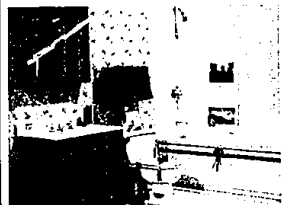




Ugliest Bathroom Contest

Sponsored By WJR AM 760 Radio, The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Building Industry Association and Mathison Supply of Livonia, Garden City and Canton.

Win A \$10,000 Dream Bathroom!



- Air Massager Massage Bathtub by Jason
- Bath Cabinetry by Borch
- Faucets by Hardon
- Ultra-Flush Toilet by Gerber
- Tile Tub Surround
- Installation by J&M Home Improvement
- And More!

Employees of WJR Radio, The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, BIA and Mathison Supply are not eligible to enter.

Take a photo of your ugly bathroom and bring it into any Mathison Supply store or mail it to WJR, Ugliest Bathroom Contest, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Ste. 800, Detroit, MI 48202. The winner's bathroom will be upgraded with new fixtures, tile, medicine cabinet and accessories with a value of up to \$10,000. And, be sure to visit the WJR and Mathison Supply booths at:

**SPRING HOME & GARDEN SHOW
NOVI EXPO CENTER
APRIL 4-7, 2002**



All entries become the property of WJR and must be received by April 12, 2002. No cash equivalents. Judges' decision is final. No purchase necessary. Winner will be announced May 18, 2002.

RELIGION CALENDAR

If you want to submit an item for the religion calendar fax it to (734) 591-7279 or write: Religion Calendar, Observer News, 3525 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150. The deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

SPRING RUMMAGE AND BAKE SALE

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 20805 Middlebelt (at Eight Mile), will hold its spring rummage and bake sale April 4 and April 5 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day. Bag sale will be April 6, for 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Light lunch is available. For more information: 248-476-0841

EASTER WORSHIP SERVICES

Nardin Park United Methodist Church will hold a 90-minute sunrise Easter service with readings and songs, at 7:30 a.m. Sunday, March 31. Breakfast will be served from 8:10-10 a.m. Traditional Easter worship services are scheduled at 9:15 a.m. and 11 a.m., and will include handbell music. The church is

located at 29887 West 11 Mile, just west of Middlebelt, in Farmington Hills.

CHURCH GARAGE SALE

St. Alexander Church, 27835 Shawwassee (between Inkster and Middlebelt) holds a church garage sale Wednesday, April 3, and Thursday, April 4, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Hours on Friday, April 5 are from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information call: 248-474-5748.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Worldwide Marriage Encounter offers weekend experiences designed to help married couples improve communication and learn the value of intimacy, April 5-7 and May 17-19 at the St. John's Family Life Center, 44011 Five Mile, Plymouth. Registration fee is \$50. (248) 626-2512 or (810) 286-5524.

RELIGION CLASSES

Faith Covenant Church in Farmington Hills hosts ALPHA, a series of classes that offer a practical introduction to the Christian faith. Classes run 6:30-9 p.m. Thursdays through May 2. Some of the topics to be discussed

will be: Who is Jesus? Why did He die? Does God heal today? Dinner and child care will be provided. Call (248) 661-9191.

PRINCE OF PEACE WOMEN'S LEAGUE

The Women's League of the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church will have a two-day Rummage and Bake sale on Friday, April 12, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and a \$3 bag sale on Saturday, April 13, from 9 a.m. to noon. The church is located at 12 Mile and Farmington Roads.

ON-GOING

WIDOW/WIDOWER SUPPORT

New Hope Center for Grief Support, a Christian-based bereavement outreach center, offers support for widows and widowers with children on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. The group meets at 7 p.m. at St. Kenneth's Parish offices, 14951 Haggerty, Plymouth. New Hope for Kids meets at the same time and place and is aimed at children, age 4-11. (248) 348-0115.

Maintain joy as your children progress

BY NANCY SEBING
SPECIAL WRITER

"Tis the season for kindergarten registration, the time in parents' lives when they begin to feel excitement for their child's new adventures in learning. But for some it can be a time of fear or sadness. Here are some ideas that helped me experience this new transition with joy.

Knowing that God is our Father-Mother, I felt confident that even though our children were leaving their mom and dad each day for school, they could never be separated from their Father-Mother God, who is always with them, loving, caring for them, and protecting them. Our children had been learning this at home and Sunday School, which helped them feel confident and safe as they began their new journey and removed any sense of separation anxiety.

Paulina 12:18 says, "The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore." Also, in Genesis 28:15 we have God's assurance that, "I am with thee and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest." Relying on these ideas gave me the conviction that our children are safe going to

and from school and while at school. This conviction gave me a sense of peace during this time.

Sometimes parents feel sad knowing their dear little one will no longer be with them as much. I maintained my joy with the understanding that "each successive stage of experience unfolds new views of divine goodness and love," as Mary Baker Eddy says in *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*. I realized that our child would feel love from the teacher and new friends. They'd be expressing more obedience and respect as they learned new rules at school.

Also, they would demonstrate intelligence as they learned reading, writing and other subjects. These thoughts brought joy and excitement to me. I anticipated the goodness, discipline, and love my child (and I) would learn as we began a new experience together.

When our children were ages 6 and 8 we decided to send them to a three-week summer camp. It meant dropping them off on the other side of the state and not being in contact with them, other than letters, for three weeks. Some people felt we were crazy

and that our children would be homesick.

We visited the camp before the session started, and we talked with our children about them always being at home in God. We told them that He is the Father-Mother of all of us and provides us with whatever fathering and mothering qualities we need wherever we are. And, of course, we wrote to them often.

Instead of being afraid when we dropped them off, they went happily with their camp counselors. And instead of feeling homesick, they had the time of their lives and begged us to let them go the next year. We were never anxious, only happy for our children.

New stages of experience can be joyous and full of the expectancy of divine goodness and love when understanding God's ever presence. This understanding means happier kindergartners and parents not only on the first day of school but at all times.

Nancy Sebring is mother of two children in elementary school and a member of First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth. She can be reached at nanc@voyager.net.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH

Reach thousands of potential customers by advertising in our Holiday

Flower Directory

SECRETRIES DAY 2002

By placing your ad on this page potential customers will know you're ready to fill their holiday needs. A great reminder that beautiful, fresh flowers are the perfect Easter holiday greeting.



Deadline: April 17th
Run Date: April 21st

Ad placement: Entertainment Section

For more information call:

Tara Eddington
(734) 953-2094 or

Lindsay Scheffer
(734) 953-2095

FAX: (734) 953-2232

Summer camps are easy to find.
(when you know where to look)



The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

CAMP CORNER

First Deadline: March 29th
First run Date: April 4th
Placement: Sport Section

All deadlines for the Camp Corner will be on Friday before the Thursday Edition.

Look for this corner to appear in the Sports Section every Thursday until July!

Professional Secretaries Week

April 21-27

Whether you say "Professional Secretaries Week" or "Administrative Professionals Week" the point is to praise the individual who makes your job easier from day to day. Whatever title you give the week of April 21-27, The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers has a great and affordable way for you to say thank you for all that individual's hard work.

On Thursday, April 25th you can let all of Wayne and Oakland Counties know how much that person really means to you. This directory will appear in the front of the newspaper, and you can choose from the ad sizes below. (Deadline is Thursday, April 19th)



PROM

This is your opportunity to help these kids prepare for one of the biggest nights of their life! Don't let that business on the corner take away from your chance to grab their attention with what you have to offer!

The first ever "Prom Directory" will appear in all 16 papers in Wayne & Oakland Counties. You know what your business has to offer, so why shouldn't they? You never know, you could win them over and have them come back for an even more important day...their wedding!

Deadline: March 29th
Total Run: Every Thursday from April 4th through May 20th



FOR MORE INFORMATION - CALL:

DYLAN

(734) 953-2073

FAX: (734) 953-2232

Look for information on these directories in April

HEALTH & FITNESS DIRECTORY

CHILD DIRECTORY

PET DIRECTORY

Special Golf Directory for the Spring of 2002



All deadlines for the Special Golf Directory are on the Friday before the upcoming Thursday edition.

What a great place to advertise your golf related business.

This special directory will allow you to reach 400,000 Observer & Eccentric customers. Look for this tab to be running throughout the spring, summer and fall on Thursdays.

THE Observer & Eccentric NEWSPAPERS

35251 Schoolcraft Road • Livonia, MI 48150

- Livonia Observer
- Canton Observer
- Plymouth Observer
- Westland Observer
- Garden City Observer
- Redford Observer
- W. Bloomfield Eccentric
- Farmington Observer
- Southfield Eccentric
- Rochester Eccentric
- Birmingham Eccentric
- Troy Eccentric
- Clinton Eccentric
- Oxford Eccentric
- Lake Orion Eccentric
- Waterford Eccentric

SAMPLE SIZES AND PRICES

2 columns x 2 inches
(approx. 4 1/4" x 2")

YOUR COST:

\$160.00
Per insertion

1 column x 2 inches
(approx. 2" x 2")

YOUR COST:

\$80.00
Per insertion

OPEN RATE: \$215.60

* 3 column x 3 inch size available in the Camp Corner.

YOUR COST:

2 columns x 3 inches
(approx. 4 1/4" x 3")

\$240.00
Per insertion

OPEN RATE: \$646.80