

WEDDINGS & ENGAGEMENTS

NOBILE-MENKEN

Amy Menken and Paul Nobile were married May 16 at St. Joseph's Church in New York. The bride is a native of Farmington and graduated from Albion College. She moved to New York in 1991 to pursue a career in acting and is currently a senior media manager for Ketchum Public Relations in San Francisco.

The groom grew up in Newton, Mass. and attended Syracuse University in New York. He is currently a director of marketing at Barclays Global Investors in San Francisco.

The newlyweds honeymooned in Maui and Hawaii and make their home in San Francisco.



SHAVINSKI-LEFLAR

Paula Anne Shavinski and Patrick James Leflar will be married in October at St. Margaret of Scotland Parish in St. Clair Shores.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Diane Shavinski of Fraser and a graduate of Michigan State University. She is currently employed as a registered nurse at St. John's Hospital & Medical Center.

The groom is the son of James and Nancy Leflar of Farmington Hills and a graduate of Michigan State University. He is currently employed as a systems administrator at Transcripts Limited.



KITZMAN-MIDDLETON

James and Mary Kitzman of Farmington announce the engagement of their daughter, DeAnna Renee, to Peter James Middleton, the son of Larry and Denise Middleton of Redford.

The bride-to-be is a 1996 graduate of Farmington High School and is attending Oakland Community College where she is studying to be a registered nurse. She is employed by the University of Michigan Hospital.

Her fiancé is a 1995 graduate of Redford Union High School. He also attended Oakland Community College. He is employed by ACO Warehouse.

An August wedding is planned at Grace Lutheran Church.



ZIMMERMAN-WALTER

Clyde and Yvonne Zimmerman of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter Lauren Julia, to Bryan James Walter, the son of James and Patricia Walter of Farmington.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Ladywood High School and the University of Michigan-Dearborn. She is employed as an

environmental scientist for an engineering consulting firm in Ferndale.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Farmington High School. He is employed as a carpenter for Walter Construction Inc.

A June wedding is planned at St. Valentine's Catholic Church in Redford.

RUSSELOT-PUCHER

Kenneth and Nancy Russelot of Farmington announce the engagement of their daughter, Susan, to Patrick Pucher, the son of Mike and Elaine Pucher of Livonia.

The bride-to-be is a 1989 graduate of Northville High School and a 1993 graduate of Bronson Methodist Hospital School of Nursing. She is employed as a registered nurse at Providence Home Health Care.



ANNIVERSARY

WEST 50TH

Bob and Helen West of Farmington Hills celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with family and friends at the home of their son in Milford.

They were married July 3, 1948. They have seven children and 14 grandchildren.



Garden attracts critters' attention

Some of the best-fed critters in Livonia live in the fields and woods near the community gardens at Greenmead Historical Village.

During the summer months, the groundhogs, rabbits, squirrels and even deer which abound here never worry about where their next meal is coming from.

All they have to do is wander from one succulent garden patch to another, nibbling at the lettuce here, the broccoli there, and the cabbage over there.

Keeping critters out of the garden plots rented at Greenmead is probably the biggest hassle for gardeners here.

After all, who wants to spend a summer weeding, watering, mulching and tilling, only to lose long-awaited veggies to a hungry groundhog during his midnight raid?

So some form of critter control is essential. Last year, figuring it would be the job, Anna Szeotoka of Loveland put up a 25-by-25-foot rented plot.

Undeterred, the critters crawled under the fence, and chomped away.

This year, to make sure the critters stay out, Szeotoka's husband, Tony, buried the fence 6 inches into the dirt.

With that strategy, Szeotoka is sure her pumpkins, cantaloupe



Weed whacker: Wanda Reiner of Farmington Hills cultivates the soil around some of her tomato plants at Greenmead Historical Village in Livonia on one recent evening. Reiner, one of dozens who are planting in this year's community garden.

and zucchini will survive through the summer.

On the other hand, Salvatore Rubbo of Broadmoor rents three plots and fences none of them.

Part of his strategy lies in sheer numbers. With three plots, he has room to plant lots of stuff; one or two nibbled plants are hardly missed.

When a critter does strike, he

leaves the plant remnant there. On this day, his romaine lettuce has been ransacked.

"I just leave it there and let them come back to finish it; if I pull it up, they'll just go somewhere else," Rubbo said.

Another gardener, Rob Coleman of Sunset, has two critter-control strategies. He circles veg-

gies he thinks critters might like with mini-wire fences. And he doesn't plant the "cold crop" veggies such as broccoli that he knows critters love.

On the other hand, Sue and Jim Anderson of Ross have no fences at all and a "laissez-faire" attitude.

"They get a little; we get a little; and we're all happy," Sue Anderson said.

Kitty-sitting services are available



ear canal. This is a common problem of kittens and adult cats. Kittens frequently acquire an infestation from their mother. And if one cat or kitten has mites then the rest of the cats in the household will more than likely have mites. Cats also may acquire ear mites from dogs. Signs of infestation are: Head-shaking, ear-scratching, restless behavior, and presence of brown material in the ear canal. If you neglect a ear mite infestation, your cat can have serious, even fatal, consequences. If you suspect that your cat has ear mites, call your veteri-

narian and make an appointment. Do not try and treat this problem without the advice of your vet.

When a female cat is spayed, are all the female organs removed and why?

The surgical removal of the ovaries, oviducts (the passage through which the egg of an animal passes from the ovary), and uterus is a recommended procedure for all female cats that are 6 months or older. Spaying should be done before her first heat. Spaying produces a healthy young cat and eliminates the problem of homeless kittens.

What is the difference between neutering a male cat or a vasectomy in a male cat?

The neutering consists of removing the testes, epididymis (a duct connecting the testes to the tube that carries sperm from the testes to the urethra). This procedure has benefit in addition to preventing female cats from getting pregnant. Neutering prevents problems of urine spraying, excessive aggression,

and eliminates the foul odor of male urine. Some male cats may continue to spray urine even after they have been neutered. Then this may be a behavioral problem. But usually male cats don't spray soon after they have been neutered.

A vasectomy on a male cat is a surgical procedure that ties the tube that carries sperm from the testes to the urethra. It makes the male cat sterile, it does not eliminate the associated sexual behavior, because the vasectomy does not stop the male hormones to continue to be produced by the testes.

I have been asked about what kind of books I have read and enjoyed concerning cats.

Here are just a few:

"All My Patients Are Under the Bed," memoirs of a cat doctor, by Dr. Louis J. Camuti, published by Simon & Schuster Inc.

"The Cat Who Came For Christmas" by Cleveland Amory, published by Little, Brown and Company

"The Best Cat Ever" by Cleveland Amory, published by Little, Brown and Company.

Children's Directory '98

Day Camps

Children have many special needs...and because parents don't always have a lot of time, the Observer & Eccentric has created this unique directory to make life just a little easier.

Music Instruction

For more information about advertising call Nan at: 734-953-2099

New Morning School

Discovery Days Science & Math Camps July 6-August 7 • Ages 3-11 734-420-3331

Trinity House THEATRE Summer Youth Drama Program August 10 and up Musical Theater Workshop: July 27-Aug. 14 513-538-5973 New Center 1275 & 6 Ave.

Metro Dance

Summer Fun Camp 4-6 years old July 20 - Aug. 7 (734) 207-8970

sizzling SUMMER fun!

This summer there is so much going on it's hard to decide what to & where to go! That's why the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers has put together this special directory to make it easier...

For more information about advertising please call Rich: 734-953-2069 Nan: 734-954-2099

HIDDEN LAKE GARDENS

Michigan State University 1000 E. Grand Ave. East Lansing, MI 48824-1000

Summer-Unsurpassed annual & perennial gardens, outdoor collection, herb garden, and 6 miles scenic drive. Full-Spectacular fall color. Winter-All weather greenhouse conservatory. Spring-Beautiful flowering trees collection, millions of naturalized daffodils.

• Four Season Walking Trails • Baking Garden • Sundries & Hotels • Picnic Areas • Great Gift Shops & Library • Guided Tours • Weddings (517) 431-2060

Box 100, Tipton, MI 49287 • Nine Miles West of Tipton

Kindermusik®

THE PREMIER MUSIC PROGRAM FOR YOUNG CHILDREN & Kindermusik Village Newborn to 18 Months

& Kindermusik Beginnings 10 months to 3 1/2 years

& Growing with Kindermusik 3 1/2 to 4 1/2 years

& Young Child I and II 4 1/2 to 7 years

Classes begin the week of September 7th at Southeast Michigan Arts Conservatory. Contact Norma Atwood, a fully licensed Kindermusik® Instructor and Early Childhood Music Specialist.

Register Early! Let Music Be The Foundation That Supports Your Child's Lifelong Growth

Southeast Michigan Arts Conservatory (734) 981-5969 or (734) 453-7590 Ext. 221