## Expressions from page C1

Then, Gonzalez's hands danced as he spoke in his native lan-guage. Like Calio, Gonzalez loves the dance so much he wants everyone to know about it. wants everyone to know about it. This is his second trip to the U.S. In 1994-95, he toured for

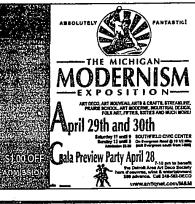
This is his second trip to the U.S. In 1994-95, he toured for tix months, bringing tange and sales to American sudiences.

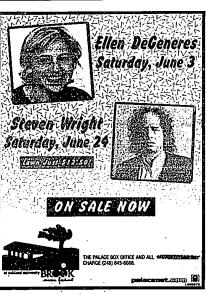
"A dance only lasts three minutes but in those minutes you can express yourself in so many ways," said Gonxalex as Calio aerved as translator. It want to go around the world introducing people to Argentinean dance. It's comething that's inside of yourself that you can express on atgo. I want people to understand what it's all about. Some people go through life without

knowing that you can dance and not feel anything. You can dance and feel passionate love and you can dance and ance and not feel anything. You can dance every emotion." Gonzalez began studying tango at four years old. His parents used to sand him and his brother to dance school to keep them busy. By age 14, Gonzalez was teaching. Then tragedy struck. His older brother, Hector Manuel, who Gonzalez admired as a dancer and person, was

Manuel, who conzaicz admired as a dancer and person, was killed by a train.

"He was a great dencer and devoted to his art," said Gonza-lez. "After his death I took dance seriously. Now I dance for the both of us. I do it for my broth-or."









APRIL 19 MAY 14 BY BETH HENLEY

prize-winning,

poignant and personal

pulitzer

In this Pulitzer Prize-winning

comedy, three Mississippi sisters resolte to be with their dying grandfather Lenny, Meg and Babe are very different wanen, but they share powerful hands Together they come to and their enduring love for one another, it's a wo ferful mbour of both comedy and drama.

MET RATING - PG MAY NOT BE APPROPRIATE FOR PRE-TEENS.



Back home in Argentina, Gonzalez and Cespedes dance at Casa Blanca, a club in San Tolmo, with the Buenos Aires Ballet. They are also members of the Brandsen and Salta ballets. Cespedes started dancing at eight years old. She's now 26 and still loving it.

"I will do anything to learn," and Cespedes. Even though I go to the university. I always come back to dance. The tange is the only dance that offers something different than other dances. Were living a very last life and people don't take the time to understand. In this dance you can feel the other person and communicate. It can be love or with someone who will become just a friend.

You don't have to be a professional dancer to enjoy the tange. In addition to the production showcasing Argentinean tange and the country music of Argentina, Calio is hosting Penas in the area. A Pena is an Argentinean celebration featuring food, music and dance. There will be a complimentary lesson before each beginning at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20. For more information, call [313) 561-328.

■ Saturday, Mny 20 Gonzalez and Cespedes will teach the tango at Dance Avenue, 1860 N. Telegraph, Dearborn. ■ Saturday, Mny 27 at the Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor/Saline Road, Ann Arbor.

Have an interesting idea for a story? Call arts reporter Linda Ann Chomin at (734) 953-2145 or send e-mail to Ichomin@ ve. necomm, net

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Tip Of The Day WPON AM Radio 1460 Monday - Friday at 5:45 p.m.

Festival from page C1

In the Farmington area. Barber, as music coordinator for Farmington Public Schools, had produced a similar festival for students. Barber also founded the Farmington Community Band with his wife Fern in 1963. The band, which is a member of the bard, which is a member of the Farmington Community Arts Council, closes the festival with a concert 3 p.m. Sunday, May 7.

"We wanted to find a way to showcase all of the arts groups and unify our talents," said Barber. "Wo'd done something like this in the schools over three days but with the Coattek Center available we thought why not make it a week-iong celebration? We bus students in on Tuesday and Thursday, and this allows tide is groups such as the North Farmington Jazz Band to perform.

"There's something special overy day. We want to show what all is going on in the arts. The Farmington Players have been around a long time, and the community thorus is celebrating 20 years. Many of the groups have been fare 20 years and up."

community chorus is celebrating 20 years. Many of the groups have been here 20 years and up." The Farmington Artists Club has come a long way since hold-ing its first exhibit in a hobby shop in the plaza downtown. Founded in 1965, the club went from location to location until it was invited to participate in the

festival. Annetta Lind, one of the charter members of the club, remembers the early years when exhibits were held at banks and

remembers the early years when exhibits were held at banks and churches.

"I'm happy to be part of the festival," said Lind, who won an honorable mention for her mixed-media work based on a math equation. "There's lots of light, and the festival brings in a lot of school children and people to look at the art."

New this year is the PTA Reflections exhibit spotlighting more than 70 pieces of art, music and literature created by students from across the United States. More than 600,000 entries were received. A musical composition by Nice Canzano of Livonia can be reviewed by means of a score and tape.

"We're excited to be part of the festival," said Aimee Ergas, Farmington PTA Council board member. "It's a good way to reach out to the community and showcase the talents of our students."

Ellen Kandell armee the festi-

dents.

Ellen Kendall agrees the festival is a vehicle for arts organizations to encourage culture in the community. It makes all the community. It makes all the pinnning and work begun last August worth it. . "It's an opportunity to bring all the cultural arts organizations together with exhibit, demon-

strations, concerts, said Kendall, chairwoman of the Farmington Community Arts Council. "I don't think any other community does this. It's a community event."
"I'm hoping it will bring people not only from Farmington but from all over to experience the rich offerings," added Coumoundouros. "It shows how arts are working at a community level. So often we think of the larger institutions, but it's organizations such as the Farmington Community Arts Council that bring arts into the lives of our children and adults."

## Arts events

Arts events

A Summer lecture series begins as part of the featival with a presentation on Vincent van Gogh by Hope Palmer 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 2. Tickets are \$25 for three lectures or \$10 each. Call (248) 473-1815 to register. The Farmington Community Chorus celebrates its 30th anniversary with concerts 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 5-6, at Farmington High School. Tickets \$10, \$8 senior citizens and students, (248) 788-5322. Farmington Players open Kies Me Kate 8 p.m. Friday, May 5. Tho ahow continues weekends to Saturday, May 27. Tickets \$15, (248) 553-2955.

## Chorus from page C1

for music and other costs, and space for the concerts. The group immediately began the schedule it continues today— a Christmas concert and Spring Show each year. They have per-

formed their Christmas program for patients and residents from Presbyterian. Village in Redford each year since 1965.

Under the direction of Jim Whitten of Farmington, the Livonia Civic Chorus has grown to 70 members and holds auditions each January. "We are actively looking for new members," he said, Rehearsals are held Tuesday evenings at Frost Middle School in Livonia.

Whitten was ampointed directions of the control o

Middle School in Livonia.
Whitten was appointed director of the chorus in 1994. Each performance throughout the year is closed with "Music You Are A Friend to Me." The chorus's signature song tells how much music means to the singers.
At the Christmas concert, former chorus members are invited to the stage to sing with the

to the stage to sing with the

group.
"No founding members are in

the chorus now," said Whitten. "I think our signature song says it all. Through the chorus I have made friends, shared joys and sorrows and worked hard to pre-sent musical programs to the community. Come join us."

Bettie Cannon is a Farmington Hills resident and a member of the Livonia Civic Chorus.

Be our guest. Submit columns and stories for consideration in Arts & Leisure to Linda Chomin, arts reporter, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcroft, Lionia, MI 48150. Include a daytime phone number. You can also email stories to Chomin at lehomin@oe. homecomm.net, or fax (734) 591-7279. For more information, call (734) 953-2146, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday. Be our guest. Submit columns

## Author from page C1

graphs. When I would visit she'd say, 'Let me show you what I discovered' My goah, I though, this is a novel waiting to happen.' With encouragement from homother, Laurs, Nathan's great-great-granddaughter and a Plymouth resident, Ryan started the project that would become he first published novel. It's easy to get lost in the story

that begins in 1843 when Nathan Kingsley, a farmer in Livonia Canter, builds a house for his new bride, Mary.

As the story spanning five generations unfolds, you'll become acquainted with the Kingsleys and feel as if you know them and their neighbors. Ficture Livonia through the eyes of Mary and Nathan Kingsley and forests — no subdivisions or malls.

There's plenty of drama too — a runaway slave takes refuge a forests— no subdivisions or malls.

There's plenty of drama too — a runaway slave takes refuge a forests— no subdivisions or malls.

There's plenty of drama too — a runaway slave takes refuge to a runaway slave takes refuge to mary seed to the family. Scheming Horace, Nathan's son, tries to cheat his wife out of her property and commit her to an insane asylum.

"It's a wonderfully romantic story," said Ryan. The house didinapire me very much. There are no pictures of Nathan or Mary, so I don't know what they locked ike. But the house is simple yet beautiful, and all done by hand. Nathan, 22, could neither read nor write, yet he built a house of classical symmetry in the Greek Revival style on land that 10 years before had been wilderness.

The Kingsley House is part fact, part fiction. Some of the events mentioned in the book really occurred, but not necessarily to Nathan and Mary or their offspring. There was adjithteria epidemic in Livonia in the 1880s and many children fact and what's fiction," said

"So far people can't tell what's fact and what's fiction," said Ryan. "That's great, that's the way I wanted it to be – seam-less."

way I wanted it to be - seam-less."

Because she didn't have a lot of source material, Ryan relied on atories from relatives, research, and her imagination.

Her hope is that The Kingeley House will inspire other people to research their family history.

There are real treasures to be discovered," she said. The Kingsleys were ordinary, yet they lived more than ordinary lives. They were farmors, yet I found wonderful storiers about them. I was struck by the basic everyday-neas of their lives. I found the extraordinary in the ordinary."

