was available.

Meeting delayed

The Raisinville Township Board's regular meeting scheduled for tonight has been pushed back to 8 p.m. Thursday.

The board will meet in the township hall, 96 Ida-Maybee Rd.

Health van offers medical transportation

Residents 60 and older can receive round trips to a doctor, hospital or dentist for as little as $5 under the Health Van program.

The non-emergency program serves county residents of all ages, but its focus is on the south-county area. Telephone exchanges in that area are 856, 847 and 848.

Fares vary depending upon age and destination. People unable to pay can still be serviced. Their fee is paid by the Commission on Aging and the county Department of Social Services.

Other residents probably will pay $15 per round trip. However, a $1 per mile charge will be added for trips outside the county, including those to Ann Arbor and Toledo.

The van is equipped with a wheelchair lift. It was donated in January by Glass City Medical Supplies of Oregon, Ohio.

The program is part of Bedford Community Education. It began this winter and recently hired its first program director, Patricia K. Forsyth.

Ms. Forsyth is in charge of dispatching calls, coordination and promotion. Her position is funded through Area Agency on Aging 1-B, based in Southfield.

To make a reservation, persons may call 847-8000 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Reservations are expected to be made 48 hours in advance.

Health Van has been averaging up to five residents per week. It often stays with the person at the scene if the visit is less than one hour.

If space permits, adults can be accompanied by a companion. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

When making a call, residents are asked to provide this information: accurate directions, type of special assistance that may be needed, time of appointment and personal information (address, age).

The Health Van program was the first to begin operating in the county. In April, the Monroe County Opportunity Program began operating its own specialized transportation service program.

It works much the same way. A $5 donation is requested, and advance notice is required. Its primary purpose is to get people to medical appointments outside the county.

To make a reservation with MCOP, persons may call 241-2775.

Taiwan opens office in D.C.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Taiwan's chief government spokesman used the opening of an information center to highlight differences between his government and China's.

With China's crackdown on the democracy movement, "the truth is finally coming out of the cruel nature of communism," said Shaw Yu-ming, director-general of Government Information.

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Internation
bicycling th

Local communities in
Ohio, Michigan and the
of Ontario will have the o
ty this week to cheer on
from the United Sta
Canada as they cycle thro
towns with the India
Scarborough Peace Gam
beginning Wednesday.

The 10-person Little
Pizza Torch Ride cycli
will carry the torch signi
opening of the 1989 Peac
to be held Saturday and S
Scarborough, Ontario.

The cyclists will be
through 35 cities on their
to the Peace Games. T
schedule for Thursday wi
Blissfield, 3:15 a.m.; De
a.m.; Petersburg, 5:3

POLICE

Thief arrested another sough

A witness prevented a s
from escaping, then help
arrest her accomplice Su
ternoon.

The theft occurred a
Shack, 12425 S. Dixie Hwy
p.m. An employee told
deputies that a man and
entered the store. While
diverted the employee's a
the woman grabbed a v
corder case and ran out the

Reports showed the e
asked a witness outside t
to watch the woman, who
car, while police were
called. The man then came
tried to drive away.

Police said the witness
roe man, grabbed the ma
and pulled him from the
ran off. The woman, me
started to drive away. The
punched the car window,
ing it and hurting his arm.

Police said she also ra
ties came to the scene a
the help of the witness, sp
man at a nearby telephon
He was taken into custo
lodged in the county jail.

Police are searching
woman. The item stolen f
store was found in the ca
was impounded. The witn
treated in Mercy Memoria
tal for cuts to his arm.

Boy falls from window

A 3-year-old boy fell 12 f
W. Front St. this morning
serious but stable cond
Mercy Memorial Hospital.

The boy, Bobby Jo Cra
from a second-floor windo
31 W. Front. Witnesses
boy bounced up in the ai
hitting the pavement a
time.

Monroe police are investi

Stolen truck found

A pickup truck stolen fr
Wilkinson II of Monroe wa
at E. Third and Eastches
Sunday afternoon.

Monroe police reported
Chevrolet had been taken
the weekend. The cap, tailg
a spare tire were missing.

Arrest made

Police arrested a man w
causing a disturbance
Greenwood Apartments ea
morning.

Monroe police went to t
plex about 1:30 a.m. and fo
man pounding on a door
said the man had been
from the area by the ap
owner. The man was lodge
county jail.

Pigs taken, slaughtered

Two pigs stolen from a C
farm were found slau
nearby Sunday night.

John Bruck told sheriff'
ties the swine had been tak
his barn on S. Stony Cre
Police said the pigs' remai
found across the road in a
tery.

ACCIDENT

Six injured in Milan crash

Five people sought h
treatment and a sixth was
hurt when their cars coll
Dennison and Milwaukee
Milan, at 7:30 p.m. Saturday

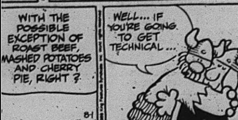
Five people in one ca
treated in St. Joseph Mercy
tal, Ann Arbor. They we
driver, Frederick K. Shears
Belleville; Antonia Vandeve
Cynthia Vandevelde, 22;
Edmond, 2, and Christin
mond, 18, all of Adrian.

The other driver, To
Briggs, 22, of Dundee, was
treatment on his own for
injuries.

Sheriff's deputies report
Shears car was eastbou

GOODNESS, YOUR BOOK MUST BE FILLED WITH ALL KINDS OF EMOTIONS
YES, AND I CAN'T WAIT TILL I GET TO PAGE TWO

YOU DON'T LISTEN WELL, DO YOU?
MORT WALKER


WITH THE POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF ROAST BEEF, MASHED POTATOES AND CHERRY PIE, RIGHT?
WELL... IF YOU'RE GOING TO GET TECHNICAL...
8-1

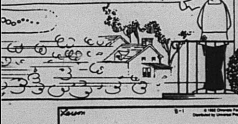
...A... BUT I GET MY PERSONALIZED ...ET PROTECTOR!
HEAR THAT, KIDDOS? YOUR DADDY'S GETTING A POCKET LINER WITH A BIG ZERO ON IT.

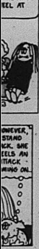
MAYBE THERE IS SOMETHING TO THIS "REINCARNATION" IDEA--- I KNOW I COME BACK TO LIFE EVERY DAY AT 5 O'CLOCK!
8-1
THAVES

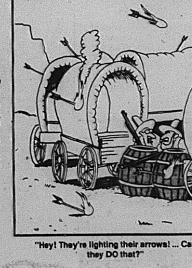
WHAT WAS THAT SOUND? HEY...?!!
SURPRISE!
THAT LEAVES TWO STILL STANDING, FANG!
GRUFF!
8-1

IT'S AN OPEN HOUSE.
SOMETHING TELLS ME IT'S NOT OPEN ENOUGH. EVERY ROOM SMELLS LIKE--
CATS.
MAYBE THAT'S WHAT THEY MEAN IN THE DESCRIPTION BY "AN ATMOSPHERE ALL ITS OWN."
Lynn

GOOD HEAVENS, WHAT KIND OF SICKO WOULD BRAINWASH AN INFANT?! AND WHAT DID I KNOW THAT SOMEONE WANTED ME TO FORGET ??
BOY, AM I MYSTERIOUS.
I SEEM TO RECALL YOU SPENT MOST OF THE TIME BURPING UP.


...AND DRINKS INSTANT COFFEE FOR BREAKFAST, SKATEBOARDS ...EXPRESS BUS AND STILL CAN'T MAKE IT TO WORK ON TIME!


I ALREADY ...EEL AT
...OWEVER, ...STAND ...ACK. SHE ...EELS AN ...TTACK ...MING ON.



"Hey! They're lighting their arrows! ... Can they DO that?"

AUG 1 1989

Poles brace for free market

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — Price controls and meat rationing ended today and Poles braced for soaring food prices, the bitter cost of the government's bold, swift push toward a free-market economy.

Also today, Solidarity leader Lech Walesa called for opposition lawmakers in parliament's lower house, or Sejm, to vote against the ruling Communist Party's nominee for prime minister, Gen. Czeslaw Kiszczak.

The brief statement was issued just minutes before the lawmaking body was to meet to consider the nomination.

Walesa's statement said he would have supported Kiszczak — the country's top law officer — for president, but: "I am against Gen. Kiszczak's candidacy for prime minister."

The statement did not elaborate, but Walesa has urged President Wojciech Jaruzelski to acede to the popular will and let Solidarity form a government. The free trade union movement won overwhelming electoral approval in June.

If elected, Kiszczak will have to deal with growing social tensions prompted by rising costs that are anticipated because of the government's decision to lift price controls.

Shoppers stood in lines for hours Monday to try to take advantage of the last day of artificially low food prices, but many came up empty-handed.

The Solidarity-led opposition movement opposed the abrupt lifting of price controls, arguing that it could plunge the country into turmoil. Consumer goods are scarce and annual inflation has topped 100 percent.

The new pricing policy took effect a day after the Communist Party named Kiszczak its candidate to lead the next government.

Newly appointed party chief Mieczyslaw F. Rakowski, the outgoing prime minister, recommended that Kiszczak succeed him.

As party chief, Rakowski succeeded Jaruzelski, who parliament elected by a one-vote margin to the powerful new post of president last month.

Kiszczak, interior minister since 1981, is known as a Jaruzelski loyalist. He represented authorities in April talks with Walesa that resulted in the free trade union movement's reinstatement after a seven-year ban and Poland's freest elections in seven decades.

Kiszczak told The Associated Press Monday that if approved, he is not sure how long it would him take to form a government.

"It is not an easy task," he said. "You have to satisfy many sides. It may be a week or two."

FROM PAGE 1A

Bush (cont.)

condition he not be identified, said "nothing has been ruled out" in response to the reported execution of Higgins by his Shiite Moslem kidnappers on Monday.

As for the possibility of military action, the source said, "It's in the realm of the possible."

"No one is tilted in that direction. It's on the menu. No one's ordered it ... We're not leaning necessarily toward anything," said the official. "People are discussing the options. We are not at the specific choosing stage."

The source said there was still no final confirmation that Higgins was the person seen hanging in the videotape released by the kidnappers.

The reported execution of Higgins touched off the first foreign policy crisis of the Bush administration. It also led the president to criticize Israel's abduction of a Shiite Moslem cleric from Lebanon on Friday. Higgins' kidnappers cited the Israeli action in announcing the American's execution by hanging.

"On Friday, I said that the taking of any hostage was not helpful to the Middle East peace process. The brutal and tragic events of today have underscored the validity of that statement," Bush said Monday night.

With Shiite groups in Lebanon threatening to kill more hostages unless the cleric, Sheik Abdul Karim Obeid, is released, Bush called on "all parties who hold hostages in the Middle East to release them forthwith."

But Israel refused, saying it would trade Obeid for hostages held by Shiite groups.

Administration officials said Ambassador William Brown met with a top Israeli official early today to discuss the situation.

Bush cut short a two-day Western trip on Monday and returned to Washington after learning that Higgins' captors had released a videotape they said showed his execution. The president met with his top advisers before briefing congressional leaders Monday night.

While Bush publicly said he had no independent confirmation of Higgins' death, Senate Republican leader Bob Dole said the president told the lawmakers that "it's about a 98 percent probability" that Higgins had indeed been killed.

Senate Intelligence Committee Chairman David Boren, D-Okla., said Bush was considering "several options" to respond to Higgins' death. But like other lawmakers at Monday night's meeting, he declined to identify them.

Earlier, Dole, R-Kan., had criticized Israel for its role in touching off the crisis. Declaring that Israel launched the commando raid to abduct Obeid without forewarning the United States, Dole said, "Perhaps a little more responsibility on behalf of the Israelis would be refreshing."

At the White House, spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said, without elaborating, "It's fair to say that many people do share the senator's concerns."

Israeli officials rejected criticism of their commando raid, saying Obeid had helped plan and carry out several terrorist operations including Higgins' kidnapping in February, 1988. Rep. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., said blaming Israel for Higgins' death would be "turning the world on its head."

One administration source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said U.S. officials had more meetings planned on the crisis, and it was premature to say Bush had ruled out military retaliation or rescue missions.

The White House made clear to congressional leaders that the United States had been kept in the dark about Israel's plan to kidnap Obeid on Friday, according to one lawmaker who attended the briefing.

Israel says Obeid is a leader of a pro-Iranian group that is holding foreign hostages in Lebanon. An Israeli Army spokesman said Obeid admitted he was involved in Higgins' kidnapping.

The lawmakers who left the White House Monday evening said the president was still trying to gather the facts.

"The president made it very clear until the facts are known, at least more facts than we have now, there's no way you can make a definitive decision," said Rep. William L. Dickinson, R-Ala.

Gozza (cont.)

44,000, is located north of St. Petersburg, Fla. Mr. Gozza's job will be "not a whole lot different" from what he's doing now, he said.

He will be the first executive director of the Florida city's redevelopment agency, which has designated about 1,400 acres of older and blighted areas within its city limits to be redeveloped.

PETER GOZZA

Mr. Gozza said he decided to take the job after he and his wife went to look at the area.

"When you work in such a public position as this, it's always wise to kind of keep your resume in the mainstream, in case something happened," Mr. Gozza said. "This opportunity presented itself."

Hurricane (cont.)

unprotected by a seawall.

Chantal knocked out power on High Island shortly after 7 a.m., but the few businesses in town remained open—including a grocery where Ms. Barrow was on duty. She said the storm has been good for business as residents stocked up on canned goods, bottled water and batteries.

Some residents who waited overnight expecting a later landfall were chased by wind and rising water from their homes on Bolivar Peninsula, which separates Galveston Bay from the Gulf. High Island is a town just north of the peninsula.

As Chantal churned across the Gulf, Tropical Storm Dean swirled to life over the Atlantic late Monday. Dean had top sustained winds of 50 mph and was centered about 775 miles east of the Lesser Antilles, moving west at about 17 mph.

LOTTERIES

Monday Daily
614
Monday Daily-4
1411
OHIO LOTTERY
Monday Pick 3 Numbers
082
Monday Pick 4 Numbers
6636

Reaction (cont.)

he was abducted near Tyre on Feb. 17, 1988.

Timur Goksel, spokesman for U.N. peacekeeping forces in Lebanon, said "If it's true, it's one of the saddest days for all peacekeepers in the world."

British Foreign Secretary John Major said in London that, if the reports were true, "this is cold-blooded murder, brazen savagery of the worst sort and quite unforgivable."

Syria, which supported Iran in its war with Iraq, said: "Killing Higgins, who was not guilty of anything, is a crime that violates all humanitarian principles and norms."

Iran did not comment immediately on the death report.

Earlier, Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said the threat to Higgins "has nothing to do with us," but added that Israel should be pressed to release Obeid. "We condemn any kind of kidnapping or death threat," he said.

Many officials questioned the truth of the claim that Higgins was killed Monday, which was accompanied by a poor-quality videotape showing a man hanging from a scaffold.

There have been reports that his captors killed the American last year.

Nasouh Majali, Jordan's information minister, said of the reported kiling: "This is horrible." Before the report, Majali called the abduction of Obeid "an act of terror."

The Israelis "are condemning terror and they are using the same means," he said.

Foreign Minister Sten Andersson of Sweden said killing Higgins was "a heinous crime" that should be condemned along with Obeid's abduction.

Threats (cont.)

acting comptroller at the American University of Beirut when he was kidnapped on the campus on Sept. 12, 1986. Mrs. Cicippio, 34, works at the American Embassy in east Beirut and lives on the campus.

The Revolutionary Justice Organization issued its threat to kill Cicippio in a note, handwritten in Arabic and delivered to the newspaper An-Nahar.

The group did not mention Edward Austin Tracy, 58, of Burlington, Vt., another American hostage it claims to hold. Tracy disappeared in October, 1986.

This morning, an anonymous caller claiming to speak for Oppressed on Earth said in a call to a Beirut radio station that Waite would be killed by midnight (5 p.m. EDT) unless Israel frees Obeid.

There was no way to determine the authenticity of the threat, made to the Moslem-controlled Voice of the Nation.

In Nicosia, Cyprus, an anonymous caller claiming to speak for the group told The Associated Press on Monday that the group would kill Waite at 3 p.m. (8 a.m. EDT) today, but the deadline passed with no immediate word from the captors.

It could not be immediately verified if that caller was from the organization, which had not made previous calls to the AP office in Cyprus.

Waite, 50, disappeared Jan. 20, 1987, while seeking the release of foreign hostages after leaving his west Beirut hotel to neotiate with Islamic Jihad. He is believed held by Islamic Jihad, though no group has claimed responsibility.

Higgins' reported hanging was clouded by doubt because of previous reports that he may have been killed months ago.

Search under way for boater

SOUTH ROCKWOOD — Divers were sent to Pointe Mouille state game area this morning to search for a missing boater.

Police said two boaters were in Banana Bay about 9:45 a.m. and one came back to shore. It was unclear how the boater made it back.

As of 11:40 a.m., the marine division of the the Monroe County Sheriff's Department were launching search boats in the bay.

Other details of the incident were unavailable.

Forest fires in four states not letting up

By The Associated Press

Thousands of soldiers and firefighters from Alaska to Florida mobilized today to help battle fires that had charred nearly 140,000 acres in four Western states with no sign of letting up.

World War II-era bombers swooped to treetop level to drop fire retardant over Idaho's fires, and helicopters dumped huge buckets of water.

Nearly all of the West's forest firefighting crews were on front lines in Idaho, Oregon, California and Washington, prompting the call for help from elsewhere, said strategists at the Boise Interagency Fire Center directing the fire fights.

Crews from 19 states had arrived in the region by early today, including 525 firefighters from Alaska. They joined 9,800 firefighters already on the lines.

These fires were still no match to last year's, the most expensive ever in firefighting costs, but forecasters said a dry August with lightning strikes could rapidly escalate the damage. Fires have charred more than 1.3 million acres this year in the contiguous United States, compared with 2.1 million acres by this time last year.

Lightning last week set many of the blazes.

MARKETS

Prices higher in early trading

NEW YORK (AP) — Stock prices rose in early trading today, adding to the strong gains of recent sessions.

The Dow Jones average of 30 industrial stocks was up 13.09 at 2,673.75, closing to within 50 points of its record high.

Traders took confidence from signs of declining interest rates. Bond prices rallied on Monday and the price gains continued early in today's trading.

Today the Commerce Department added to evidence that the economy was sluggish by announcing that construction spending in June fell 0.8 percent, following a rise of 0.6 percent in May. The May increase had originally been estimated at 1.3 percent.

Advancing issues outnumbered declining ones about 5 to 3 on the New York Stock Exchange, with 561 stocks higher, 342 unchanged and 502 unchanged.

	Closed Mon.	Noon Today
Amoco	46⅝	46⅝
American Tel. and Tel.	40⅝	40⅝
Centerior Energy	17⅞	17⅞
Chrysler	24⅝	24½
CMS Holding	35	34⅝
CSX	34¾	34½
Detroit Edison	21½	21⅝
Dow Chemical	90¼	90⅝
Eastman Kodak	48¼	48¼
First of America	48½	48¾
Ford Motor	49⅞	49⅞
General Electric	58½	58⅝
General Motors	44⅞	45
General Tel. and El.	59⅝	60
Hills Dept. Stores	8½	8½
IBM	115	115½
Jefferson Smurfit	29¼	29¼
Kmart	42	41⅞
La-Z-Boy Chair Co.	21½	21½
Paramount Comm.	59	58⅞
Penney, J.C.	60⅝	60
Peoples (PSBX)	17-17¼	
Perry Drugs	11½	11½
Pfizer	65	64½
Sears Roebuck	46⅝	46⅞
Seaway Food Town	25	25
Tenneco	59⅞	59¾
Tri Nova	27	27½
Union Camp	35⅝	35
USX	20¾	20⅞
Utilicorp	38¼	38⅝
Woolworth	60	59½

(Courtesy of The Ohio Co.)

Local cash grain

Unisource Foods

	Mon. 9 a.m.	Tue. 9 a.m.
No. 2 White Wheat	$3.63	$3.59
No. 2 Red Wheat	$3.68	$3.64
Corn	$2.43	$2.36
Oats 34 lb. bu	$1.75	$1.75
Soybeans	$6.56	$6.38

Prices are subject to change.

Eggs

DETROIT (AP) — Detroit loose egg prices for Monday: jumbo 72-75, extra large 64-69, large 63-67, medium 49-54, small 31-36.

DEATHS

Cecil Bornstein

Cecil Bornstein, 84, of Monroe, a land developer in the area for more than 30 years before retiring about 1980, died at 6:25 this morning in Mercy Memorial Hospital, where he had been since June 29.

There will be no visitation. Services will be at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday in the Ira Kaufman Chapel, Southfield, with Rabbi Harold Loss of Temple Israel, West Bloomfield, officiating. Burial will be in Clover Hill Park Cemetery, Birmingham.

Born Nov. 6, 1904, in Shamokin, Pa., he was the son of Joseph and Annie (Caplan) Bornstein.

In the Army in World War II, he served in the field artillery.

Mr. Bornstein located and built the Newport Post Office, and promoted a Lake Erie Transportation bus run into Berlin Township. In 1980, he presented to the Monroe City Council his idea to organize a shuttle bus system that would alleviate downtown Monroe's parking problems. The plan would have been a new kind of shuttle bus service which would connect shopping areas. However, Mr. Bornstein's plans were never realized in Monroe.

Mr. Bornstein also was the developer of the Newport Woods apartments.

He is survived by a sister, Dorothy Elconin of Connecticut, and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by two brothers and a sister.

Memorials may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

Edna L. Dusseau

LANSING — Edna L. Dusseau, 78, of Lansing, formerly of Erie, died Saturday morning in a Lansing hospital, where she had been a short time. She had been ill a year.

Services were Monday in St. Gerard Catholic Church, and burial followed in St. Joseph Cemetery in Lansing.

Mrs. Dusseau was the daughter of Joseph and Amelia (Deshetler) Ravary. She married Aloysius B. Dusseau in 1935 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Erie, of which she was a member. Mr. Dusseau preceded her in death in 1984.

She had attended St. Joseph Catholic School in Erie and graduated from the 12th grade there in 1928.

Surviving are 3 sons, a daughter, a brother, Edmund Ravary of Erie, and 10 grandchildren.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by a sister, Gladys LaPointe; a brother, Howard Ravary, and two infant brothers.

George A. Calder

George A. Calder, 75, of Mable H. Kehres Apartments, 15275 S. Dixie Hwy., who retired in 1983 as an auto mechanic for several auto firms in Detroit, died at 9:55 p.m. Monday in Mercy Memorial Hospital. He had been in poor health for three years and in the hospital about six weeks.

GEORGE A. CALDER

Friends may call after 1 p.m. Wednesday in the Earle Little Funeral Home, where services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday. The Rev. Harry Betts, who is affiliated with the United Bible Spiritual Association of America, will officiate. Burial will be in Roselawn Memorial Park, LaSalle.

Born July 12, 1914, in Buffalo, N.Y., he was the son of Andrew and Florence Calder. He was married Dec. 28, 1945, to Peggy Wray in Detroit. They came to the Monroe area in 1977 from Detroit.

Mr. Calder also worked as a security guard for Consolidated Packaging Corp. for two years at one time.

He served in the Army during World War II and was a life member of Donald M. Squier Post 3943, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Newport. He was a past member of Carl F. Payson Post 60, American Legion.

Surviving are his wife; a daughter, Mrs. William (Patricia) Duford of Detroit; a sister, Mrs. Rabina McPeek of New York; five grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a brother, William, and a daughter, Lillian Ruth Calder.

Elsie A. Kettinger

WHITTIER, Calif. — Mrs. Elsie A. Kettinger, 81, formerly of Monroe, died at 7:15 a.m. Friday in Whittier.

Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at West Ida Immanuel Lutheran Church Cemetery, Ida, with the Rev. Dana R. Runestad, pastor, officiating. The Rupp Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Born Dec. 13, 1907, in Ida Township, she was the daughter of Carl and Clara (Orns) Lapp. She was married June 20, 1928, to Ernest Kettinger in the West Ida Church. Mr. Kettinger died Nov. 25, 1959.

Mrs. Kettinger had been a member of the West Ida Church and the Women's Relief Corps.

Surviving are a son, Harlan C. of Monroe; a daughter, Mrs. Gary (Velva) Nichols of Carson City, Nev.; a brother, Harris Lapp of Monroe, seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

She also was preceded in death by a brother, Irvin Lapp.

Standoff ends; gunman gives up

DETROIT (AP) — A Detroit man surrendered to police Monday after holding officers at bay for almost 18 hours, during which he shot up a police car and fired at a police helicopter.

Police arrested Joseph Smith, 50, at 3:21 p.m., said Sgt. Christopher Buck.

Smith opened fire on police from the neighboring city of Highland Park when they arrived at his house about 9:45 p.m. Sunday to arrest him on a charge of assault with intent to murder, officials said.

Travel warning issued for Kenya

WASHINGTON (AP) — American travelers are being warned about visiting Kenya following the slaying of a Connecticut woman ambushed during a wildlife tour last week.

In a travel advisory issued Monday, the State Department said there have been "a few instances of attacks on tourists" in Kenya.

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SPORTS

- Sports at a Glance, Page 2B
- Local Sports, Page 3B

SPORTLIGHTS

Bowman, Cisco used regularly

EAST LANSING — Derek Bowman of Erie Mason and Zeke Cisco of Jefferson each played almost half of the game for the East All-Stars Saturday in the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association All-Star matchup.

The East jumped out to a huge early lead before hanging on for a 31-26 victory.

Cisco, a quarterback and defensive back at Jefferson, was used on all specialty teams and in the secondary. He had two tackles and tipped a pass which led to an East interception.

"They had burned us on the same play earlier in the game so I was ready for it," Cisco said.

Bowman started the game at cornerback and was in on four tackles.

DuBois is loser in Toledo debut

SCRANTON, Pa. — Detroit's prize in a trade which sent veteran Keith Moreland to Baltimore was almost good enough in his Toledo pitching debut in the Class AAA International League.

Left-hander Brian DuBois gave up seven hits, walked two and struck out five in seven innings of a 2-0 loss to Scranton-Wilkes Barre. Former Tiger Randy O'Neal (4-4) stopped the Mud Hens on a six-hitter.

Knee problems retire Ackerman

DETROIT — Channel 4 finally has answered the question of what happened to veteran broadcaster Al Ackerman.

The station announced Ackerman's retirement and the hiring of Channel 2's Fred McLeod to take his place.

In his mid-60s, Ackerman hasn't worked since mid-January because of a knee problem. He is scheduled for surgery Wednesday in Florida.

Lions attempting to woo public

PONTIAC — The Detroit Lions of the National Football League intend to pull out all the stops in an attempt to bring crowds back to the Pontiac Silverdome.

First step is a free and open-to-the-public Meet the Lions Day starting at 1 p.m. Sunday in the Silverdome.

There will be a "Restore the Roar" feature film, introductions of players and coaches, an autograph session, gifts and refreshments.

Larry Bird finds medical miracle

WALTHAM, Mass. (AP) — Larry Bird made a surprise, if stiff, return to the basketball court within 48 hours of fracturing a bone in his back and prompting forecasts that it would be four to six weeks before he could play again.

Inner courage

Henneman learned about it as a boy

By HARRY ATKINS
AP Sports Writer

DETROIT (AP) — From the alley behind Biggie Burger's in his hometown to the big leagues, Mike Henneman has been fearless and slow to show emotion, perfect makeup for a relief pitcher.

The Tigers have baseball's worst record at 36-67. Even Henneman's first All Star appearance was a downer. He didn't play, but no reaction.

Then there are the injuries and bad luck. Henneman is 7-4 with only two saves and a 4.68 earned-run-average. Through it all, lots of internal frustration. No fear.

He says his courage comes, at least in part, from repeated beatings he received from long-haired hippies behind an apartment complex near his boyhood home in Festus, Mo.

"I used to get my butt kicked. This is a weird story," Henneman says. "We lived on top of a hill in a subdivision and there were two apartment complexes next door. You'd walk down the hill and go between the apartments to get to a place called Biggie Burger. It was just a small little joint and I'd go up there all the time and drop a quarter in and listen to some music and eat a couple burgers. But to get there ...

"A lot of guys were doing drugs, smoking and stuff in between the two apartments. They loved to just beat the crap out of me. So they did. I'd always get mad. But I'd always have a rag in my pocket because I knew I was going to get the crap beat out of me. They were jerks."

Before long — it seemed like an eternity at the time — Henneman began to grow. He was 6 inches taller, developed muscles and got into sports. He became a Tai Kwan Do black belt.

He went back to the apartments and cleaned the clocks of the long hairs, depositing the ring leader in a green dumpster.

"That's a lot of why there's no fear in me and I come up and in on a lot of hitters," Henneman says. "If they're going to come out (to the mound), fine, because I don't give a rip.

"I've never been fearful of anyone. But those guys (behind the apartments) are the ones that made me that way because I had to keep everything in."

Henneman had been keeping his emotions locked up long before he learned to fight. As an adopted child, he was perfectly happy with adoptive parents but wondered what it was that made his real parents get rid of him.

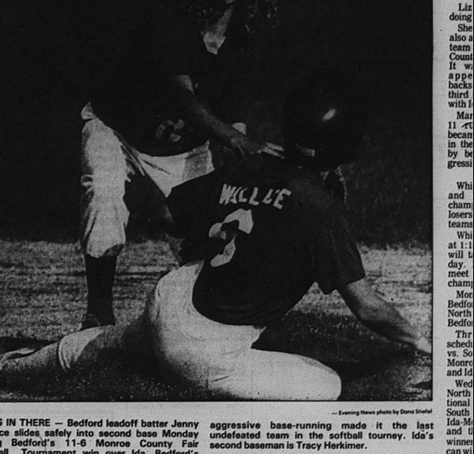
In a stressful job like relief pitching, emotional control is a blessing. Like most anything else, it comes at a price.

"I have never shown emotion my whole life," Henneman says. "I can feel it though. Lord, I'm about to have an ulcer. It's just the way I've always been. I've always kept everything in."

It cost him a girlfriend in high school.

"I'll never forget it," he says. "I've got it in my yearbook at the house. She wrote a big, long page, something about, 'You're a nice person and all but for anyone ever to get to know you in a relationship that works, you're going to have to show your emotions. You'll have to show what you feel inside.' I told her to take a hike."

Bedford conquers Ida to take driv



— Evening News photo by Dona Stiefel

SHE'S IN THERE — Bedford leadoff batter Jenny Wallace slides safely into second base Monday during Bedford's 11-6 Monroe County Fair Softball Tournament win over Ida. Bedford's aggressive base-running made it the last undefeated team in the softball tourney. Ida's second baseman is Tracy Herkimer.

Fair Tournaments bring out a wide range o

Fair Tournament — It's my Old Home Weeks at the current Monroe County Fair Little League Boys Baseball and Girls Softball Tournaments.

I see dozens of persons during my 14 days under the canopy at the Monroe County Fairgrounds. I haven't talked or even waved to most of them since last summer. A few of the contacts go back much farther than that.

There's an aura of something special surrounding 30 years of watching Fair competition. Most of the time I'm on assignment. The rest of my appearances qualify as a busman's holiday.

But the following comments will concern others who make pilgrimages to Fair games during those usually-hot two weeks in July and early August.

Rex Jones — The man who admits his retirement is being made much more pleasant by pension checks from five different employers must be mad at the unofficial "Fair Gang."

Field-maintenance man at the Fairgrounds diamond the last several years, Rex has yet to sit in one of the hard, straight-backed chairs in the officials' tent this summer.

The canopy veteran still makes his daily "breakfast clubs" at the Monroe Diner, however.

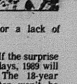
I hope he again organizes the annual Twilight Baseball League reunion in September.

Mark Laboe — Following youth athletics in Monroe is to see this father of six on a regular basis.

But Mark's appearances at Fair tourney games may be winding down. It's his youngest child Amy catching for Monroe's 1989 girls softball entry.

"Players seem to be lacking in fundamentals the last few years," volunteered the former three-sport athlete at Monroe Catholic Central. "I don't know if it's coaching or a lack of concentration."

THE PRESS BOX
Bill Brenton
Sports editor



Carl Cousino — If the surprise lasts three more days, 1989 will record a first. The 18-year tournament director won't be forced to umpire any of the 53 games.

"You have to work hard to line up these guys," C.J. said on one of his trips under the canopy. "I sometimes make 15 and 20 telephone calls a night."

There have been as many as three umpires reporting for one game this season. But never one or none so far. Knock on wood.

Umpiring probably is the best it's been in years. That's because of Rob Parker, Orville Herzig, Jim Martin, Randy Sehl, Jeff Grodi, Dan Chlebos and Butch Foster.

Bob Butz — The former Whiteford High School and Adrian College football star confines his current Fair activity to keeping score for Whiteford's boys squad.

But Bob took the time to walk over to the scoring table and talk about his son Joe Butz.

"He looked so good in spring practice they gave him a scholarship for this fall," a proud father said of the one-time Bobcat defensive end. "He's beefed up to about 230 pounds and is playing center now."

The younger Butz is a sophomore at Ferris State University. His dad will be the reserve football coach at WHS this fall.

"Come over and watch Joe play at Hillsdale (College) this season," Butz issued me an

rugs

the authorization for the Star s strategic defense initiative he war on drugs.

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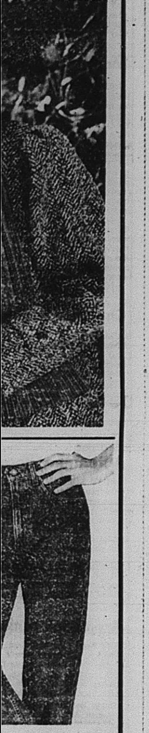

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SUN. 12 TO 5

AUG 2 1989

BUSINESS

BRIEFLY

New realty office opens in Carleton

CARLETON — **LaBeau-Meyer Realty, Inc.** has opened at **12753 Grafton Rd.**, Suite 101 of the Mathewson building.

Owners are **Doris LaBeau** and **Gail Meyer**, who both previously worked for **ERA-LaBoe Real Estate** in Monroe.

A **Monroe High School** graduate, Mrs. Meyer began as a secretary at ERA-LaBoe and then worked in sales there for about four years. She is in the Million Dollar Club of the **Monroe County Board of Realtors**. She and her husband **Ron** live in **Carleton**.

Mrs. LaBeau is a **Western Michigan University** graduate and has been selling real estate since 1974 when she retired from teaching. She has been in the Million Dollar Club for many years and was named Woman Realtor of the Year in 1980 by the Monroe County Chapter of the Women's Council of Realtors. In 1982, she was named Realtor of the Year by the Monroe County Board of Realtors and once again named Woman Realtor of the Year. She and her husband, **Tom**, live in **Huron Township**.

Mrs. LaBeau said the two started the real estate office to serve northern Monroe County. Its first project will be a 30-unit condominium complex in Huron Township that will involve $150,000 to $250,000 single-family homes on condominium lots.

The new real estate office is a member of the **Monroe County Board of Realtors** and **Downriver Board of Realtors**. Its telephone number is 654-2900.

Monroe native gets industry post

VERNE TIFFANY

LOMBARD, Ill. — **Verne Tiffany**, a **Monroe** native and former **Monroe Auto Equipment** employee, has been elected president of the **Overseas Automotive Club**, a 66-year-old group which promotes world trade of U.S.-made auto parts and supplies.

Since 1986, Mr. Tiffany has been vice president of sales and marketing of **KYB Corp. of America**, a marketer of automotive shock absorbers, cartridges and struts here.

"I'm looking forward to the challenge of helping guide the OAC into the 1990s," said Mr. Tiffany. "The growing economic interdependency between our nation and its trading partners means that more than ever, quality U.S. manufacturers should consider expanding their sales of products to overseas customers."

Mr. Tiffany has served as OAC as first and second vice president.

He earned a bachelor of business adminstration degree in 1955 from the **University of Toledo** and held a variety of international and export sales and marketing posts over a 20-year tenure with Monroe Auto Equipment.

He and his wife, **Faye**, live in Naperville, Ill. They have three grown children.

Chiropractic clinic opens in Carleton

CARLETON — **Carleton Chiropractic Clinic** plans to open next week at **1127 Monroe St.**, a building which previous housed an osteopathic physician's office.

The new clinic will be operated by **Dr. A.S. Sarosh**, a 1984 graduate of the Sherman College of Straight Chiropractic in Spartansburg, S.C.

A Wyandotte resident, Dr. Sarosh has been operating a clinic in downtown Detroit.

He will have office hours by appointment at the Carleton clinic on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

He also plans to offer spinal care classes at the Carleton location.

The telephone number of his new office is 654-3730.

Automaker boosts Japan shipments

FLAT ROCK — **Mazda Motor Corp.** predicted it would increase shipments of auto parts from North America to Japan through a new logistics system that uses trains and container vessels which have carried parts to its U.S. subsidiary plant here.

During the five months ended March 31, the company's purchases from North America totaled $33 million, up 96 percent from the same period in 1988. It expects to import from North America a total of $100 million for the period Aoril, 1989 to March, 1990, a 60 percent increase over the previous fiscal year.

Mazda said it has been promoting the importation of auto parts from North America for use in new models to be introduced during the next two years and for model changes to existing product lines.

Area bank ranked, analyzed

Old Kent Financial Corp., the Grand Rapids-based parent firm of **Old Kent Bank-Southeast** has been ranked as the top bank holding company in the United States by a bank rating service.

Olson Research Associates of **Greenbelt, Md.**, came up with its rankings of the 100 largest institutions by applying a formula that involves factors such as profitability, safety, and ability to sustain earnings levels.

Kevin S. Theisen, vice president and head of the bank's loan production office in **Monroe**, said the ranking is a testament to the soundness of the financial institution.

Old Kent has recorded higher dividends and earnings each year since it was formed in 1972.

Peoples declares final dividend

Peoples Savings Bank based in **Monroe** said its board of directors declared a quarterly cash dividend of 10 cents per common share payable August 18 to shareholders of record on August 7.

The dividend is expected to be the final quarterly dividend Peoples will pay prior to the completion of its merger with **Standard Federal** bank of Troy.

Peoples has not yet decided on a date for a shareholders meeting to vote on the proposed merger. Under the proposal, Peoples shareholders will receive $18.65 for each share of common stock they own.

Peoples operates 12 offices in Monroe, Wayne and Lenawee Counties.

Sandwich franchises open in Monroe

Two **Subway** submarine sandwich specialty shops opened recently in the Monroe area and a third is planned.

The first to open is at **1529 N. Telegraph Rd.** in the Monroe Mall.

Owners are **Tony Regalado** and **Marge Shelley**, both of Adrian, and **Shahab Hashimi** of Toledo. Mr. Regalado and Ms. Shelley are long-time General Motors workers who wanted to get into a business of their own. Mr. Hashimi, a student, is an acquaintnance of theirs.

The other shop at E. Elm Ave. and N. Monroe St. is owned by **Madeleine Sterkowicz** of Maumee, Ohio. Mrs. Sterkowicz worked with her husband for 10 years at Clarklift of Northwest Ohio in Toledo before deciding to open a franchise. She was introduced to the franchise while visiting her daughter at the University of Cincinnati.

Mrs. Sterkowicz also plans to open up a second store at Charter Plaza near LaPlaisance Rd. and I-75 this fall.

The N. Telegraph store seats about 30 persons and is open Monday through Thursday and Sunday from 10:30 a.m. to midnight and from 10:30 a.m. to 2 a.m. Friday and Saturday.

The N. Monroe St. store seats 38 and opens at 11 a.m. but otherwise follows the same schedule as the N. Telegraph store.

Both stores offer carry-out and take phone orders. The Telegraph Rd. store number is 241-5255; the MonroeSt. store is 457-0525.

Ending an era

Foodtown chain to buy Francis Foods, family-run market in Temperance

By CHARLES SLAT
Evening News staff writer

Evening News photo by Dona Stiefel

CHANGING HANDS — Francis Foods at 8926 Lewis Ave., Temperance, is being purchased by the Seaway Food Town chain based in Maumee, Ohio. Owner Ray Francis of Temperance, who has operated the business since 1948, says his age and increasing competition prompted the sale.

TEMPERANCE — Seaway Food Town Inc. has agreed to buy Francis Foods, a 24,000 square foot supermarket that has been a fixture here for 41 years.

The sale is expected to be completed Aug. 14, but Food Town officials said it would take three or four weeks to complete the changeover within the store.

Once completed, the sale may mean Sunday hours and perhaps another outlet for alcoholic beverages in a town founded on teetotaling.

Francis Foods owner Ray Francis, 67, said his age and increasing competition were among the reasons he decided to sell the store.

"It is extremely difficult for a single store operator, buying from a wholesaler, to compete in today's competitive market," Mr. Francis said. "Since Cub opened in April, we've experienced a loss of business, but more critically, a decline in profit levels."

Cub, a big food discounter, opened a store in Toledo last year.

"Our industry has always operated on very narrow profit margins, but what is happening today makes it impossible for us to continue in the long run," Mr. Francis said.

"It really is a climactic decision we made here," he said. "The store's been in the family for 70 years.

Mr. Francis got into the business after the war when his father-in-law John Whitman ran Whitman's Market in Temperance. Mr. Francis bought the 1,500 square foot store from Mr. Whitman in 1948 and changed the name to Francis Foods and moved it to where Crary Drug now stands. In 1956 it expanded to 6,000 square feet and moved to its present location at Washington St. and Lewis Ave. By 1972 it was able to double in size and six years later affiliated with Grand Rapids-based Spartan Foods, a cooperative wholesaler.

Finally, in May, 1983, it went through a $1.2 million expansion to reach its present size.

Mr. Francis said it was a difficult decision to decide to sell the store, but one that was best for his family and employees. He lauded the employees as hardworking and dedicated and had special words of praise for Howard Kinney, store manager for more than 20 years.

Seaway Food Town President Richard B. Iott said the entry of Cub into Toledo food retailing has had some impact on the company, but not as much as on smaller independently owned stores.

"It hasn't hurt us as much as it has changed the complexion of business in town," Mr. Iott said. "Everything gets a little more cutthroat for a while."

"We're fortunate enough that we can weather it because we're bigger, but it's tough on the small independent operators."

Mr. Iott said Food Town's larger volume business probably will mean generally lower prices at the store.

Asked whether the Temperance store would include sales of alcoholic beverages — as other Food Town stores do — he replied: "I don't know. We haven't really addressed that, but I would assume we would."

He said he was not even sure what local restrictions may exist on the sale of alcoholic beverages.

Temperance was founded in the 1880s by Lewis and Marietta Ansted on the explicit terms that "no intoxicating beverages shall be bought, sold or manufactured on this land."

Such covenants usually are only applicable for 100 years, however. Tolly's, not far up Lewis Ave. from Francis Foods, began selling alcohol in 1973.

Mr. Francis said he encouraged Food Town officials not to sell alcohol.

"We have not sold alcohol nor have we stayed open on Sunday. It's kind of a habit in the community and we've managed to survive without it," he said.

But he added that he approached Food Town because they "are a good local company" and "the kind of people who would be sincerely interested in the well-being of my employees and my customers."

Food Town said it intends to hire as many of Francis' 67 employees as possible for the former Francis location and will consider others for placement in its other Food Town, Pharm or Kash 'n Karry stores.

Mr. Francis said he is not sure whether Food Town would maintain agreements with many area produce farmers who supplied his market over the years, but added "I would think that they would be wise to keep them, though."

Mr. Iott said the chain doesn't do very much local business in terms of produce supply, but said farmers who had supply relationships with Francis Food "would be more than welcome to call on us here (at the corporation's Maumee, Ohio headquarters)."

He said if supply agreements were maintained, the goods would have to go through the company's Maumee warehousing system.

Seaway Food Town operates 69 retail units — 58 supermarkets, seven of which are large Food Town Plus combination stores and 11 deep discount drug stores operating under the name of The Pharm. Its stores are in northwest and central Ohio and southeastern Michigan.

County clerk's office logs new business names

The following is a list of new or renewed business names registered with the Monroe County Clerk during the past few weeks. Included is the registered address and name and address of business principals. If no address of a business principal is listed, it is the same as the business address. The listings are published periodically on The Evening News Business Page.

Dundee Guest House, 522 Tecumseh St., Dundee; Karen A. Glover.

Schuchmann Chiropractic Clinic, 9056 Lewis Ave., Temperance; Kent P. Schuchmann, 864 Dempster, Temperance.

Raisin Valley Cadd Services, 4730 N. Ann Arbor Rd. #6, Dundee; Donald Czarniewski.

Pat Smith/Rolland St. Bernard Builders, 5925 Vandercook; Rolland St. Bernard, 7400 S. Custer Rd., and Pat Smith.

Gillcraft Co., 3090 County Rd. 151, Temperance; Carol F. Gill.

Avalon Publication, 1234 Maple Blvd.; Excaliber Enterprise Inc., 7595 Caroline Drive, Ronald Fleming, president.

Tom's Garage, 11991 Telegraph Rd., Erie; Thomas Lynn Petit, 8767 S. Stony Creek Rd., Newport.

Thomas M. Cassidy, O.D., Frenchtown Square Mall, 2121 N. Monroe St.; Thomas Martin Cassidy of Toledo.

Erie Development Associates, 13205 E. 14 Mile Rd., Sterling Heights; Thomas Petty of Detroit, Allen Provo of Farmington Hills, Reno Ruggeri of St. Clair Shores, Donald G. Calcoterra of Sterling Heights and Nila M. Smith.

Bob's Car Wash, 1510 W. Seventh St.; Robert and Barbara Dahl, 15003 Kay Dr.

Reno's Dog House, 8253 Lewis Ave.; James S. and Marlene A. Reno, 7710 Apache Trail, Temperance.

Monroe Craftsman Repair and Construction, 318 Smith; James R. Spence.

Waterfront and Land Partnership, 1675 W. Sterns Rd., Temperance; James E. Frieger, 1167 Ashland, Temperance, Michael A. Milano, 590 Substation Rd, Temperance and Thomas A. Peitz, 7559 Apache Trail, Temperance.

Gary's Flagship Restaurant, 7932 Harbor Rd.; Gary DeHan.

Advanced Systems Estimating and Advanced Construction Management, 725 W. 12th St.; Ricky L. Haines.

Uniquely You, 233 Twin Oaks Dr.; Renae Y. Hoskins.

Marblemen of Michigan, 5381 Teal Rd., Petersburg; Charles R. LaPoint.

Joe's Cutting Crew, 222 N. Monroe St.; Joseph C. Soncrant, 8481 Renee, Newport.

Pioneer Tree Farm, 10060 Packard Rd., Temperance; Robert A. Kapela.

Chris's Family Haircare Center, 8686 Summerfield Rd., Temperance; Christine M. Miles, 3861 W. Erie Rd., Temperance.

Corporate Investment International, 2896 Sterns Rd., Temperance; Henry G. Lewis of Toledo.

J.T.R. Enterprises, 1160 Birchwood, Temperance; Janet T. Rutledge.

J&K Enterprises, 434 W. Rauch Rd., Petersburg; Stanley M. and Sandra Krawetz, 8160 Secor Rd. and Arnold and Susan M. Jennings.

Tracy's Landscaping, 111 Neighbor Dr.; Tracy McKee.

Stone Auction Services, 635 Toll St.; Joey Dune Stone and Banae S. Stone.

John F. Sellers, 2 E. First St.; Michael G. Lusch, 710 E. First St.

Stony Creek Radiators, 221 Franklin St., Dundee; Leamon and Candi Bussell, 1160 N. Macomb St.

Camping & Sporting Goods Dept., 1080 N. Dixie Hwy.; Duane K. Scarfee.

E-Z Roofing, 523 Winchester St., P.O. Box 2286, Monroe; E.W. Ray and Zachary Taylor.

Victorian Country (Original Creations), 11650 Douglas Rd., Temperance; Vicki Lynn Bolan.

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BRIEFLY

Detroit judge faces charges

DETROIT (AP) — A Detroit Recorder's Court judge faces bribery, tax evasion and racketeering charges after he allegedly took thousands of dollars in exchange for favorable treatment of cases.

Judge Donald L. Hobson, 54, became the fourth judge Tuesday to be charged in an investigation of city courts. The federal indictment says Hobson accepted bribes totaling $9,500 in three cases before him in 1986.

Hobson was attending a National Bar Association conference in Oakland, Calif., and couldn't be reached for comment.

He vehemently denied being involved in any bribery schemes when his name appeared on court documents last year.

Hobson is scheduled to be arraigned Thursday. He faces up to 20 years in prison on each of four counts of racketeering and taking bribes, and up to three years in prison on one count of evading paying taxes on $24,500 in income. He faces a $250,000 fine on each count.

Jobless rate rises in state

DETROIT (AP) — There were more summer job hunters in the market in June, resulting in higher monthly unemployment rates for most areas of the state, the Michigan Employment Security Commission said.

Statewide, the seasonally unadjusted jobless rate rose to 7.5 percent in June from 6.4 percent in May, the commission said Tuesday. It was also up from 7.1 percent in June 1988.

Dwindling school and college job opportunities for the summer and scattered auto layoffs contributed to the rise, MESC Director Richard Simmons Jr. said.

The number unemployed — those unsuccessfully looking for work — rose by 58,000 to a total 351,000 statewide.

Unhappy nurses return to work

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (AP) — Nurses returned to work at the University of Michigan Medical Center under a court order, but they're not happy about it and the 2-week-old strike isn't over yet, a union spokeswoman says.

"The people I've talked to by phone are very angry. They feel we're being pushed back to work," said Deborah Stoll, of the Michigan Nurses Association.

"As far as we're concerned we're still on strike, and we're operating under a court order," she said.

Toni Shears, a spokeswoman for the medical center, said about 88.6 percent of the nurses normally scheduled to work were called back Tuesday, although the emergency room staff was up to 100 percent.

Washtenaw County Circuit Judge Melinda Morris ruled Monday that the strike by 1,700 nurses created a significant health risk. She ordered nurses back to work and called for new negotiations Tuesday and today.

Acquitted doctor may sue Upjohn

WEST ORANGE, N.J. (AP) — A psychiatrist who was acquitted of attempted murder by reason of insanity may sue Upjohn Co., which made the prescription sleeping drug he took before stabbing his wife, his attorney said.

Daniel Frohwirth, now of Jersey City, N.J., was acquitted Monday of attempted murder and related charges after Superior Court Reginald Stanton ruled he had no control over his actions, said Frohwirth's attorney, Anthony Mautone.

Frohwirth, who took the drug for about two years to treat his symptoms of manic-depression, was charged with stabbing his estranged wife at their Morris Township home several times with two knives on Oct. 12, 1987.

Mautone said Frohwirth, who spent 17 months at the Morris County Jail unable to post $500,000 bail, was considering suing Upjohn for having ruined his life.

AP Laserphoto

CAMPAIGNING — U.S. Rep. John Conyers (right) breaks into a smile as he hits the campagn trail Tuesday in the race for Mayor of Detroit. At left is an unidentified supporter.

Conyers hits campaign trail

DETROIT (AP) — Detroit Mayor Coleman Young's $5 million campaign fund may buy him air time on television, but the money won't win him voters' love in November, says U.S. Rep. John Conyers, the mayor's latest challenger.

"The money won't help you, baby, the money can't vote," the 13-term congressman said Tuesday, while outlining his campaign platform for the race against the four-term mayor.

Conyers, 60, entered the mayoral race last week. Early polls show him tied with the 71-year-old incumbent among contenders in a Sept. 12 nonpartisan primary. Before Conyers announced his candidacy, accountant Tom Barrow had been favored to meet Young in November.

Conyers said his goals include attacking drug dealers, giving police bulletproof vests and getting them out of the office and on the streets. He also plans to fight for handgun control and rebuild rather than demolish abandoned housing.

"No cabal, no secret deals, no cronyism, nothing promised to nobody," the Detroit Democrat said. "The way we're going to run this city is the way we're going to run this campaign."

Infected lab worker descr

KALAMAZOO, Mich. (AP) — A former lab worker who contracted a deadly herpes virus from a research monkey said he handled monkeys his first day on the job, although the company allegedly knew some of them were infected.

The 21-year-old Portage man, who asked that his name not be used, told The Kalamazoo Gazette that he was given a brief training session at International Research and Development Corp. of Mattawan before handling monkeys the day he was hired.

He worked at the contract research lab for less than two weeks before he quit. He said he was tired of being bitten and scratched by the rhesus monkeys, a species of Old World monkeys commonly used in experiments.

"I'd catch up to 80 or 100 monkeys a day," he said.

Another lab worker, Thomas McGeorge, died of the herpes B virus June 20, the day the second man was admitted to Bronson Methodist Hospital with symptoms of the virus.

"I was losing feeling in my left foot," the man said, adding that his temperature rose to 104 degrees. He was discharged July 19 but will have to stay on anti-viral medication for the rest of his life, his doctor said.

Symptoms of the virus, which attacks the brain and central nervous system, can reappear at any time.

On Friday, the state Department of Public Health levied $30,600 in fines against the company for alleged violations of worker safety regulations and for failing to tell all employees who worked with the monkeys about the risks they faced.

Company officials have denied the allegations and say they plan to appeal.

Of the 190 rhesus monkeys being used in experiments at the lab, the company had documentation that about 40 percent were infected with the virus, which can be spread to humans through bites or scratches, according to the state agency.

The virus is found in more than 50 percent of all rhesus monkeys and is harmless to them. But it has an estimated 70 percent mortality rate among humans once symptoms appear.

IDA TOWNSHIP

The Ida Township Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing August 8, 1989 at 8:00 p.m., at the Ida Township hall, to consider a request by Elaine Genweck to rezone Property No. 5808-002-012-00 South of Ida East Road and East of Mill Street, from Agricultural to part Multiple Family residential and part to (RA) Single Family Residential.

HARRY FIRESTONE
IDA TOWNSHIP CLERK

July 19, Aug. 2, 1989

BERLIN TOWNSHIP BID REQUEST

Sealed bids for Aerial Photography and Topographical Map for approximately 350 acres of Stone Quarry Area in Berlin Township, Monroe County, Michigan with all required services listed under Bid Items and their related referral sections for the project, will be received at the Office the Clerk for the Township of Berlin, 5651 Trombley Road, Newport, Michigan until 4:00 p.m. on August 14, 1989. The sealed bids will be opened and read aloud at the 7:30 p.m. Board meeting on the same night.

Specifications and bid forms may be obtained at the Office of the Charles E. Raines Company (the design engineers) at 13631 Brest, Southgate, Michigan.

All bids shall remain firm and cannot be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) days. Berlin Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any irregularities to the bids and to make the award in any manner deemed to be in the best interest of the owner.

Marcy C. Wanca, Clerk
Berlin Township

August 2, 1989

FRENC CHARTER INVITATIO STORAG

FCT

Pole type building to be used as storage buildi obtained from Frenchtown Charter Township C

Submit sealed bid to Frenchtown Charter To Monroe, Michigan 48161, C/O Bernard Felder,

Bids shall be marked "POLE BUILDING BID".

Bids must be submitted by 12 Noon, August 8 August 8, 1989.

Frenchtown Charter Township reserves the rig

July 19, 26, August 2, 1989.

CITY OF FLA NOTIC

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the qualified ele of Wayne, that no Primary Election will be con Council as valid petitions have been filed for candidates for said officers.

The following candidates are certified for the Ge 7, 1989:

OFFICE OF MAYOR
Ted L. Anders
Richard C. Jones (incumbent)

This notice given in accordance with City Ch M.S.A. 168.653 as amended.

August 2, 3, 4, 1989

OVER 400,000 GM OWNERS HAVE MADE THE MOVE TO MERCURY.*
MERCURY
2.9% A.P.R. CASH OR BACK
See your Lincoln-Mercury dealer and arrange low, limited term, 2.9% Annual Percentage Rate Financing on Mercury Cougar LS and Sable through Ford Credit for qualified buyers...or choose big Cash savings.
'89 COUGAR LS
SAVE $1,633
HERE'S HOW: Choose cash back and you get $1,500 from Lincoln-Mercury on all '88 and '89 Cougar models, plus you save $883 when you buy an '89 Cougar LS with Popular Equipment Package 262B for a total savings of $2,383. Choose 2.9% A.P.R. financing and you get the same option package savings.
STANDARD EQUIPMENT INCLUDES: • 3.8L V-6 engine • Automatic overdrive transmission • Speed-sensitive power steering • Power brakes • 4-wheel independent suspension • Air conditioning • Tinted glass • Power windows • Dual power mirrors • Electronic instrumentation with tachometer and fuel-distance computer • Reclining bucket seats • Interval wipers • And much more!
OPTION PACKAGE 262B INCLUDES: • Cast aluminum wheels • Tilt steering wheel • Speed control • Rear window defroster • Power lock group • AM/FM stereo with cassette • Luxury light group • P215/70R15 BSW tires • And more!
'89 SABLE GS
SAVE $1,450
HERE'S HOW: Choose cash back and you get $1,000 from Lincoln-Mercury on all '88 and '89 Sable models, plus you save $700 when you buy an '89 Sable GS with Popular Equipment Package 451A for a total savings of $1,700. Choose 2.9% A.P.R. financing and you get the same option package savings.
STANDARD EQUIPMENT INCLUDES: • Automatic overdrive transaxle • 3.0-liter V-6 engine • Power steering • Power brakes • Interval wipers • Air conditioner • Dual power mirrors • And much more!
OPTION PACKAGE 451A INCLUDES: • Power lock group • Speed control • Rear window defroster • Power windows • AM/FM stereo cassette radio • 15" aluminum wheels • Power driver's seat • Tilt steering wheel • And more!
ADDITIONAL PROGRAM INFORMATION: For cash back or A.P.R. financing you must take new vehicle retail delivery from dealer inventory. Package savings are based on the sticker price of each option package vs. the price of the options purchased seperately. Dealer participation may affect customer savings. Other rates are available and encrease with the length of term. If you have any questions, ask your dealer for details.
SEE YOUR LINCOLN-MERCURY DEALER.
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Ford MERCURY LINCOLN
*Based on a study of sales of the past three model years (1986-1988).
WEBSTER-DUVALL INC.
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15354 S. Monroe St. Ph. 241-2060

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YOU'LL SLEEP TO
BECAUSE BASSETT MAKES A BETTER QUALITY MATTRESS SET!
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*149.95 FULL EA. PC.
*399.95 QUEEN SET
*549.95 KING SET
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