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turns to horses for
relaxation
Observer Life, C1



VOLUME 117 NUMBER 100

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DOC surprised by local prison shift

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

The state's Department of Corrections was caught just as much off-guard as Plymouth Township officials when the state legislature moved a proposed 400-bed expansion from Scott Correctional Facility in Northville to Western Wayne Correctional Facility in Plymouth Township.

Funding for the potential expansion is contained in Senate Bill 540, a supplemental appropriations bill that sets aside some \$3.6 million to build at Western Wayne. The bill was passed by the Senate July 17 and went through the House the same day.

In a letter to state and local officials representing the Plymouth and Northville areas, new DOC director Patricia Caruso said her department had expected the controversial expansion to go to Scott.

Prior to passing the supplemental appropriations bill containing this provision, the Legislature changed the location of this housing unit from Scott to the Western Wayne Correctional Facility, Caruso wrote. The Department of Corrections did not request this change, nor were we consulted prior to passage.

That left Caruso in the same boat as Plymouth Township Supervisor Steve Mann, who was angry that no one from

the state called to consult him about the move. Both Sen. Bruce Patterson, R-Canton, and Rep. John Stewart, R-Plymouth Township, have since spoken to Mann on that issue.

Department of Corrections spokesman Russ Marlan said his department would have gladly made such courtesy calls had they known the change was being made.

"When we thought it was going to be at Scott, we had called state and local officials," Marlan said. "But when the legislature switched the funds to Western Wayne, we weren't consulted, so we were unable to make that type of courtesy call."

Mann pointed out the township

already provides services such as police and fire to the prison, which now houses some 925 inmates.

Mann said he doesn't want to see Western Wayne expanded, but if it is going to be, he'd like assurances from the state that Plymouth Township will be compensated for it.

"They have to compensate us in some way for the additional drain on our resources," Mann said. "(And) it would have to be done in an aesthetically pleasing manner that won't make the prison any more of an eyesore than it already is."

Mann is also concerned about sewer

PLEASE SEE PRISON, A6

Pipeline

School supplies

It's back to school time and officials at the Plymouth Salvation Army want to help those who need it find enough supplies to get ready.

The Salvation Army is looking for donations of various school supplies for students in elementary, middle and high school. Needed supplies include crayons, markers, colored pencils, No. 2 lead pencils, pens (black ink preferred), notebook filler, paper, spiral notebooks, vinyl pencil holders and rulers.

The Plymouth Salvation Army is located on Main just south of Ann Arbor Road. For more information or to arrange a donation, call Bill Moritz at (734) 453-5464.

Culinary gala

Tickets are available for the Schoolcraft College Culinary Extravaganza 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 21.

The new VisiTech Center at Schoolcraft is the site for this year's event, which will feature food, wine, beer and other beverages from more than 50 area restaurants and vendors in southeast Michigan.

Tickets at \$50 per person are available by calling the Schoolcraft College Foundation at (734) 462-4670.

The annual gourmet food and wine event raises money for student scholarships at the college. More than 500 Schoolcraft students receive scholarships from the foundation annually.

Good grief

The New Hope Center for Grief Support in Northville sponsors its Good Grief Golf Outing Saturday, Sept. 6 at Tanglewood Golf Club in South Lyon. The outing begins with a 10 a.m. shotgun start.

The proceeds from this outing will benefit New Hope.



Center for Grief Support, a bereavement outreach center located in Northville, New Hope provides free grief support services and resources to men, women, teens and children throughout southeastern Michigan.

The cost for this four-person scramble, which includes 18 holes of golf with a cart, lunch, dinner and prizes, is \$100 per golfer. Dinner only is \$50 per person.

For information about sponsorship opportunities or for registration information, visit the center's Web site at www.newhopecenter.net or call (248) 348-0115.



RICK SMITH | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth Township Clerk Marilyn Massengill accepts a mock check from Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm to pay for road improvements in the township Thursday in Rochester Hills.

Township collects state grant

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

Plymouth Township Clerk Marilyn Massengill traveled to Rochester Hills to meet Gov. Jennifer Granholm Thursday with a small amount of money in her purse.

She came home with enough to improve the looks of a long stretch of Ann Arbor Road.

Massengill was on hand to accept a check for \$717,323 from Granholm, the amount of a grant the township got under the Transportation Enhancement Act.

It was really quite exciting, Massengill said.

The money will be used by the township's new Downtown Development Authority for streetscape improvements along the Ann Arbor Road corridor. This particular money will pay for improvements

PLEASE SEE COLLECTS, A5

City awards bids for road projects

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

A \$1 million road improvement project is slated to begin this week on Plymouth's southwest side.

City commissioners Monday approved a low-bid contract with Peter Basile & Sons Inc. of Livonia to install new water mains and pave sev-

PLEASE SEE PROJECTS, A3

Life in the cards for centenarian

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

Walter Schultz once owned Dodge Drugs in downtown Plymouth, and during his working years must have discovered the fountain of youth.

A youthful Schultz celebrated his 103rd birthday last week with his card-playing friends at Tonquish Manor.

"I didn't realize I was going to be here this long, but I seem to hang on," said Schultz, who still drives to the weekly card games from his Plymouth home. "There's no secret, just smile and be positive."

Schultz said he enjoys playing

PLEASE SEE CENTENARIAN, A5



Walter Schultz gets a little buss on the cheek from friend Betty Maxwell as he celebrates his 103rd birthday with a party at Tonquish Manor.

Technicality costs grant

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

Plymouth-Canton Schools Superintendent Jim Ryan said he "can't understand" how the district lost out on a \$1.4 million federal grant from the Department of Education to create smaller learning communities at the high school park and is soliciting help from Michigan's congressional

PLEASE SEE TECHNICALITY, A3

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AROUND TOWN

RESTAURANT CRAWL

Taste of Plymouth's Old Village Restaurant Crawl takes place from 6-8 30 p m Wednesday, Aug 13

The annual event, sponsored by the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, allows participants to sample the best eats offered by several area restaurants

Participating restaurants this year include Bushel's Cafe, Dunleavy's Bar & Grill, Lower Town Grill, Plymouth Fish & Seafood, Grecian Cafe, Shelley's Chicken Manor, Station 885 and Harvey's Deh

Participants must have advance tickets, which cost \$15 and are available at participating restaurants or by calling the chamber, (734) 453-1540

FALL FUND-RAISING

Non-profit and community groups that want to raise money can participate in the Plymouth Fall Festival Sept 5-7

To obtain a booth, contact committee president Mark Baldwin at 734/455-1350, or

on the Internet at plymouth-fallfestival.com

Applications can also be obtained at the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, 386 S Main, in Plymouth

HOT DOG DAYS

The Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth hosts a hot dog roast prior to the Plymouth City Commission meeting scheduled at the Kiwanis Park at 6 p m Monday, Aug 18

Free hot dogs, chips and drinks will be available. Kiwanis Club Park is located at the corner of Auburn and Junction

For more information please contact Lee Harrison, (734) 416-6055, Stella Greene, (734) 416-4278, or Mark Christiansen, (734) 453-1234, Ext 244

INTERLOCHEN ATTENDANCE

Jenna Batts, a junior at Canton High School and resident of Plymouth, is currently attending Interlochen Arts

Camp near Traverse City Batts, the daughter of David and Monica Batts, is studying creative writing at the camp, celebrating its 76th summer of arts education

Although always a writer, Batts' interest in writing had been peaked by her high school poetry classes, and participation in "Writers Block"

Interest in Interlochen's program came from various sources and led to submission of her writing portfolio and application for admission. Batts submitted examples in language, poetry, fiction and non-fiction

Students ages 8 to 18, hailing from all 50 states and more than 30 countries, spend four to eight weeks exploring and honing their art in the camp setting

Creative Writing students explore poetry, fiction and nonfiction, play writing, screen plays and film making, and literary publication



Batts



Taking the stage

The Plymouth-Canton Educational Park band The Red White and Silver, performed at Wednesday's Music in the Air concert series, sponsored weekly in Kellogg Park by the Plymouth Community Arts Council. The PCEP band is made up of high school students who perform for sporting events and those who have graduated from PCEP. The Clelands also performed. The concert series is down to its last two performances: a cappella group elmoThumm on Aug 13 and Zak Morgan Aug 20

FIRE RUNS

The Plymouth Community Fire Department responded to the following runs during the period from July 30-Aug 5

■ Tuesday, Aug 5 — Commercial rescue runs on Haggerty, residential rescue runs on Rocker, Northville Road and Ann Arbor Road, vehicle accidents on Beck south of Five Mile, mutual aid hazardous materials runs on Plymouth Road and the I-94 service drive, downed wires on Ann Arbor Trail, and vehicle fire at M-14 and Sheldon

■ Monday, Aug 4 — Industrial rescue run on Keel, commercial rescue run on Haggerty, residential rescue runs on Ann, Blanch and Lexington

■ Sunday, Aug 3 — Commercial rescue run on Ann Arbor Trail, residential rescue runs on Haggerty, on McKinley, on Ann Arbor Trail, on Greenbrier and on Pilot, vehicle accident with wash-down at Wing and Main, alarm malfunction on Caprice, industrial rescue run on General

■ Saturday, Aug 2 — Residential rescue runs

on Plymouth Road, on Farmbrook, on Sheridan and on Wendover, commercial rescue run on Ann Arbor Road

■ Friday, Aug 1 — Industrial rescue run on Plymouth Oaks, residential rescue runs on Spicer, on Haggerty and on Shadywood, investigations at Plymouth Road and Haggerty and on Sheldon, vehicle accident on southbound I-275 at M-14, alarm malfunction on General, downed wires on Ross

■ Thursday, July 31 — Vehicle accident at Ann Arbor Road and Mill, commercial rescue runs on Ann Arbor Road and on N Main, industrial rescue run on Sheldon, residential rescue run on Ann Arbor Road

■ Wednesday, July 30 — Residential rescue runs on Haggerty, on Deer, on Sheldon, on Brookline, on Plymouth Heights and on Parkview, wash down on southbound I-275 north of M-14, rescue run at Forest and Ann Arbor Trail, mutual aid hazardous materials run on Plymouth Road in Livonia

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TECHNICALITY

FROM PAGE A1

delegation to appeal

However, a federal education official said the rules are 'fairly cut and dry,' and Plymouth-Canton should have "followed the rules" in applying for the grant.

The school district is seeking the grant to implement its plan for ninth-grade students at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, to keep kids from potentially slipping through the cracks at the campus that serves 5,100 students.

For the first time, groups of 90 students, 30 to a classroom, will share three teachers for language arts, science and social studies. Students will remain in their home school for the core classes, eliminating much of the need to travel among the three buildings.

School officials believed they would receive the \$1.4 million grant to implement the program because in 2000, Plymouth-Canton Schools received a \$95,000 federal grant to plan changes at the Park.

"I'm totally convinced they threw out our application without taking a good look," said Ryan. "They don't know how unique the Park is. If that sounds like sour grapes."

According to Karen Stratman Clark, chief for discretionary grant programs for the Office of Vocational and Adult Education for the Department of Education, the district's application was ruled ineligible because Plymouth High School is listed with an enrollment of 432 students, which doesn't meet the federal requirement that a high school applying for the grant have at least 1,000 students.

"That enrages you because you know that it's one park with three high schools," said Ryan. "We probably are the only high school in the nation with three buildings so close kids actually go to other buildings."

Ryan said he doesn't believe the Department of Education looked at the entire grant, noting that while Plymouth High School officially has a low student count, the building has 1,700 students in it daily as

students travel among the three high schools.

Clark admitted the grant probably wasn't evaluated when the screening committee noticed the student population of Plymouth High School.

"It may be technical, but it's a condition of eligibility," said Clark. "They could have chosen not to include that school in the application."

I understand their claim, but we were very clear applicants must have enrollment of at least 1,000 students," she said. "There's no formal appeals process."

Clark said an announcement of who is receiving the grants won't be made for another two months.

On Thursday, Ryan sent a letter to U.S. Sens. Carl Levin and Debbie Stabenow, seeking their support in appealing the Department of Education's ruling.

"Our Educational Park allows our students to travel to the building that houses the programs they need for future success. Thus, it is like having 5,100 students at one large high school. I beg for your attention and support to help us have our application reviewed again with this unique quality in mind," stated the letter, in part.

Ryan said he will contact U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter Monday to attempt a meeting with Michigan's congressional delegation.

"All I need is 20 minutes," said Ryan. "This is really important to the school district, and it's good for kids."

Lon Rutkofske, director of secondary education, said the district is still committed to the project.

"Right now, we're going to have to find other sources of funding," said Rutkofske. "We don't think we can do it as well, or as in-depth, as we could."

"We want to make the Park a more student-friendly place, make it a protected environment for ninth graders," he said.

"If students get behind in ninth grade, the chances of them succeeding is much tougher."

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O&E opens new packaging center

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

A high-tech inserter for advertising circulars and the distribution center that houses it will help *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* advertisers target their ads to the exact audiences they want to reach.

The equipment and a new Packaging and Distribution Center on Industrial in Livonia represent a nearly \$2 million capital investment by the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*.

As our volume of inserts increases, we'll be able to handle more efficient and finer zones for our advertisers, said Richard Agnien, president of HomeTown Communications Network, parent company of the *Observer & Eccentric*. Advertisers want to get their message to their most likely customer.

The Newstec GMA 1000 and two Quipp 300 Stackers replace two smaller Kansas inserters and stackers. Those machines have been sold to a newspaper in Sarnia, Ontario.

The new equipment will make it possible to output 20,000 packages of inserts an

hour using the newspapers' Classified sections as jackets. This compares to 7,000 to 8,000 packages with the old equipment.

Jeff Greene, *Observer & Eccentric* assistant press and mail supervisor, has been promoted to Packaging and Distribution Center manager. He will be responsible for day-to-day management of the center. Greene, a graduate of Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, has been with the company since 1990.

"This will allow us to be two to three times more efficient in output," Greene said. He said he has been able to cut the number of shifts in half since beginning operations this week at the new facility.

Peter Neill, general manager of the *Observer & Eccentric*, said the most important advancement is that new software will allow advertisers to have their circulars targeted for more localized zones rather than paying for wider distribution that they don't want.

"It allows us to compete in this extremely competitive market place on a much more level playing field for the advertiser's dollar," Neill said.



Irene Taucher (left) of Westland and Karen Lafayette of Livonia organize inserts with the new presses.

The *Observer & Eccentric* has taken a seven-year lease on the new 20,535-square-foot facility, about a half mile from the *Observer & Eccentric*'s main office at Levan and I-96. This compares to approximately 5,000 square feet at the Levan facility. In addition to the insertions operation, the facility will also house some of the circulation department in a 2,000-square-foot office area.

The move helps free up space at the *Observer & Eccentric*'s main facility for storing newsprint and making way for two new color units on the press, which will begin operating by the end of the month.

An open house at the Packaging and Distribution Center is planned for some time in September.

hgallagher@oe.hometownlife.com

PROJECTS

FROM PAGE A1

eral streets at a cost that is nearly \$80,000 less than originally projected.

The project, which is expected to be completed in November, includes installation of a new water main along McKinley, between Linden and Maple.

The resurfacing project encompasses paving on McKinley, where the new water main is being installed, Evergreen, from Elm to Linden, Elm Street, from Evergreen to McKinley, Woodland Place, from Evergreen to McKinley and Linden from Evergreen to McKinley.

The low bidder has worked for the City of Plymouth in the past, City Manager Paul Sincock told commissioners Monday. "While we were, at times, not pleased with their performance last summer, there is a significant difference between the low bids. While we had some difficulties, we worked through those, and we don't find any reason not to accept the low bid."

Sincock said the problems mainly dealt with stockpiling of construction materials on the property of residents, not quality issues with the project.

According to the bid packages, Knesel Construction Co. estimated costs at \$1.1 million for the street project.

Basile & Sons will also repave a parking lot on

Penniman, and a portion of York Street, at the CSX crossing, which is being closed.

While the city's road projects are on schedule, some of the Wayne County road projects affecting Plymouth and Plymouth Township residents are not. The Joy Road to Ann Arbor Trail resurfacing project should have been started this summer, already, said Mike Darga, division design engineer for Wayne County. "We got behind on the survey. But, if all goes well, we will get started this fall and be finished sometime next spring."

That portion of the repaving is expected to cost \$900,000.

Meanwhile, the widening and resurfacing of Sheldon from North Territorial north to the CSX railroad crossing

has been delayed until next spring. As part of the project, the intersection of North Territorial and Sheldon will be widened to eliminate the squeeze for drivers allow for five regulation-sized lanes.

"We're still looking at the engineering of how to fit it, and we had some utility issues," said Darga of the \$450,000 undertaking. "It looks like it's now a project for next spring."

And, as for the \$9 million Sheldon Road underpass, for which construction is years behind schedule, Darga said delayed negotiations with CSX and discussions with the City of Plymouth over its \$503,000 commitment have once again pushed the project start to no earlier than spring of next year.

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LIBRARY PICKS

Every week the Plymouth District Library staff provides the Observer with their list of "Best Sellers" based on the number of requests for titles by library patrons. The books are available by placing a request with the library, 453-0750.

FICTION

- 1 To the Nines Janet Evanovich
- 2 The Da Vinci Code Dan Brown
- 3 Johnny Angel Danielle Steel
- 4 The Lake House James Petterson
- 5 Gone Too Far Suzanne Brockmann

NONFICTION

- 5 Kate Remembered A Scott Berg
- 1 Living History Hillary Clinton
- 2 Benjamin Franklin Walter Isaacson
- 3 Under the Banner of Heaven Jon Krakauer
- 4 The Kennedy Curse Edward Klein

CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOKS

- 1 Full Full! Full of Love Trish Cooke
- 2 Dog Days Amanda Harvey
- 3 Catilda John Stadler
- 4 Bunnies on the Go Rick Walton
- 5 Little Quack Lauren Thompson

Hearing continued in death of Canton police officer

BY JACK GLADDEN
STAFF WRITER

A preliminary hearing for Kurtis R. Bragg, 22, of Elizabethtown, Ky., has been continued until Aug. 21 at 2 p.m. in Plymouth's 35th District Court.

Prosecutor Robert Moran asked for the continuance at the end of a three-hour hearing on Friday, saying he had another witness to call but the witness is in a hospital in Kentucky and is unable to travel at the moment.

Bragg is charged with second-degree murder in the death of Canton Police Officer Lew Stevens. Bragg was the driver of a 2002 Pontiac Grand Prix that plowed into Stevens parked patrol vehicle July 23.

The crash occurred on Lotz Road just north of Van Born shortly after 4 p.m. Bragg has been held in Wayne County jail without bond after being released from a hospital.

Defense Attorney Joseph A. Simon asked after the continuance was granted that a \$200,000/10 percent bond be set for Bragg. Judge John E. MacDonald denied the request and remanded Bragg to the Wayne County jail.

At Friday's hearing Bragg, wearing a white shirt and tie, entered the courtroom on crutches, his right foot in a cast. He sat quietly during the proceedings.

The prosecution called six witnesses during the hearing. Amber McEwen, 18, of Belleville testified that she was hanging out with friends in the area of the crash when she saw a young boy riding a bike along Lotz Road and heard gravel flying as a car was coming south on Lotz south of the railroad tracks.

She said she yelled to the boy to get off the road. 'The car was speeding, she said. 'It was speeding. It was probably going 90 miles per hour.'

She said the boy pulled his bike to the side of the road. 'After the car went by I asked him if he was OK and he said yes,' McEwen testified. The bike rider, 12-year-old Gary Santti, testified that after McEwen yelled at him he rode his bicycle into the ditch.

It was speeding down the road, he said. Going maybe 95 mph. Rocks were hitting me in the back.

Michigan State Police Trooper Kevin Lucidi, a traffic



Curtis Bragg (right) consults with his attorney

crash reconstructionist, said he arrived on the scene about 5:15 p.m. on the day of the crash. He took measurements and made various tests to attempt to determine the speed of Bragg's vehicle.

After crossing over four sets of railroad tracks just north of the accident site, the vehicle went airborne, according to Lucidi.

It went about 51 feet airborne, he testified. 'I estimate conservatively that it was traveling about 81-89 mph.'

He testified that there was no evidence of braking on the part of the Grand Prix.

On cross examination, Lucidi said that he couldn't say definitely whether any attempt was made to slow the car after it was back on the ground. But he testified that it was traveling at least 71 mph when it struck Stevens' patrol car.

Another MSP trooper, Gabriel Seibt, testified that he was sent to St. Joseph's hospital to check on Bragg's condition after the crash.

He testified Bragg told him in the hospital that prior to the accident he and two friends had gone "bar hopping."

'He said they were drinking Bud Lite,' Seibt testified, "and

that they had two to three beers at the first bar and two to three at the second."

On cross examination, Simon asked Seibt if Bragg had been given his Miranda rights prior to the interview. Seibt said no.

'Did you ask what time they started drinking and what time they stopped?' Simon asked. Again the trooper answered no.

After Seibt was excused, Moran asked for a continuance in order to bring another witness, the front seat passenger in Bragg's car, to the stand after his doctors give him clearance to travel.

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Project idea shown

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- Tuscany Label

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- 12 Bamboo Tabletop
- 47 Citronella

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Project idea shown

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- Tuscany Label

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Project idea shown

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Project idea shown

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Project idea shown

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Project idea shown

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Project idea shown

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Frames

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Wedding Floral Picks

3.99 Each

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Wedding

50 or 100 Yard Mega Roll Tulle

80 Circle Mega Pack Tulle

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This material was developed through a project funded by the Michigan Truck Safety Commission

COLLECTS

FROM PAGE A1

from Eckles to about Haggerty.

Planned improvements include a two-foot stamped-concrete setback, trees along the road, landscaping and some decorative fencing.

"It'll kick off the first large-scale revitalization of Ann Arbor Road," said Plymouth Township Supervisor Steve Mann. "That's what the DDA was created to do."

Mann said township officials are working with the state on design aspects of the project. He hopes construction can start in the spring.

"We're just getting into the design aspect," Mann said. "We're hoping for the spring, but it might wait until the fall. It's definitely a 2004 project."

The check to Plymouth Township was one of several Granholm dished out Thursday, good for \$86 million worth of state road funding.

With so much money being given out by a Democrat in Republican communities, cooperation seemed to be the theme of the day.

These are not Democratic roads or Republican roads. These are roads that we all drive on," Granholm said. She acknowledged that she'd been lobbied hard to restore funding that had previously been promised by the state, but which she had later withdrawn due to the state's budget crunch.

Staff writer Annette Kingsbury contributed to this report.

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CENTENARIAN

FROM PAGE A1

cards with his senior buddies, and "I think I'd like to continue to bowl next fall. I'm not sure if I will bowl on a team. I'm not sure if I can bowl three games or not."

Born in 1900, Schultz ventured to Plymouth 25 years later and worked at Dodge Drugs, where the current Wiltse Drugs now stands.

"Back then, the population was 2,800, and the street cars were still running between Wayne, Plymouth, Northville and Farmington," he said.

When the store owner died in 1949, Schultz bought the business a year later. He finally closed the store after retiring in 1968. And, it's been a long retirement.

"I've lived off Uncle Sam for a long time now," said Schultz with a smile. "A guy (from Social Security) came to the door about a year ago and said he was checking up to see if I was still around."

Schultz was married to his sweetheart, Mini, for 72 years before she passed away in 1997. His 76-year-old son, Harold, lives in Plymouth, while his 68-year-old daughter, Ellen Corking, resides in

Ann Arbor

His friends like to tease Schultz about his prowess with the opposite sex.

"That's all fable," he said. "I just kiss 'em once in a while to keep in practice."

The same day, residents at Tonquish Manor found out they were celebrating 200 years of life as Rhue Datcher just turned 97.

"You lose an awful lot of friends, and you have to keep making new ones," she said. "But, I'm going to live to be 100 and have a party."

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Walter Schultz, who recently celebrated his 103rd birthday, gets a friendly hug from 97-year-old Rhue Datcher at a birthday party in his honor. Joining them were friends Paul Prymak (from left), Betty Maxwell and Adi Cocchi.

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

PERCEPTRON HONORED

Perceptron Inc., headquartered in Plymouth, announced recently it has been selected as a winner in the 2003 Automotive News Premier Automotive Suppliers Contributions to Excellence (PACE) Awards co-sponsored by Cap Gemini Ernst & Young. Perceptron was awarded the honor for its AutoGauge FMS (Flexible Measurement System) manufacturing process improvement system. Perceptron's AutoGauge FMS uses precision laser sensors integrated with a variety of industrial robots in the manufacturing process to help automakers improve quality, reduce scrap and rework, and significantly shorten new product launch times. The system

is widely used by European automakers and is now being adopted by American, European and Japanese OEMs for plants in North America. The annual awards honor automotive supplier innovations in four categories: Product-North America, Product-Europe, Manufacturing Process and Capital Equipment, and Information Technology and Services. Perceptron was one of 12 winners out of 22 finalists and nine companies that received honorable mentions. Winners were chosen by an independent panel of judges.

AISIN PRODUCTION

Aisin World Corp. of America announced it has started production and ship-

ment of its variable valve timing system for General Motors new 3.6L V6 engine to debut on the new 2004 model year Cadillac CTS in August. As a business partner of GM, AWA hopes to continue to further enhance GM's reputation in the market by providing high value added technologies in the future, said AWA president Junichi Nishimura. VVT is a high-tech system that provides the optimum control of valve opening and closing timing according to the engine revolution for the enhancement of engine performance and the improvement of fuel consumption. GM's new V6 engine will be praised by new CTS users due to its higher performance and better drivability, said Nishimura.

PRISON

FROM PAGE A1

capacity at Western Wayne, which shares 0.3 cubic feet per second of sewer capacity with Scott Correctional Facility, which is situated across the street. Township engineer Michael Bailey sent a memo to Mann last week saying, in effect, that Western Wayne already exceeds capacity. Mann also calls it ironic that the state would expand Western Wayne despite the sewer overrun when new regulations were just placed on municipalities over the same issue late last year. "It's ironic that the state Department of Environmental Quality is breathing down the necks of municipalities about sewer over-runs and capacity,"

'It's ironic that the state Department of Environmental Quality is breathing down the necks of municipalities about sewer over-runs and capacity, and then they'll turn around and do this.'

Steve Mann
Plymouth Township supervisor

Mann said, and then they'll turn around and do this. The expansion has been banded about between the states sites for female prisoners Camp Brighton, near Pinckney, Scott, and Western Wayne.

Camp Brighton was ruled out, oddly enough, because of sewer problems. The legislature decided at the last minute to substitute Western Wayne instead of Scott, but the Wayne County area was preferable anyway, said David Newman, the legislative liaison to the Department of Corrections. "That area is preferable because it's close to Hutzel Women's Hospital in Detroit," Newman said. DOC spokesman Marlan said now that the department knows the funds are earmarked for Western Wayne options can be explored. "We're analyzing the feasibility of building it there," Marlan said. "We're also exploring other options, including renovating a vacant cell block at Western Wayne instead of adding brand new cell block."

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Barbara R. Keith
Services for Barbara Keith, 53, of Plymouth were held Aug 2 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church with the Rev John J Sullivan officiating. Burial was at Parkview Memorial Cemetery in Livonia.

Mrs Keith was born May 23, 1950, in Ypsilanti and died July 28 in Detroit. Mrs Keith resided in Plymouth her entire life. She graduated from St Johns High School in 1968. She worked as an operator for AT&T for 36 years. She was a life long member at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church and was a volunteer for a cardiac research project at Michigan Heart.

She volunteered for several organizations, Human Rights Committee for Special Education in Northville Public Schools, Parent Support Group for Special Education at Wayne State University, and Stephens Ministry at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church. She belonged to various support and advocacy groups for children with disabilities. She enjoyed motorcycling when she was younger.

She was an avid sports fan for the Detroit Red Wings, Detroit Tigers, Pistons and Cubs. She loved dogs, especially her own Bernese Mountain dogs. She loved watching movies, shopping and frequented craft festivals in the summer.

Survivors include husband,

Michael B Keith of Plymouth, sons, Neil Keith and Brendan Keith, daughter, Kelly Keith, parents, William (Angela) Thomas, one brother, and three sisters.

Memorial contributions may be made to Henry Ford Hospital, Heart Failure and Transplant Center. Arrangements made by Vermeulen Funeral Home.

Rolando Jose Bernal-Nouel
Services for Rolando Bernal-Nouel, 22, of Canton were held Aug 4 at St John Neumann Catholic Church with the Rev Tony Ritcher officiating.

Rolando was born July 14, 1981, in Valencia, Venezuela and died July 31 in Livonia. He was a student at the Specs Howard School of Broadcasting.

Survivors include wife, Lauren Walterscheid, parents, Elsi (Jose Luis) Sevillano of Canton and Floriberto Bernal, brother, Luis Eduardo Bernal-Nouel, and sister, Marielsi Bernal-Nouel.

Arrangements made by McCabe Funeral Home Canton Chapel.

Lucille M. Rosenbergh
Services for Lucille Rosenbergh, 81, of South Lyon, were held Aug 6 at St Thomas a Becket Catholic Church.

Mrs Rosenbergh was born April 25, 1922, in Detroit and died Aug 3 at Providence Hospital. She was a secretary for the Detroit Board of

Education.

Survivors include husband, Joseph M , daughters, Julie (Ray) Kratt of Canton and Peg (Ron) Beattie of Canton, sons, Joe (Jean) and Bill (Ellen) 11 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren.

Arrangements made by L J Griffin Funeral Home Canton Chapel.

Zora Mae Shouse
Services for Zora Shouse, 57, of Plymouth were held Aug 5 at Vermeulen Funeral home with the Rev Drex Morton officiating.

Mrs Shouse was born Dec 26, 1945, in South Lyon and died July 31 in Livonia. She was a homemaker.

Survivors include husband, William Shouse of Plymouth, son, Tyson (Kelly) Shouse of Belleville, and brother, Arnold Childers of Ann Arbor.

Arrangements made by Vermeulen Funeral Home.

Dorothy H. Baldwin
Dorothy Baldwin, 91, of Plymouth died on Aug 4 in Superior Township. Mrs Baldwin was born March 13, 1912, in Elk Rapids, Mich.

Mrs Baldwin came to the Ypsilanti community in 2000 from Plymouth. She was a homemaker. She was a member of St Michael Lutheran Church in Canton. She was a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

Mrs Baldwin was preceded in death by her husband,

George L. Baldwin. Survivors include son, George (Nellie) Baldwin of Plymouth, granddaughters, JoAnn Baldwin of Chicago, and Barbara (Michael) Lund of South Lyon, and great-grandchildren, Katherine and Adam Lund.

Arrangements made by Schrader-Howell Funeral Home.

Paul R. Sambrone
Services for Paul Sambrone, 73, of Plymouth Township were held August 7 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church.

Mr Sambrone was born June 21, 1930, in Plymouth and died August 4 in Plymouth. He was a lifelong resident.

He worked with his father at the family's business in Plymouth's Lower Town, the Androme Hotel and Bar. After the hotel was sold, he became a mechanic and worked for City Disposal Systems in Detroit. He served in the US Army during the Korean conflict. He was a member of Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Plymouth, the Plymouth Knights of Columbus, the American Legion, and the Michigan Teamsters Joint Council No 43.

Survivors include wife of 45 years, Antoinette, children, Andrew (Carol) Sambrone of Brownstown, Paul Sambrone, Jr of Plymouth Township, Vito (Anna) Sambrone of Canton,

and Katherine (Mark) Kohrmann of Plymouth Township, grandchildren, Christian, Sam, Ben, Ruple, Tremor, Elisha and Alexander, and an abundance of nieces and nephews.

Arrangements made by Schrader-Howell Funeral Home.

Vera O. Hamilton
Services for Vera Hamilton, 93, of Livonia (formerly of Plymouth) were held Aug 5 at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth with the Rev Sandra Daily officiating.

Mrs Hamilton was born Nov 26, 1909, in Detroit and died Aug 3 in Livonia. She was a homemaker. She came to the Livonia community in 1953 from Detroit.

She was a member of Timothy Lutheran Church of Livonia. She loved to read books, converse with people and drink coffee.

Survivors include daughter, Christine Whitaker of Livonia, sons, Donald (Joyce) Hamilton of Livonia and Walter Hamilton of Livonia, 14 grandchildren, and 15 great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Timothy Lutheran Church, 8820 Wayne Road, Livonia, MI 48150.

Arrangements made by Schrader-Howell Funeral Home.

William Edward Frank
A private family memorial

service will be held at a later date for William Frank. Mr Frank, 81, passed away Aug 1 at home after a battle with cancer. He was born April 14, 1922, in Detroit.

He served in the US Army as a first lieutenant, Air Corps during World War II. He flew 47 combat missions in a B-24 type aircraft as a navigator and was awarded the Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters. He was formerly of Farmington Hills prior to moving to Kapaa, Hawaii. He enjoyed gardening and loved his cats.

Survivors include children, William Ryan (Marney) Frank of South Lyon and Barbara Ann Rogers of Canton, grandchildren, Todd Rogers of Plymouth, Mundy (Jeff) Zaborowski of Livonia, John H Frank of South Lyon, brother, John (Margaret) Frank of Tucson, Ariz , several nieces and nephews and loving friends also survive.


Memorial contributions may be made to the Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh Road, Livonia, MI 48154-5010, The Salvation Army, 100 Arbana Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48103, Humane Society of Livingston County, P O Box 351, Brighton, MI 48116-0351, or Kauai Humane Society, P O Box 3330, 3-825 Kaunualii Highway, Lihue, Hawaii 96766.

Arrangements made by Phillips Funeral Home, South Lyon.

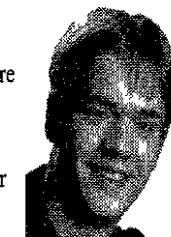
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BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

This has been a belt-tightening year for Wayne County government and County Executive Robert Ficano promises that the 2003-04 budget will be lean, fiscally responsible and still provide the necessary county services



Ficano

the reorganization of the Jobs and Economic Development Department and restructuring the Wayne County Economic Development

Corp along the lines of the Michigan Economic Development Corp

COUNTY CONTRACTS

The administration of former County Executive Edward H McNamara has come under investigation for its handling of county contracts Ficano said this has been another major area of his attention

'After the budget, we'll clean up some of the ordinances on contractual procedures because it is cumbersome right now,' Ficano said 'They (the commission) reacted so much to some of the issues of the past couple years that taking 45 days to work through the process is long and we want to streamline it but still with checks and balances'

Commission Vice Chair John Sullivan, whose district includes Canton, said part of the problem is that Ficano's appointees don't understand county procedures 'It's taking a long time for people to learn the process to get contracts through,' said Sullivan 'But contracts are now coming through on a timely basis, but there have been bumps in the road'

Ficano said the county has held two vendor outreaches to explain the new contracting procedures and another is planned for the fall

Our philosophy is we're not going to guarantee you'll get a contract, but whether you get it or not you'll walk away from the process thinking it was fair, you'll get a fair shot he said

One of Ficano's initiatives for handling conflicts of interest was the appointment of David Esper as inspector general The move was criticized by some county commissioners as a redundancy because it overlapped some of the duties of

County Auditor Brendan Dunleavy Ficano said the two offices do not overlap He said Esper doesn't handle financial audits

'We wanted someone in house where people can check with someone on a question of ethics, Ficano said 'I wanted one person they could go to to get an answer The other thing he does is best practices, to go around and see what other governments and industry are doing'

Commissioner Kay Beard, whose district includes Westland and part of Livonia, said the inspector general position has been a good idea that does not compete with Dunleavy's position

Ficano has been involved in two high profile projects to save major Detroit institutions The county helped secure funding to restore the historic Book Cadillac Hotel with renaissance zone funding Ficano also worked with Gov Jennifer Granholm and Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick to provide financial help for Detroit Receiving and Hutzel hospitals, parts of the Detroit Medical Center

Ficano said the deal will provide at least 10 months of funding He said the problem is severe and has broad implications for Wayne County

The area needs more clinics, he said, especially federally qualified and funded clinics to replace indigent dependency on emergency rooms

Ficano said he is interested in looking at a hospital authority, but only if it is area wide and not limited to Wayne County

'If we're going to do it we ought to bite the bullet and do it regionally,' he said 'There is no reason Trinity Hospital, Botsford and Beaumont are not at the table If a city system fails, I can guarantee you that indigent clients will go out to those services'

Ficano said he has also been working with the Airport Authority in efforts to attract a Boeing Aircraft manufacturing site at Willow Run Airport hgal.agher@oe.hometown.com net (734) 953 2149

BUDGET PROCESS

When Ficano entered office, the 2002-03 budget was facing a \$50 million deficit

'We actually went in and cut appointees' pay by 14 percent, we froze hiring and reduced down the number of appointees,' he said

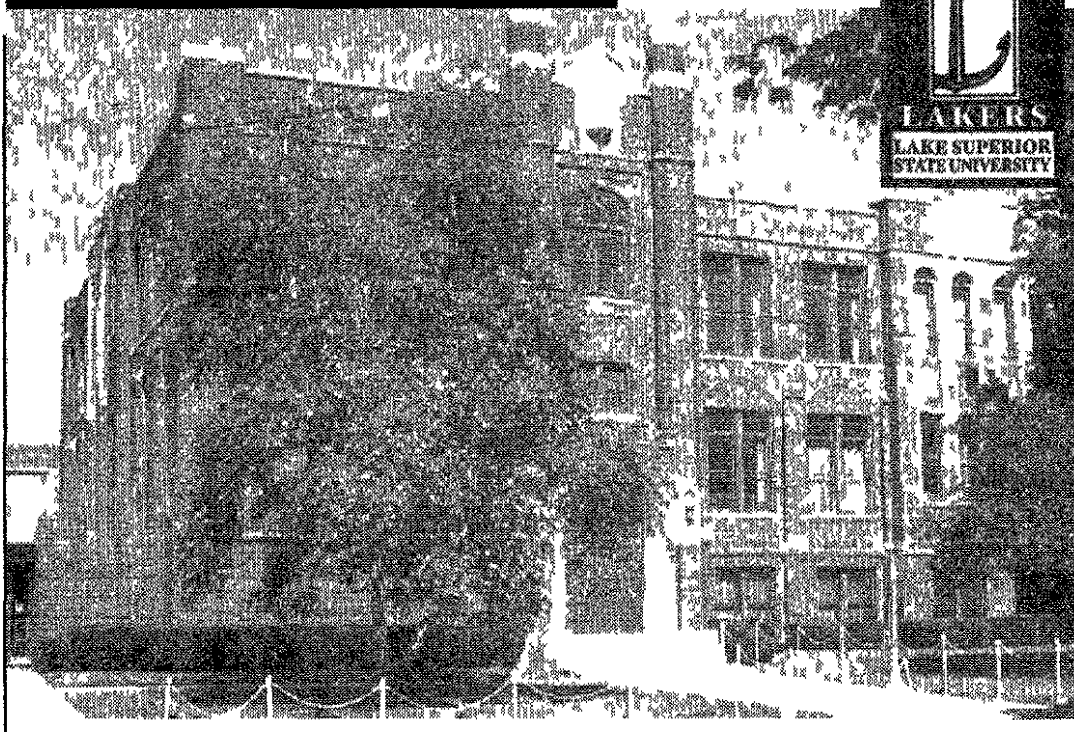
Ficano said he has been able to balance this year's budget without layoffs or tax increases He credited his director of management and budget, Bella Marshall, for her work on the budget He said the new budget will be 'solid without any smoke and mirrors'

One of Ficano's proposals is to seek a request for proposals on the county's two golf courses, Warren Valley and Inkster Valley Ficano said the courses are currently losing \$1.7 million a year He said the county would like to either sell the courses or lease them to a manager who would pay the county a fee Ficano is also recommending

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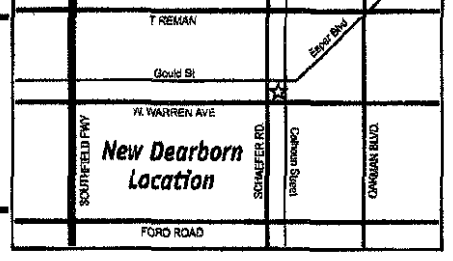


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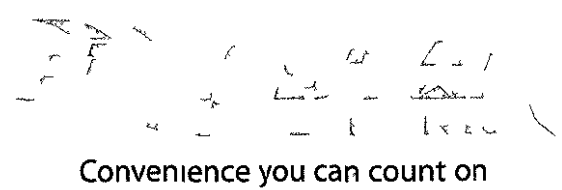
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Rx briefs

Birthing Center

Patients, visitors and staff have been hearing the soft tones of Brahms' Lullaby playing throughout St. Mary Mercy Hospital every time a baby is born in the Miracle of Life Birthing Center in Livonia. The new program has brought joy to many.

The Brahms Lullaby plays 15 seconds at a time for every birth from 4:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily.

For more information visit the Web site at www.stmarymercy.org or call the Marian Women's Center at St. Mary Mercy Hospital at (734) 655 1100.

Healing Arts

The Providence Center for the Healing Arts in the Assarian Cancer Center offers a community center atmosphere for exploring mind, body and spirit. Activities include ceramics, music exploration and therapy, yoga and stretching classes, guided imagery and more. Every Tuesday (5:30 p.m.) brings different activities. Aug. 12 learn about alternative methods of healing at a Reiki Get Together 5:30 p.m. or Polarity Therapy from a speaker 6:30-8 p.m. Aug. 26 is Far East Night with modern Japanese calligraphy and ceramics. The center is at 47601 Grand River at Beck, Novi. To register or for more information call (248) 465 5483.

Book guides runners down road of pregnancy

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Winter brought unusual running challenges for Chris Lundgren. Alaska's ice made it difficult for her to keep her footing — and the threat of falling left her worrying about harming her unborn child.

Falling can be serious when you're pregnant. But Lundgren wasn't concerned about running through pregnancy. She'd run marathons since taking up the sport in 1994 as a student at Michigan State University.

She'd been pregnant before, too. During her first time as an expectant mom in 1997, Lundgren had looked for books to guide her through the nine months. The lack of any written material dampened her plans. She read warnings not to raise the heart rate above 140. She stopped running and went indoors on the StarMaster. In January 2000 she became pregnant again. Her search continued for a book. Nothing. That's when she came up with the idea for *Runner's World Guide to Running & Pregnancy*, due out from Rodale in September.

"I began a journal and interviewed 25 women who ran through pregnancy and everyone had a healthy baby," said Lundgren, a graduate of Birmingham's Seaholm High School. She held journalism

positions in Chicago and Michigan before becoming a mom.

EXERCISE HELPS

Being a writer, Lundgren had set out to do what writers do. She went directly to the source. Dr. James F. Clapp III has spent more than 20 years researching pregnant women and exercise. According to the emeritus professor of reproductive biology at Case Western University in Ohio, pregnant women "who maintain a vigorous regimen of weight-bearing exercise throughout pregnancy gain less weight, feel great, have easier deliveries, deliver lean and physiologically tough babies who are quite different behaviorally, improve their fitness, and recover rapidly from the birth."

Clapp's findings sent Lundgren off on the road to her own discoveries. She continued running, documenting every mile. Her book relays all of the information, including illustrated pre-pregnancy and pregnancy strengthening exercises, symptoms of pregnancy-related illnesses like pre-eclampsia, how to know if that fatigue is caused by running or pregnancy.

Lundgren, who did slip and fall at seven weeks, tells women to call your doctor if that happens.

"Most times they tell you don't worry about it," she said. It's practical advice from a woman who ran through pregnancy.

"We know our bodies and know when it isn't right anymore," Lundgren said. That's the time to stop and cross train. Do something comfortable.

Pregnancy is a tremendous unparal-leled experience and running only makes it better. Running helped me sleep better. It helps the body image. Some people who weren't exercising say, 'I'm getting fat.' Runners said, 'I looked pretty good. Running is very empowering.'

Dr. Eduardo Garcia believes the benefits of running during pregnancy definitely outweighs the risks. An ob/gyn at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Garcia recommends his patients do some form of exercise daily.

GUIDELINES CHANGED

"The guidelines changed in 2002. In the 1980s they were more conservative about exercise," said Garcia, a Bloomfield Township resident with offices in Troy. Until 1984 the American College for Obstetricians and Gynecologists suggested doing cardiovascular activity three times a week. In 2002, they recommended

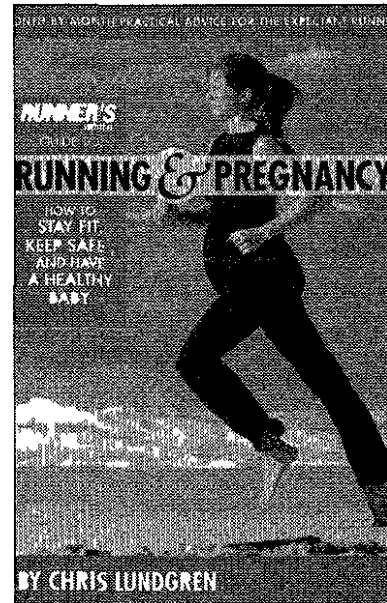
daily exercise for 30 minutes — swimming, aerobic water exercises, stationary biking.

"With running there is always the risk of falling. I recommend running if a woman ran before pregnancy or, if they haven't, to start off slowly with a brisk walk and work their way up. If they haven't exercised before, take it slow during the first eight weeks of pregnancy, when the risk of miscarriage is highest."

Lauri Brockmiller found she could only run until her seventh month. Brockmiller was a personal trainer at Oakland Athletic Club in Birmingham until delivering her baby boy Lockland in May. Brockmiller began running in 1994 to improve her performance as a rugby player at Central Michigan University. She earned a master's degree in exercise physiology from Michigan State University.

"If you weren't an experienced runner before pregnancy, this is not the time to start running," she said. "Every woman can expect to run slower, listen to your body. You sometimes can and sometimes can't."

"The first three months were hard in a lot of ways. There were weeks where I felt I couldn't do it. The second trimester was easier. You slow down and cut mileage. The seventh month



'Running and Pregnancy' helps women continue with fitness programs.

"I felt I wasn't benefiting. It was too hard and too uncomfortable. I did walk and do elliptical, and was running by the third week after delivery." "Everybody's different," she added. "Everybody's pregnancy is different."

Lundgren's book is \$14.95 and available around Labor Day in book stores or at www.amazon.com, barnesandnoble.com, and rodalestore.com. Dr. Clapp's book *Exercising Through Your Pregnancy* is \$17.95 and available from Addicus Books by calling (800) 352 2873 or on the Web site www.AddicusBooks.com.

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Author gives tips for running through all nine months of pregnancy

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Chris Lundgren tackled her problem of running through icy winters in Alaska by fastening screws into the treads of her shoes.

Pregnancy was another matter. There wasn't any written material to guide her through the obstacles. Determined not to let lack of documentation stop her, Lundgren set out to do her own research. She ended up

with one beautiful son, Perry, and the soon-to-be published book *Runner's World Guide to Running & Pregnancy*.

Here are Lundgren's tips for remaining healthy while running through all nine months.

"If someone's planning to run through pregnancy, get a complete physical with your primary care physician to make sure there's no underlying disease."

"Go to an ob/gyn and make

sure that person is on board. Make sure the person is pro-exercise and up to date. A lot of doctors do fall prey to fallacies. When I was pregnant, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists was still telling patients to keep your heart rate below 140 beats per minute.

To keep going, enter your pregnancy in shape. I eased right into pregnancy having some good mileage behind me. I ran until a week before my son was born. I wasn't uncomfortable. Many women stop at about 7 to 7 1/2 months because it's too hard.

"Pay attention to your body. If you're already a runner, you know when you feel bad to stop. Know the difference between fatigue and pregnancy symptoms. Just go ahead and stop."

It's important to have belly and breast support. For the belly there are catalogs with exercise clothing for pregnant women (Lundgren lists them in her book). You need something to secure the belly. As it gets bigger it starts weighing on organs like the bladder. Some women wear a unitard under their running clothing that holds the belly well. A tank bathing suit is another option.

I bought compression shorts from Mothers in Motion. It has panels to lift up the belly. For the breast there are running bras for support. Some women wear two bras. Running can be uncomfortable with big breasts. You need support for the upper back.

Running in heat — Pay attention to your body. 85 degrees is a good measure for when it's getting too hot. That holds true for Michigan and Alaskan women but not necessarily for Florida and Texas, where they're used to it. You don't want body core temperature to get over 102.

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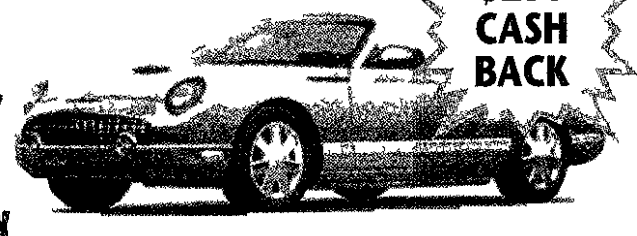


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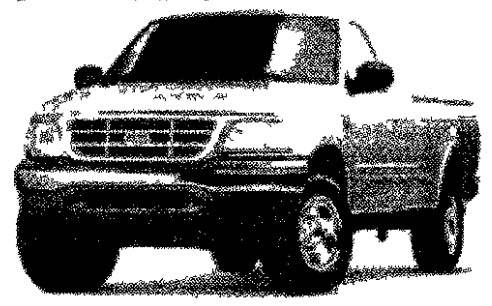
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For Sale By County	3520-3570
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Commercial/Industrial	3900-3980
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Fox Hills updates include balconies, new windows

A few things have changed at Fox Hills, an apartment-to-condominium conversion in Bloomfield Township, since the project began a couple of years ago.

First off, all windows except bays and bows are now replaced as part of the conversion process. Also, new stacked clothes washers and dryers are included at base price in the garden (ranch) residences. And balconies are built into lower-level ranches.

Three types of residences are available at Fox Hills, originally constructed as apartments, 1968-70 off Opdyke just north of Square Lake Road.

■ Ranch, 1,089 square feet, with two bedrooms, two bathrooms - \$127,990 (upper level), \$130,990 (lower).

■ Townhome, 1,270 square feet, two bedrooms, bath and a half - \$149,990

■ Townhome, 1,390 square feet, three bedrooms, two bathrooms - \$169,990

Ranches are stacked four over four, eight to a building. Residents have private storage rooms in the basement.

Townhomes go two to six per buildings, with individual basements.

"We emphasize quality, affordability, flexibility," said Jill A. Cubba, sales consultant. "Quality workmanship at affordable prices. People like the idea they're not forced into a package of upgrades."

P. Craig Cubba, Jill's brother, is executive vice president of Michigan Condominium Corp.

"The grounds and location are two big attractions," he said of large expanses of lawn, mature trees everywhere and a rolling landscape. "We're convenient to I-75. You can get north and south pretty quick."

"It's such a large complex (346 residences), a variety of people are in here from seniors to singles to families," Craig Cubba added. "We're selling to a lot of single people families who want the (Bloomfield Hills) schools and amenities of the pool and tennis courts."

Renovated condos include complete repainting, new windows (except for bays and bows), new refrigerator, range and dishwasher, new sink and faucets, new countertop, new cabinets and new vinyl flooring in the kitchen.

Also, new vanity/sink in bathrooms and new carpeting throughout the rest of the home.

Roofs were replaced about seven years ago, Craig Cubba said. Furnaces and air conditioning processors, projected by Cubba as originals, come with a one-year service warranty for purchasers.



Quality workmanship at affordable prices - the grounds and location are some of the reasons people are moving to Fox Hills - an apartment-to-condominium conversion in Bloomfield Township

Every unit at Fox Hills comes with one assigned space in a carport.

Brick and aluminum siding are primary exterior materials.

The ranch model includes a living room with balcony, dining area, stacked washer/dryer in a closet, master with shower, a second bedroom and a second full bath with combination tub/shower.

The larger townhome model features a living room, dining area, kitchen/nook and half bath on the main floor. All three bedrooms - one decorated as an office - are upstairs. The master has a combination tub/shower. A second full bath also is up.

The smaller townhome model has the

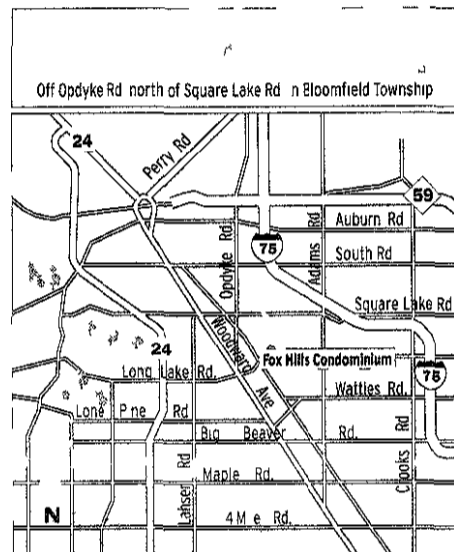
same basic layout downstairs. A full bath is up, along with two bedrooms. The master has a sitting dressing area in a large walk-in closet.

Fox Hills is serviced by city water, sewers and sidewalks. The property tax rate is \$31.66 per \$1,000 of state taxable value, half of sales price. That means the owners of a \$149,990 home there would pay about \$2,400 the first year.

The monthly association fee, which includes water, ranges from \$149 to \$163. Pets are allowed.

Units can be purchased as-is (new windows included) for discounts ranging from \$8,000 to \$10,000.

The sales office/models at Fox Hills (248) 332-6300 are open 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.



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Two-story home ideal for scenic lot

The Hand is a two-story home with an unfinished basement, ideal for a lot overlooking a lake or a valley. It has 1,801 square feet of living area with an additional 421 square feet available once the basement is finished. There is a walk-around deck on two sides of the home with access from a long set of stairs. Large windows across the front bathe the rooms in light as well as add accents to the facade.

The entry opens into a large room that contains the living and dining areas. On the left side is a fireplace, visible and usable from both rooms. Each room has a large window for the view as well as extra light.

The kitchen is open to the dining room with a raised eating bar in the center. There is a garden window over the dual sinks. Beyond the main kitchen is the utility room with extra cabinet space and a pantry. A door opens to the back and stairs that go to the ground.

Across from the stairs to the basement and the second floor is a half bath. Also in this area is a den with a closet and bay windows. This room could also be used as a library, or even a formal living room.

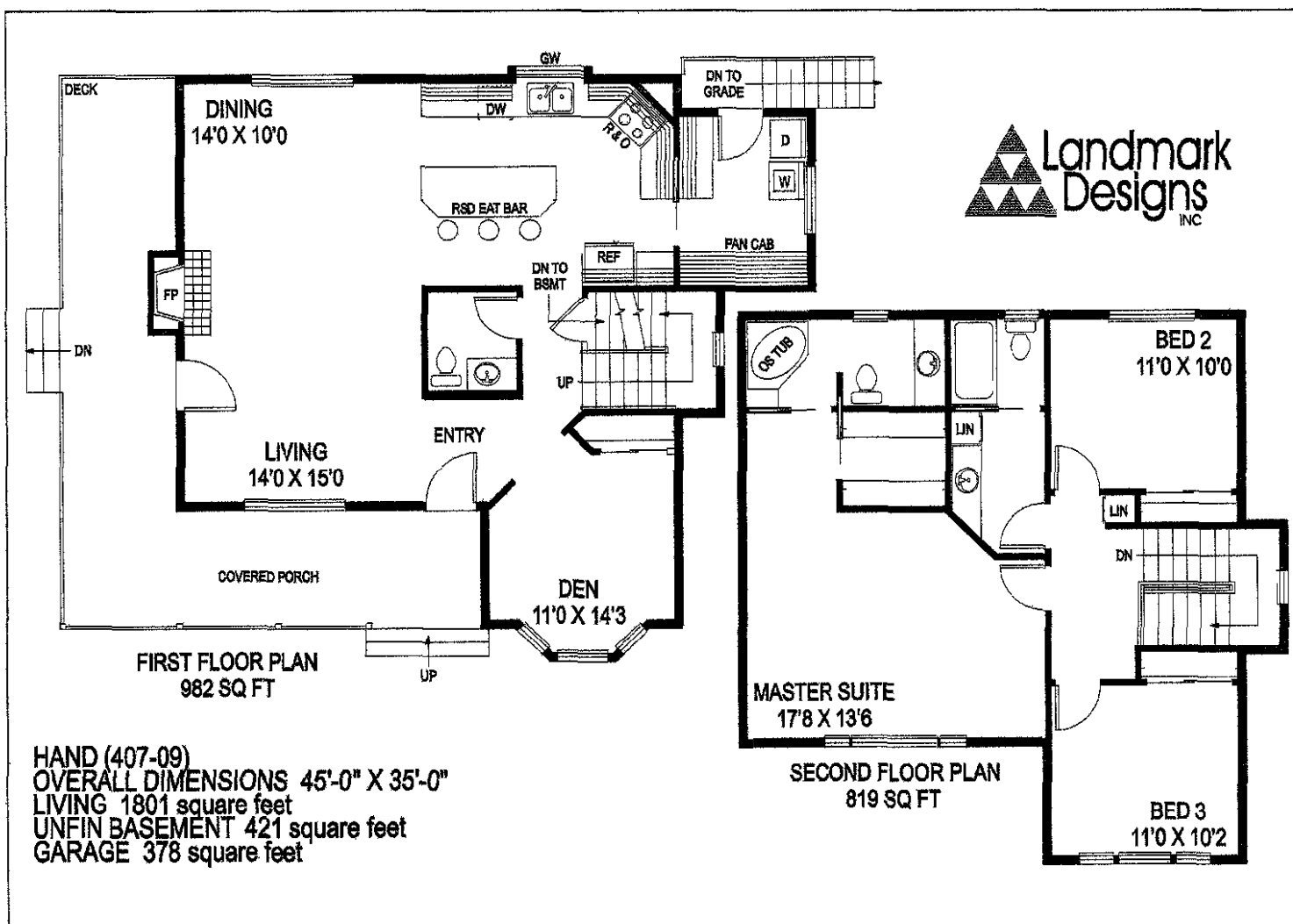
All three bedrooms are upstairs. Bedrooms 2 and 3 are on each side of the stairs. Bedroom 2 has a window that looks out over the backyard and a wall closet. Bedroom 3 has a set of three windows, the center one with a half moon, as well as a walk-in closet. The bath-

The master suite is very large and open. It has three windows, providing light for the room as well as a great view of the panoramic scenery.

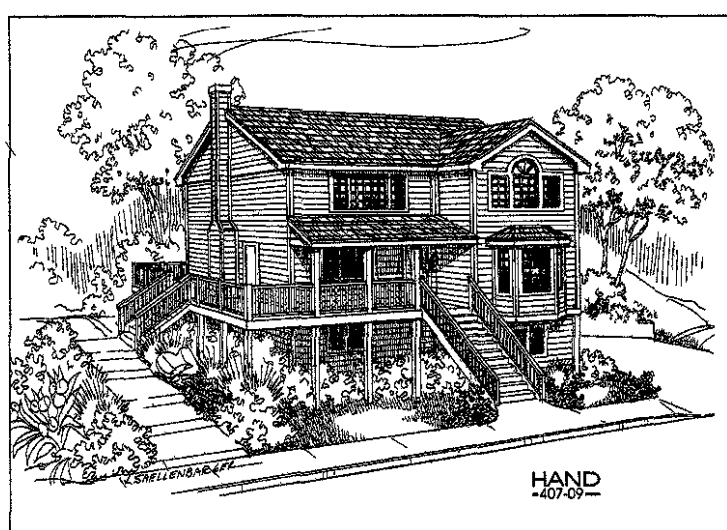
room for these two bedrooms is adjacent to bedroom 2. It has a single sink, a linen closet, and tub.

The master suite is very large and open. It has three windows, providing light for the room as well as a great view of the panoramic scenery. A large walk-in closet, shut off from the suite with a pocket door is next to the large master bath. An oversized oval tub sits in one corner with a single sink across the bath, all behind a pocket door.

For a study plan, including scaled floor plan(s), elevations, section(s) and an artist rendering, send \$24.95 to Landmark Designs, 33127 Saginaw Road, E. Cottage Grove, OR 97424. Please specify plan name (HAND) and the number (407-09). A catalog featuring hundreds of home plans is available for \$12.95 or save by ordering both for \$29.95. For faster processing call (800) 562-1151 or visit www.landmarkdesigns.com.



HAND (407-09)
OVERALL DIMENSIONS: 45'-0" X 35'-0"
LIVING: 1801 square feet
UNFIN. BASEMENT: 421 square feet
GARAGE: 378 square feet



Building codes ensure home project quality, safety

BY DAVID BRADLEY
 ASSOCIATED PRESS

So you think you've thought of all the tools and materials you need for your home improvement project?

Chances are there's a critically important aspect you've overlooked: local building codes.

According to an authority on building codes, do-it-yourselfers are frequently oblivious to code requirements or simply think their project doesn't need an official stamp of approval.

The homeowner could be wrong on both counts, often with unfortunate consequences.

"The consumer needs to know about codes and permits or know someone who does," says Bill Petitta of The Home Service Store. "They run the risk of injury, poor construction results, and can suffer financially, too."

Building codes usually are administered by local municipalities to create "minimum standards" to "protect life, limb, property and environment for the protection of the consuming public," according to Petitta. The bottom line: codes are a series of regulations to limit use of certain materials, products and construction practices.

It's obvious new construction or major additions must meet code requirements, but the average homeowner should look into codes and subsequent building permits if even minor renovations will affect the structural integrity of the home or create a safety or environmental problem.

Surprisingly, the United States is the one major industrialized nation without a uniform building code. Cities and counties are free to adopt one of four competing code systems. Much of the variation owes to geographic reasons, such as earthquake zones or snow loads in mountains. Petitta says such wide swings in building requirements make it a good practice to call local building departments if the homeowner or contractor has a hint of doubt.

But homeowners should think twice if they perceive codes as nothing but bureaucratic red tape.

"What cities want to do is stop the guy who builds a deck on supports too small for the load or runs wiring that could create a fire hazard," says Petitta. "Codes protect your property and maintain its value."

Codes are an expense for homeowners. The cost of building permits range from 9 cents per square foot for new construction to \$30-50 for electrical or plumbing permits on existing buildings. Contractors typically tack code costs onto their fees. Permits are valid for one year and must be posted on the job site.

Still, some do-it-yourselfers simply aren't aware they need a permit or try to dodge codes in an effort to save a few bucks. This makes building inspectors frequent visitors to job sites. Most visits are scheduled when permits are issued but others are unannounced. Inspectors must sign off on various phases of construction. If deficiencies are found, the problem must be corrected and re-inspected. Fines of \$100 or more can be levied, and, in a worse-case scenario, work must be torn out at the homeowner's expense.

Evictions of homeowners for glaring

errors or obvious abuse of the code system are not unheard of.

Non-code work can haunt a homeowner when they try to sell their home. If problems are discovered, the would-be home seller must make corrections.

A good contractor will inform his or her customers about codes and necessary per-

mits," says Petitta. "When in doubt, call your city building department. It's really about safety, and it's the law, too."

The Home Service Store manages home maintenance, repair and improvement tasks in more than 130 markets nationwide. For more information, call (866) HSS-6060 or visit www.TrustHSS.com.

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5000's Jobs and Careers advertisement. Includes a list of job categories such as Help Wanted General, Administrative Assistant, and various professional services. Features a 'Letter to the Editor' and 'Be a Star on Our Team!' section.

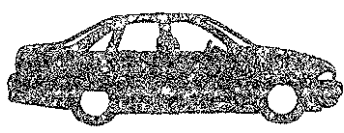
Sales Job Fair advertisement for Comcast. Title: 'Get Plugged in to Your Future'. Features details about guaranteed salary, benefits, and application information.

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Mitsubishi Endeavor: enjoy the view

Advertising Feature



Anne Fracassa

BY ANNE FRACASSA
AVANTI NEWS FEATURES

This crossover sport utility vehicle is truly every ounce Mitsubishi. The 2004 Endeavor looks, feels and rides like most of Mitsubishi's fine lineup of automobiles.

The thing I like most is that with eight inches of ground clearance, you have the option of off-roading in it. Not that you'd want to get any mud on the outer skin, however.

But with the plain fact that 90 percent of people who own sport utility vehicles never take it off the pavement, but they all sit in the driveway. I'm not different than most, I've never taken my own vehicle off-roading. I want to keep it as pristine as I can. The Endeavor sits up high above the traffic, giving you a wonderful view of the road in front of you. Its very unique design all the way around gives you a feeling of command and aggression all at once. And it's a blast to drive.

Powered by a 3.8-liter single overhead cam 24-valve V6 engine, it's got the power to move and the power to move you. Rated at 215 horsepower, this puppy's no couch potato. It merges on freeways with ease and gets you around town quite easily.

Its sporty feel and the way it responds really gives you control of the Endeavor, control that's important to maintain. You can choose from front-wheel-drive or full-time all-wheel-drive. It's also equipped with a four-speed automatic transmission with Sportronic that allows you to manually choose the gear you want to be in.

The interior of the Endeavor is large and roomy, with the leather or cloth seats being the best asset of this vehicle. They're larger than most and believe me, extremely comfortable. They're height adjustable and can be adjusted for better back support. The front passenger seats are buckets that recline and have rear seat pockets.

As for the rear seats, they're just as comfortable and are 60/40 split fold-down rear seatback that also



2004 Mitsubishi Endeavor. Vehicle class: Cross-over SUV. Power: 3.8-liter SOHC 24-valve V6. Price: under \$26,000. Where built: Normal, Ill.

recline. The rear seats have a center armrest with two cupholders that can hide away in the rear seat with a flip of your wrist.

The Endeavor seats five -- for sure. There's a lot of headroom, hip room and legroom. You don't feel cramped in the least.

Up front you'll find storage pockets in the doors, a larger-than-life glove box, a center console with cupholders that you can actually throw in the dishwasher and two levels of storage, and places to store your other worldly possessions.

There are also overhead grips in all four seating positions. Here's a novel thought -- there are two levels of hooks incorporated in the D pillar to hang anything from grocery bags to dry cleaning to keep the cargo floor clear.

One thing my kids had a problem with the rear hatch. The handle to bring the rear hatch grip is extremely small and hard for even kids to bring down. I'd like to see a strap that hangs down as a replacement. Easier to use that way.

Four-wheel independent suspension is the reason for the Endeavor's nimble handling, superior ride comfort and why it rides like a Mitsubishi sedan. Road noise is non-existent. Its wide, 63-inch front and rear track provides a stable riding stance that makes you

feel comfortable and safe. There are three trim levels -- LS, XLS and Limited -- that are available in front-wheel or full-time all-wheel-drive. The standard equipment list is as long as my legs and makes it a better value.

Here are a few: Power windows with auto-down driver's window, steering column mounted cruise control, four 12-volt outlets, remote hood and tailgate releases, auto-off front headlights, mudguards, rear window defroster with timer, tinted glass, roof rails with crossbars, electrically adjustable side-view mirrors, side fold mirrors, cargo cover, floor mats, cargo bay light and a lighted glove box.

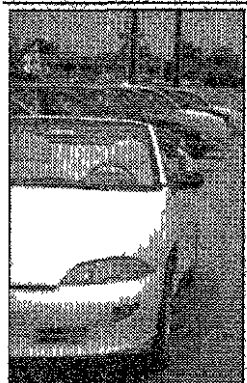
Safety is all there, of course. Front air bags, front side-impact air bags, anti-lock braking system, skid and traction control, tire pressure monitoring system, three-point seatbelts for all positions, head impact protection, anti-theft engine immobilizer and front and rear crumple zones.

All-in-all, the Mitsubishi Endeavor stands up to the task of the newest cross-over that has a lot of heart and soul. It would please the most discriminating driver in every way. It's even built in Normal, Ill. And the cost is more than reasonable at under \$26,000.

Write Anne Fracassa at avanti1054@aol.com

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<h3>2003 WINDSTAR SE WAGON</h3> <p>Vb anti white cc med graphic cloth power heated s gnat mirrors luggage rack aux climate control system aluminum painted wheels rear red color ss 3.8L OHV EF engine 4-speed auto trans [Stock #33250] MS \$29,675</p> <p>MS \$19,800^{68*}</p> <p>FORD EMPLOYEE or ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBER</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>A-PLAN 36 MO. LEASE REVERSAL</td><td>ZERO DOWN \$254^{00*}</td><td>\$1600 DOWN \$214^{00*}</td></tr> </table>	A-PLAN 36 MO. LEASE REVERSAL	ZERO DOWN \$254 ^{00*}	\$1600 DOWN \$214 ^{00*}	<h3>2003 FOCUS ZX3</h3> <p>Sangria Red cc dark charcoal cloth tilt steering speed control 1 disc w/MP3/clock 16 alloy wheels 16V Zetec eng auto trans [Stock #33688] MS \$15,505</p> <p>MS \$11,146^{60*}</p> <p>FORD EMPLOYEE or ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBER</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>A-PLAN 36 MO. LEASE REVERSAL</td><td>ZERO DOWN \$202^{00*}</td><td>\$1600 DOWN \$159^{00*}</td></tr> </table>	A-PLAN 36 MO. LEASE REVERSAL	ZERO DOWN \$202 ^{00*}	\$1600 DOWN \$159 ^{00*}	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Thursday</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">Live Band 5-8 p.m.</p> <h3 style="text-align: center;">Pig Roast</h3> <p style="text-align: center;">Thursday 2-8 p.m.</p>	<h3>2003 EXPLORER XLS</h3> <p>Metallic Gray cc med parchment cloth captain's chairs air XLS sport group privacy glass V6 flex fuel eng 5 speed auto O/D trans roof rack cross bars [Stock #33334] MS \$28,150</p> <p>MS \$19,156^{21*}</p> <p>FORD EMPLOYEE or ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBER</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>A-PLAN 36 MO. LEASE REVERSAL</td><td>ZERO DOWN \$280^{00*}</td><td>\$1600 DOWN \$241^{00*}</td></tr> </table>	A-PLAN 36 MO. LEASE REVERSAL	ZERO DOWN \$280 ^{00*}	\$1600 DOWN \$241 ^{00*}	<h3>2003 CONVERSION VAN</h3> <p style="text-align: center;">By Tuscany</p> <p>Light parchment Gold cc remote keyless entry pan c alarm 4.6L EFI V8 engine prefer ed equipment pkg 3.55 ratio m led s c a x e RV plus package [Stock #32732] MS \$34,725</p> <p>MS \$23,503^{01*}</p> <p>FORD EMPLOYEE or ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBER</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>A-PLAN 36 MO. LEASE REVERSAL</td><td>ZERO DOWN \$478^{00*}</td><td>\$1800 DOWN \$432^{00*}</td></tr> </table>	A-PLAN 36 MO. LEASE REVERSAL	ZERO DOWN \$478 ^{00*}	\$1800 DOWN \$432 ^{00*}
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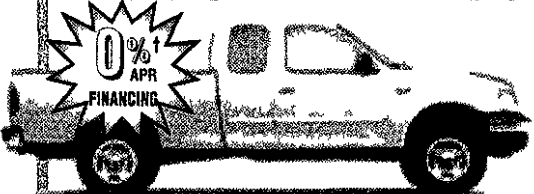
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OVER 1500 VEHICLES AVAILABLE!

2003 Taurus SES 4 Door!



TAKE A LOOK AT THE FEATURES ON 2003 TAURUS SES! FREE MOONROOF Spoiler, Console, Power Windows, Power Locks, Power Seat, Speed Control, Tilt Wheel, Six Disc CD, Adjustable Pedals, Keyless Entry

MSRP **\$22,135**

A-PLAN WITH RENEWAL

\$14,449!

39 MONTH LEASE WITH RENEWAL

A-Plan	ZERO DOWN	PER MONTH	DUE AT SIGNING
Everyone	ZERO	\$251	\$1101
Everyone	ZERO DOWN	PER MONTH	DUE AT SIGNING
Everyone	ZERO	\$282	\$1151

2003 Escape XLT 4X4!



TAKE A LOOK AT THE FEATURES ON 2003 ESCAPE XLT! Auto, Air, Power Windows, Locks, Driver Seat Perimeter Alarm, Tilt Wheel w/Speed Control, Privacy Glass, Remote Keyless Entry, Cargo Cover

MSRP **\$24,690**

A-PLAN WITH RENEWAL

\$19,485!

39 MONTH LEASE WITH RENEWAL

A-Plan	ZERO DOWN	PER MONTH	DUE AT SIGNING
Everyone	ZERO	\$287	\$1046
Everyone	ZERO DOWN	PER MONTH	DUE AT SIGNING
Everyone	ZERO	\$318	\$1070

2003 Explorer XLS Sport 4 Door! 4X4



TAKE A LOOK AT THE FEATURES ON 2003 EXPLORER XLS SPORT 4 DOOR! 4X4 Sport Package, Privacy Glass, Aluminum Wheels, Power Windows, Power Locks, Speed Control, Tilt Wheel, Dual Media, Step Bars, Keyless Entry

MSRP **\$30,375**

A-PLAN WITH RENEWAL

\$20,991!

39 MONTH LEASE WITH RENEWAL

A-Plan	ZERO DOWN	PER MONTH	DUE AT SIGNING
Everyone	ZERO	\$241	\$1236
Everyone	ZERO DOWN	PER MONTH	DUE AT SIGNING
Everyone	ZERO	\$272	\$1280

2003 Windstar SE!



Only \$15 more per month for Video Entertainment System

XLT, Auto Trans, Air, Power Windows, Power Locks, Speed Control, Tilt Wheel, Captain's Chairs, Keyless Entry, Adjustable Pedals

MSRP **\$29,915**

A-PLAN WITH RENEWAL

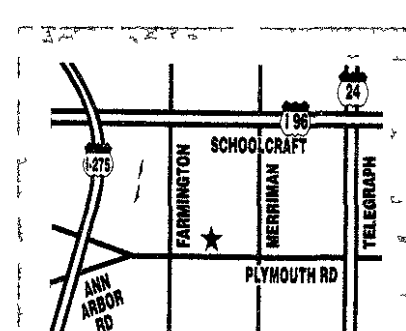
\$19,034!

39 MONTH LEASE WITH RENEWAL

A-Plan	ZERO DOWN	PER MONTH	DUE AT SIGNING
Everyone	ZERO	\$233	\$1252
Everyone	ZERO DOWN	PER MONTH	DUE AT SIGNING
Everyone	ZERO	\$264	\$1302

\$500 EXTRA FOR YOUR TRADE-IN

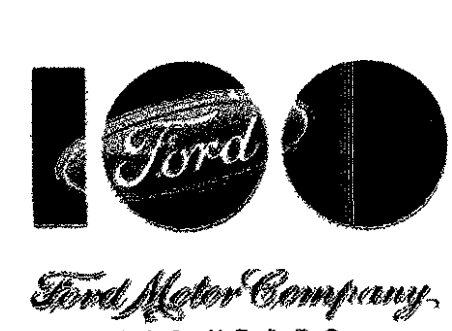
WITH THE PURCHASE OR LEASE OF A NEW OR USED VEHICLE. 1998 OR NEWER VEHICLES. LESS THAN 100,000 MILES. VALID THROUGH SEPTEMBER 21, 2003



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