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Pipeline

Grant winners

The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Educational Excellence Foundation has awarded more than \$6,000 in its Winter 2004 Classroom Enhancement Grant program to six Plymouth-Canton Schools.

The grants are expected to "positively impact the education of more than 5,000 Plymouth-Canton students," EEF officials said in announcing the grants. It's the second round of grants this year. In the fall, the EEF awarded more than \$9,000 to 12 schools.

The winter winners were Cathy Dobias of Plymouth High School, \$2,489 for Alpha Smarts; Bonnie Goodrich of Dodson Elementary, \$1,001.22 for Parent/Home Reading; Lisa Hastings of Discovery Middle School, \$978 for Books and Bagels; Ann-Marie Konya of Central Middle School, \$160 for Build A Project/Team; Marcia Lizzio of Salem High School, \$778 for Forensic Science Activities; and Janet Sutherland of Plymouth, \$827.97 for We're Rolling Camcorder.

Solid waste costs

Residents in Plymouth Township are about to see the cost of having their trash collected go up, if only slightly.

The Plymouth Township Board of Trustees approved Tuesday a \$175 per-quarter increase in the solid waste fee for township residents. The rate rises to \$32.25 per quarter effective March 1. That's roughly 58 cents a month.

The increase is a reflection of the annual increase charged under the contract by waste hauler Republic Waste, according to Treasurer Ron Edwards.

"We didn't pass on a 3-percent increase last year, and we're facing another 3-percent increase this year," Edwards said. "This is about a 5-percent increase."

Police grant

The Michigan Office of Highway Safety announced this week the Plymouth Township Police Department has been awarded a \$5,000 grant for its efforts in making the Christmas/New Year's holiday season a safer one.

The department, along with some 500 other law enforcement agencies, took part in the statewide "Impaired Driving Enforcement Mobilization" program.

Township police officers stopped more than 120 cars while arresting six drivers for alcohol-related offenses and four minors for possession of alcohol.

Plymouth prison hits auction block

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

The Western Wayne Correctional Facility, the women's prison on Five Mile at Beck which houses some 850 prisoners, will be closed in an effort to save some \$23 million from the state budget.

Gov. Jennifer Granholm

made the decision as part of her budget package, which she announced Thursday.

The cost of running the prison, as well as some environmental concerns over the land on which it sits, brought about the decision to close it.

"The main reason is the cost savings," said Greg Bird, director of communications for the

State Budget Office. "It's a very old and costly prison to run." The state is currently conducting an environmental audit of the facility, the results of which should be available in March. Among the problems for the prison, which sits on some 28 feet of incinerated refuse, is a methane gas leak and soil contamination.

The prisoners currently housed at Western Wayne will be transferred to the Huron Valley Center in Ypsilanti, Bird said. Concurrently, prisoners at that facility will be transferred to the nearby Huron Valley Correctional Facility.

The Huron Valley center is much newer and more cost-efficient to run, Bird said.

"Over the past couple of years, it has been vastly underutilized," he said. "It has the space to house the entire population of Western Wayne. The Department of Corrections feels it's an ideal location."

Bird said the moves will 'take some time' to complete, but that the plan should be executed by the fall.



Adam Wetter of Canton, 19, (left) and Matthew Bixler of Plymouth Township, 18, stand at ease as they answer questions for a reporter after a preliminary drill competition. Wetter attended Redford Catholic Central High School and Bixler attended Plymouth Christian Academy.

Marine recruit living the life he's wanted

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

Matthew Bixler has been talking for several years about joining the military, but his parents figured it was a phase.

It wasn't, and now the 18-year-old Bixler is training to

become a United States Marine at the U.S. Marine Recruit Training Depot at Parris Island, S.C. The son of Terry and Molly Bixler of Plymouth Township, Bixler is now roughly halfway through the 13-week boot camp.

"This recruit wanted to be

a Marine from his earliest memories," said Bixler, speaking in the third-person form required during training. "The Marines are the best. There's a pride of belonging, a challenge to becoming a Marine."

It shouldn't have come as a surprise to his parents that

Bixler went into the Marines, since he'd been talking about it for at least three years. An honor student at Plymouth Christian Academy, Bixler said he's always enjoyed running around in the woods, playing

PLEASE SEE MARINE, A2

Bill shifts burden to sex defendants

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

Sen. Bruce Patterson, R-Canton Township, has introduced a bill that, if passed, would keep sexual assault cases from becoming a "he-said-she-said" battle in the courtroom.

Patterson said he's sponsoring the bill in response to the Kobe Bryant case in Colorado, where the Los Angeles Lakers star is accused of raping a hotel clerk.

My bill, when it becomes law, says it's a rebuttable presumption that if someone has conjugal relations, it will be presumed that it's nonconsensual," said Patterson. The burden of proof will then be on the victim.

Patterson said that if the Bryant case were to occur in Michigan under the terms of his bill, Kobe would have to prove he had permission from the woman to have sexual relations.

All she has to say is she didn't consent, and he would have to show proof she consented," said Patterson. "It turns the law dramatically in favor of marital bliss."

Patterson says he has the support of a number of Senate colleagues, including Sen. Shirley Johnson, R-Royal Oak, chairwoman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, and Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikken, R-Wyoming.

"What it comes down to," said Patterson, "if you want to 'dilly-dally,' you'd better get it in writing."

Radio fan finds fun in old parts

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

It was as a student in a Livonia Stevenson High School electronics lab that Mark Oppat received his first introduction to what would become both a passion and profession.

I discovered two antique radios," said Oppat, 47, who now resides in Plymouth's Old Village. "I got them out and started to work on them."

"And, then, I started to buy quantities of old radios for real cheap, like \$12-\$15

each," he said. "I just thought they were cool, that you could power up like that and get sound out of it. And, you could repair them."

"I went to swap meets to get parts, old service books and talk to a lot of people," he said.

At the age of 16, Oppat started his own business repairing antique radios. Now, Antique Audio is known throughout the country by those seeking to restore vintage radios dating back more than 80 years.

"The antique radio really mixes style, aesthetics and cutting edge engineering of

its time," said Oppat. "When you look at the technology and style of a radio, you can tell the era. It's not the same with a vacuum cleaner or toaster."

Oppat owns several hundred radios, including nearly 50 console models, the kind that families used to gather around to hear music, the news and radio shows like *The Lone Ranger* and *Jack Benny*.

And, his basement is a sea of knobs, dials, capacitors and old tubes he uses to repair sets he receives at his Blanche Street business, and sells to people across the

country looking for hard-to-find parts dating back to the beginning of radio (1920).

"I think I have about 7,000 tubes, and parts. I couldn't even guess," said Oppat.

That's no surprise to Dan Gutowski, who owns a roofing and snow removal company in Livonia, but also restores old radios at his Dexter home.

"Mark is one of the few radio junkyards in the country," said Gutowski, who owns 60 of his own console radios, many built before

PLEASE SEE RADIO, A8



Mark Oppat with his 1958 red Bulova transistor radio.

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AROUND TOWN

GOLDEN CELEBRATION

Independence Village hosts a Golden Wedding Anniversary Party at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 29.

Independence Village officials are asking all couples married 50 or more years to come to the celebration. The event will feature an elegant anniversary party with dancing, live entertainment (featuring Michael Carluccio), hors d'oeuvres, wedding cake and punch. A prize will be given away to one lucky couple.

Interested couples should RSVP by calling (734) 453-2600 by Feb. 21.

NEW MORNING OPEN HOUSE

New Morning School, located on Haggerty just north of Plymouth Road, holds its open house from 2-4:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 15. There is an "interested family" discussion at 3:30 p.m.

New Morning School is currently enrolling for summer camps. Call (734) 420-3331 for more information.

MCCOTTER MEETING

U.S. Congressman Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, will be the guest speaker at the Suburban Republican Women's Club Meeting.

Thursday, Feb. 19 at the Picabone Restaurant, 30325 Six Mile in Livonia.

The meeting starts at 11 a.m., and there is a \$12 charge for the luncheon.

Visitors at guests always welcome. Call (248) 474-3525 for reservations by Monday, Feb. 16.

McCotter's congressional district serves Plymouth and Plymouth Township.

BUNDLES FOR BUCKS

The Friends of the Plymouth Library continue to hold their magazine sale - A Bundle for a Buck - over the next few weeks. Library officials say patrons are "loving the bundles of past magazines - a year's worth for only \$1."

There is still a large supply available, and many are unusual magazines not easily found on the newsstand.

Stop at the library and grab a bundle near the circulation desk. For more information, call (734) 453-0740.

SPOTLIGHT AUDITIONS

The Spotlight Players (formerly Plymouth Theater Guild) have several spring events in the works.

Auditions for *Murder at the Howard Johnson's* by Ron Clark and Sam Bobrick will be

held Monday, March 1 and Tuesday, March 2 at 7 p.m. in the Arts Room of the Summit, 4600 Summit Parkway in Canton. Acting roles for one woman and two men are open, as well as a tango and dance roles for two men and two women. The shows will be dinner theater performances in April and May. You can reach the director at (248) 259-1093.

The Players are holding a Middle School Drama Day for students in grades 6-8 on Saturday, March 27 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Canton High School Little Theater in Canton. A \$30 fee includes lunch and all materials. Choice of three skills: improvisation, basics and essentials of acting, introduction to stage make-up, mask-making and performing, basic stage combat.

A two-session Youth Theatre Improvisation Workshop is planned for students in grades 3-5 on Sunday, March 28 and April 4 from 5-6:30 p.m. at the Plymouth Masonic Temple, 730 Penniman. A \$30 fee includes both sessions.

Also, a Youth Theatre Scene Study Workshop is set for students in grades 6-8 on Sunday, March 28 and April 4 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Plymouth Masonic Temple, 730 Penniman. A fee of \$30

includes both sessions.

For more information, the group's Web site is www.spotlightplayers.net. Or call (734) 455-2466.

ARTS AUCTION

The Plymouth Community Arts Council hosts its annual dinner auction, "An Evening in Paris: A Formal Affair" March 13, 2004, in the VisTa Tech Center at Schoolcraft College.

The event starts at 6 p.m. with an elegant epicurean experience prepared by the talented chefs at Schoolcraft College followed by both a silent auction and a fast-paced, exciting live auction.

Items to be offered include a quality array of original art as well as sports and entertainment packages. There will be exotic travel opportunities such as a Puerto Vallarta Condo or a South Haven vacation for a week at the beach. Music and dancing to the delightful sounds of Channel 6 will round out the evening.

Tickets are \$75 per person with auction proceeds supporting the PCAC educational, outreach and community arts programming.

To make reservations or for more information, please call the Arts Council at (734) 416-4278.

JCI decides grass isn't greener in other sites

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

Officials at Johnson Controls, Inc., have apparently discovered the same thing Dorothy found out after her trip to Oz.

There's no place like home. JCI, whose automotive interiors manufacturing division is headquartered in Plymouth Township, will likely abandon efforts to relocate after being granted plant rehabilitation districts for its three existing facilities in MetroWest Technology Park.

The move, along with the OK of an industrial development district designation for 102 acres of property belonging to the DeMattia Group, clears the way for JCI to put its \$140 million expansion project in Plymouth Township.

After aborting a move to Salem Township, JCI narrowed its preferences to sites in Ohio and Indiana, along with Plymouth Township. The 102 acres is the former Detroit House of Corrections parcel, located south of Five Mile and east of Ridge abutting the JCI property in MetroWest Technology Park.

"This is part of a process," said Dean Boik, JCI's director of facilities. "It's a site we're considering, and we're working with the state. This is our preferred site."

A final decision still rests with whether JCI gets help from the state in the form of tax credits from the state and tax abatements from the township. The company is expected to get both, if that happens, the Plymouth Township site will be the final choice. Boik told board members Tuesday the project would include rehabilitation and renovation of its three existing facilities in the technology park - two buildings it owns and one it leases from DeMattia - which have been declared more than 50 percent obsolete by the township assessor.

The moves are needed to accommodate JCI's growth. The company, which currently employs some 1,800 people in the township, is expected to add about 1,000 executive, technical and engineering jobs over the next 12 years.

"We've saturated our footprint to date," Boik said. "We need more flexible, open spaces. The infrastructure is inadequate and obsolete."

Down economy? Benefit still raises \$30,000 for First Step

Some 1,750 ticket-buyers plus donors and sponsors kicked in once again this year for First Step, a shelter for abused families in Western Wayne County.

The 14th annual charity dance, held on Friday, drew a big crowd to munch on hot and cold hors d'oeuvres (three flavors of wing dings), dance to the pop sounds of Steve King & The Ditties, gamble at black jack tables and enjoy the evening.

Some \$30,000 to \$35,000 was raised to be donated to First Step, according to Brian Duggan, a Livonia Realtor who puts on the big event each year. Duggan said he hadn't crunched the numbers to provide a more precise total yet.

The down economy did have an impact on the event. "I was definitely down in sponsorships this year, quite a bit actually," Duggan said. He found that a number of companies that had donated in previous years were no longer even in business when he tried to call them.

Duggan cited the support of \$5,000 Diamond Sponsors - Cole, Newton & Duran, CPAs and Foresters.



First Step charity dance host Brian Duggan introduces entertainers Katie Jimmerson (center) and her mother Debra Jimmerson. The two performed songs as celebrities, Madonna and Cher, respectively.

"They really stepped up to the plate," he said. He also noted the involvement of Rick Dinoian Photography and the mother/daughter entertainers and celebrity impersonators - Della Jimmerson as Cher and Katie Jimmerson as Madonna.

At First Step, Mary Jane Hood, a supervisor was pleased with the upcoming donation. Brian is able to provide much needed money in these days of cuts. There have been cuts on many levels, and the money he raises allows for us to continue free services to those who need it.

Next year's event is already in the planning. Duggan says mark your calendars. It's Feb. 11.

MARINE

FROM PAGE A1

with toy guns and building forts.

His best friend is also a Marine, and it was a dream they'd shared and finally put into action.

"We were surprised," his father, Terry, said. "He'd wanted to be in the military, but we thought he'd grow out of it."

Bixler, the senior class chaplain and captain of the soccer team at PCA, arrived at Parris Island Jan. 6, enduring the infamous yellow footprints indoctrination a recruit's first exposure to Marine drill instructors who immediately begin breaking down their sense of individuality.

Since then, he's endured water survival training, marks manual training and a host of physical challenges designed to turn the recruit into a superior fighting tool.

"It's been pretty tough," said Bixler, who will join the Marine Reserves upon graduation. "Mentally, it's very stressful and fast-paced, and a lot of things happen. This recruit has to be able to keep up."

Bixler, at 18, some 18 months younger than the average recruit, is at Parris Island with an average of some 3,800 recruits a day, trying to survive a rigorous 70-day training cycle spread over 12 weeks.

Parris Island, home of Marine recruit training since 1915, saw nearly 17,000 graduates in fiscal 2003. The training includes some 60 hours of physical instruction and practical application and three weeks of marksmanship training.

It all culminates in Week 11 with The Crucible, a 54-hour test of teamwork and endurance. The Marines call a Rite of Passage. It was added some seven years ago, and stands as a physical testament to a graduate's fortitude.

"They've learned what they're going to learn. The Crucible reinforces the idea of working as a team," said Capt. Roseanne Bamick, company commander of November Company.

Though the decision to join came as something of a surprise, it isn't surprising to his parents that Bixler chose the Marines.

Bixler, who interrupted a full-scholarship education at Tyndale College in Farmington Hills, is glad to have the support of his family, including his brothers, 17-year-old Nathan, 13-year-old Steven and 10-year-old David.

Ultimately, they were supportive, said Bixler, who is studying history, with a youth ministry minor. "They wanted this recruit to make sure he was making the right decision."

With the specter of combat duty in Iraq hovering - his Reserve unit has already deployed and returned from Iraq - the Bixlers are a little bit nervous. But it's a nervous tempered with the knowledge their son is doing what he wanted.

"The situation in Iraq is a concern," Terry Bixler admitted. "His company just returned from there, so we know there's a high probability they'll go back. (But) he said if he's going to serve his country, he wanted to do it with the best, and he thinks the Marines are the best."

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CATCH THAT KID (PG)
12:00 2:05 4:07 7:20 9:15
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3:00 2:00 4:4 5:4
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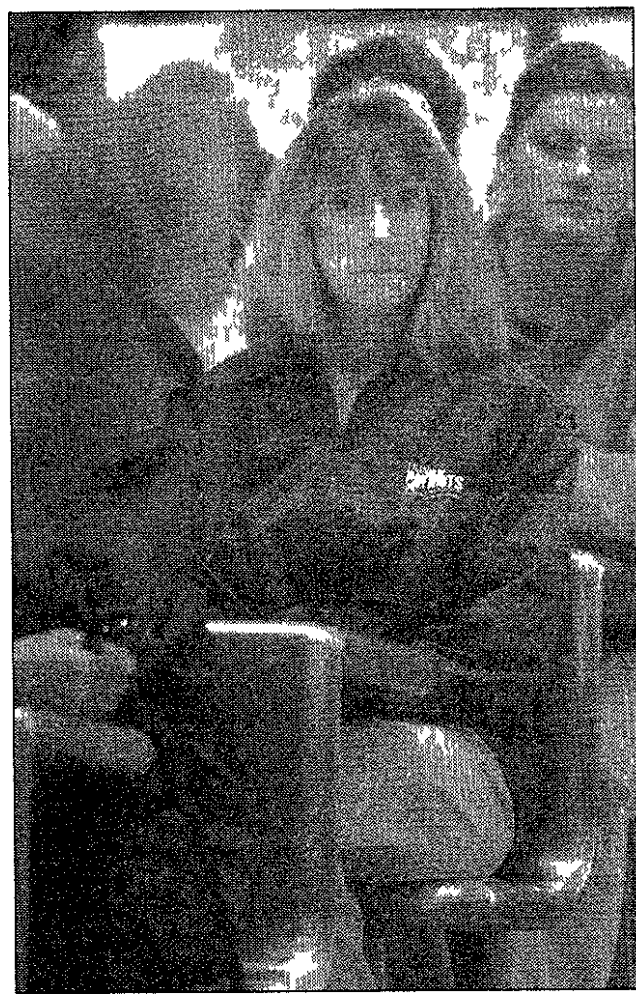
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PHOTOS BY PAUL HURSCHMANN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lori George of Livonia Franklin High School listens as a drill instructor explains the receiving procedure for new arrivals at the U.S. Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C. during a visit to the island as part of an educator's workshop last week.



Marine Recruit Joseph Pauley of Farmington Hills waits for his platoon to move out during 'The Crucible,' a 54-hour exercise in team building and sensory deprivation in the 12th week of U.S. Marine Corps Boot Camp at Parris Island, S.C. Pauley and his company had just finished breaking down their bivouac site after firing on the Khe Sanh range and were preparing for the next task in the grueling exercise.

Ooh-rah!!!

Workshop gives local educators Marine experience

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

Lori George watched as U.S. Marine recruits referred to themselves in third person took part in team-building exercises and essentially gave up — for at least 13 weeks — their sense of individuality.

And she doesn't necessarily think it's a bad thing.

George was among some three dozen Michigan teachers, counselors and career guidance coordinators taking part in a Marine Educators Workshop, an annual event designed to give education professionals a better sense of what Marine life is like.

The idea, according to the Marines, is to give them more insight to pass on to students considering military life as a post-graduate option.

"The concept I've seen is that you're not an individual that you're part of something, that you belong to something," said George, a guidance counselor at Franklin High School in Livonia for seven years. "I think that's something that's missing in today's youth."

Educators and some media flew to Parris Island, S.C., home of the U.S. Marine Corps Recruiting Depot, for the four-day workshop.

The week started with the same greeting recruits get, with educators standing on the same "yellow footprints" that mark the start of recruit training. Drill instructors herded them — loudly — off the bus and into position, then yelled the same instructions at them they holler at recruits upon arrival on The Island.

CORE VALUES

That's where the breaking down of recruits' individuality — a process Marines insist is vital — begins.

"We instill the core character values of commitment, honor and courage, that's what these weeks are all about," said Col. Kevin Kelley, commanding officer of the Recruit Training Regiment at Parris Island. "We don't have time during a combat situation for a young Marine to ask, 'Why? They have to instill it by becoming part of the team.'"

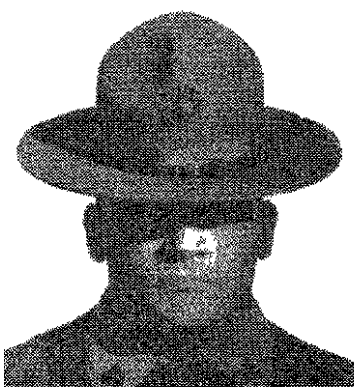
From there, it was on to briefings about every aspect of Marine life, from the kind of treatment they receive at Parris Island to what life is like in the Corps. They were told about medical care, about military occupational specialties, about dropout rates (roughly 10 percent for males, 20 percent for females).

It's all designed to help shape the Marine image in a fashion other than that pictured in Hollywood productions such as *Full Metal Jacket*.

The U.S. east of the Mississippi is divided into three recruiting districts, each with eight stations. Educators from the areas served by those stations are invited down 12 times a year — two stations at a time — to go through the workshop.

According to Capt. C.T. Devine, public affairs officer for the 4th Marine Corps District, which oversees recruiting this side of the Mississippi, the workshops cost taxpayers about \$12,000 apiece to put on, but he said they're well worth it.

"These workshops help us overcome skepticism about what the Marine Corps teaches



Every year, the U.S. Marine Corps sponsors a workshop to allow area educators to come to Parris Island home of their boot camp to view training. The idea is to give them better insight when dealing with students considering the military as a postgraduate option. Last week, educators from our area went down, and *Observer & Eccentric* staffers Brad Kadrich and Paul Hurschmann went with them. **This is what they found:**

Our young people said Devine. We'll stick it out about upon (educators) to come down here and it's a more so they can go back and give informed opinions about what the Corps is all about.

According to statistics provided by the Marines, Parris Island graduated nearly 17,000 Marines in fiscal 2003, 99.9 percent of whom were high school graduates with an average age of just under 20. Recruits without a high school diploma must have a GED plus 15 credit hours toward a college degree. Parris Island is recruit training home for male recruits east of the Mississippi (the rest go to San Diego) and to all female recruits, some 537 on an average day.

ORGANIZED CHAOS

The Michigan contingent got a complete overview of their training, from viewing the barracks in which they sleep to actually shooting the M-16 rifle on which they train.

Most of them came away impressed. Lucinda Roddy is a television production teacher at Clarenceville High School who was supposed to take students on a similar trip last year. That



Lori George of Livonia Franklin High School listens to Marine Recruit Nicholas Kasly of Ortonville, 20, during lunch in the 3rd Battalion Mess Hall Thursday. Kasly attended the Christian Leadership Academy in Troy.

trip, however, was called off when the United States went to war in Iraq.

She and fellow Clarenceville teacher Heidi Horvath were at this year's workshop filming recruit training for a session on editing documentaries. Roddy was impressed not only by the coordination the Marines had to use to get the educators there, but also by the order from chaos that ensued.

Being that up close and personal was amazing," Roddy said. "I've watched the videos, and I've talked to Marines, but standing in the middle of training is something you can't prepare for. It was utter chaos, but organized. When you're standing in the middle of it, even knowing you're not a part of it, you still get that sense."

After watching what the recruits go through, Roddy was simply hoping to do it justice.

We have still photographs, and we have video, but we're panicking wondering if we're going to be able to get that emotion across in a documentary," she said. "It's not going to be as genuine as being there, so it'll be a challenge to see if we can make it work." Frank



Lucinda Roddy (left) and Heidi Horvath of Clarenceville High School's Television Production department interview Public Affairs Officer Capt. James Nott prior to graduation Friday. The two Livonia-based educators followed the media itinerary, capturing documentary video which they will take back to their students for editing.

Eichenlaub of Rochester Hills, a former Marine who teaches math at Mt. Clemens High School, said he didn't know what to expect upon his return to Parris Island, from which he graduated in 1961 before spending six years in the Corps.

"I think folks don't have much knowledge of the military, and the knowledge they do have is skewed toward not being very positive," Eichenlaub said. "Programs like this help pro-

mote the positive. I think it's a great move to use people who are in a position where they can influence the kids."

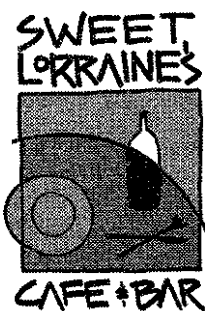
The core values being taught at Parris Island are what impressed George, the counselor from Franklin.

"I was impressed by the sense of discipline I see them instilling in future Marines," George said. "That's something that's lacking in a lot of people."

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Golf outing raises money for tribute scholarships

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

When Kerry Erdman and a few friends were talking about doing a golf outing, the name that surfaced was that of Denise Bendell.

They knew, Erdman said, that "if Denise got hold of something, she wouldn't let go."

And so it is that Bendell is helping organize the Carole S Erdman Memorial Golf Outing, planned for May 8 at Fellows Creek Golf Club in Canton.

"It's the least I can do for Carole," said Bendell, who lost her friend Aug. 27, 2003, after a 4 1/2-year battle with breast cancer.

Bendell and members of Erdman's family are organizing the golf outing to raise money for the Carol S Erdman

Scholarship, which will be presented to graduating Wayne-Westland Community Schools seniors who plan to attend college and major in elementary or secondary education.

"If it had to do with kids, she was into it," Bendell said. "She was so in with the kids that she broke a leg playing with them."

Actually, it wasn't a break, according to Kerry Carole, who ended up with her leg in a cast after she tore knee ligaments playing on the monkey bars with kids at school.

Carole had a long relationship with children and the Wayne-Westland Community Schools, especially Taft-Galloway School in Wayne. She started volunteering at the school when her children were there and went on to be a lunchroom supervisor, bus supervisor, teacher's aide and eventually a substitute teacher

in the district. Even when the family moved from Wayne to Redford when Kerry became court administrator and magistrate in Redford's 17th District Court, she stuck with the school district.

And Kerry is quick to point out that Carole was at Taft-Galloway Elementary even before Michael Hurley became the principal.

"She was one of those kinds of people who liked being in the background," he said. "She liked doing things, but she didn't like the fanfare. She absolutely loved working with the kids. She loved being with them and they responded to her."

Bendell hooked up with Carole in 1999 after she was diagnosed with cancer. She worked with Kerry in Plymouth's District Court and decided to "come out of the

closet" about being a breast cancer survivor herself.

Carole would call me with her questions," she said. "I'd already been through it. We compared notes, we compared fears. I'm sorry I got to know her the way I did, but I'm glad I did."

Carole went through chemotherapy, surgery, more chemotherapy and radiation in 1999 and into 2000. In early 2002 the cancer returned and had metastasized in her bones. Later it moved to her liver.

"When she returned for treatment in 2002 and into 2003 (until the end) she would still put on a bright face, greet everyone at the office, talk to new patients and their families to calm them down, and even stop on the way to the office to pick up lunch for the staff or doughnuts for the patients," Kerry said. "When she was well enough she would bake cakes or

whatever. She lit up the room."

Bendell describes her friend as having been a "spitfire who could re-roof a house." Kerry said it's not a case of could — she did. Kerry doesn't want to set a dollar amount on what he hopes the golf outing will raise for the scholarship fund, just that it should fund the first few years. He added that two scholarships of at least \$500 each will be given out this year and he may fund those himself.

The outing, which has a 9 a.m. shotgun start, costs \$100 per person or \$400 per foursome and includes a starter pack, 18 holes with a cart, refreshments at the turn and buffet dinner. There will be prizes for the top team and for various individual skill shots for men and women.

For more information or to register, call Paul Vann at (734) 891-1880, Kerry Erdman



Kerry Erdman is matter-of-fact when he says 'I miss her' of his wife, Carole, who died after a four-year battle with breast cancer.

at (313) 937-0535 or Ken Erdman at (517) 347-5790.

People who can't attend, but want to make a donation, can send checks, payable to the Carol S Erdman Memorial Scholarship Fund, to the fund at 9119 Seminole, Redford, MI 48239.

FOR THE RECORD

For the Record appears in every edition of the *Observer & Eccentric*. Newspapers. This column soon will expand to include births. Other obituaries can be found inside today's paper. Look for Passages to view paid obituaries.

DEATHS

- B** John M Broderick, 62, died Feb 5
- C** Paul Allen Clapper, 74, of Canton Township, died Feb 5
- D** Nell De Bash, 87, of Farmington Hills, died Feb 9
- George H DeMann, 92, of West Bloomfield, died Feb 6
- E** Edward W Ely, 62, died Feb 6
- F** Robert J Fluker, 62, of Livonia, died Feb 8
- G** Donna M Good, 77, of Redford Township, died Feb 6
- Geraldine Josephine Good 87 of Plymouth died Feb 6
- Dorothy D Gordon 78 of Detroit, died Feb 6
- George S Gordon, of Westland, died Feb 9
- H** Edith H Hansz, 89, of Traverse City, formerly of Livonia, died Feb 8

- Bertah Lekar, 90, of Livonia, died Feb 3**
- M** Susan Lee Maher, 48, of Westland, died Feb 1
- Delphine D McAllen, 83, died Feb 9
- Wixson W (Bud) Munson, of Westland, died Feb 2
- O** Phyllis Constance O'Grady, 74, of Rochester Hills, died Jan 26
- P** Ruth Gilbert Pearce, formerly of Bloomfield Hills, died Feb 1
- Dorian R. Perlongo, 87, of Marion, Ohio, died Feb 8
- S** Edward A Splan, 45, of Livonia, died Feb 7
- Edward M Stone, 79, formerly of West Bloomfield, died Jan 24
- Hubert H Stuart, 77, formerly of Plymouth, died Feb 7
- W** Marianne K Wallace, 3, formerly of Birmingham, died Feb 7

POLICE BLOTTER

Plymouth police arrested three people for smashing the windows out of several vehicles in the early morning hours of Sunday Feb 8.

Police report the three were caught in a pickup truck while speeding on eastbound Plymouth Road, reportedly on the way to a hospital because one of the suspects cut his hand

At least one of the men told police "We got bored so we went out and smashed some windows."

The vehicles damaged were in the 300 block of N Hollbrook and the Mayflower Townhouses on Plymouth Road.

The three are charged with malicious destruction of property.

On Feb 9, a Southworth resident in Plymouth Township reported someone had broken a window on his 1998 Jeep and stole an AM/FM/CD stereo, an amplifier and some speakers.

Police have no suspects.

On Feb 5, a woman walked into the Sherwin Williams store on Ann Arbor Road and bought 15 gallons of white paint, paying for them with a personal check. Store officials were suspicious, because people don't usually buy that much paint.

As it turns out, the check she used had a false name, as did her identification. She had done the same thing at other Sherwin Williams stores in the Detroit area.

FIRE RUNS

The Plymouth Community Fire Department responded to the following runs from Feb 4-10.

Tuesday, Feb 10 — Residential rescue runs on Morgan, on Hollbrook, on Powell and on Coolidge, industrial

rescue run on Helm, vehicle accident with wash-down at Ann Arbor Trail and Haggerty

Monday, Feb 9 — Commercial rescue run on Beck, residential rescue runs on Ann Arbor Road, Amherst Court, on Lilley, on Woodway and on Morrison

Sunday, Feb 8 — Investigation on Hartsough, residential rescue runs on Chestnut, on Haggerty and on Eastside, rescue runs at public buildings on Five Mile

Saturday, Feb 7 — Vehicle accidents on Sheldon at Plymouth Oaks and on the M-14 ramp to Sheldon, commercial rescue run on Haggerty, carbon monoxide detector run on Washington, rescue run at a public building on Ann Arbor Road, residential rescue run on Crestwood

Friday, Feb 6 — Commercial rescue runs on Main, on Ann Arbor Road, on North Territorial, on Beck and on Frack, vehicle accidents on Halyard, on Northville Road at Five Mile and on Joy west of Eckles, residential rescue runs on Dewey, on Revere and on Mill

Thursday Feb 5 — Industrial rescue run on Sheldon single family fire on Landers and on Hunters Creek rescue run on southbound I-275 north of Ann Arbor Road residential run on Haggerty

Wednesday, Feb 4 — Mutual aid rescue run on I-275 south of Joy, residential rescue runs on Farmbrook, Sheridan,

Haggerty and Caster, commercial rescue runs on Plymouth Road and on Sheldon, rescue run on Five Mile, investigation on Greenview Place, industrial rescue run on Plymouth Road, vehicle accident at Risman and Plymouth Road

35TH DISTRICT COURT DOCKET

Judge John MacDonald:

- Angela Aceti, arraignment, operating while intoxicated
- Leon Abernathy, trial, assault and battery
- Ryan Adkins, pretrial hearing, simple larceny
- Trnuda Arguelles, pretrial hearing, false information, no operator's license and failure to stop, also, violation of probation, assault and battery
- Larry Blevins, pretrial on driving with a suspended license, sentencing on embezzlement
- Keylee Butler, violation of probation, domestic violence
- Vallery Christie, violation of probation, retail fraud
- Jacob Dailey, violation of probation, marijuana possession
- Cynthia Hollins pretrial hearing disturbing the peace
- Clarence Morgan violation of probation domestic violence
- Reginald Moses pretrial hearing simple larceny
- Sun Tok Sproull, pretrial hearing, assault and battery
- Gerald Stubbe, trial, malicious destruction of property
- Kathleen Martin vs John Dudek and Cooms-Dudek, Inc., bench trial
- Alfred Ouellette vs Brian Buten and Dick's Decks LLC, bench trial
- Capital One Bank vs Rooopa Hindia, bench trial

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Snow can't stop the show

Variety production plays to packed house

A snow day Feb. 6 kept the show from going on for a day, but nothing could stop it completely.

A sold-out crowd laughed and cheered appreciatively in response to the multitude of talent at Saturday's "Variety Is" performance at the Salem High Auditorium.

The annual production, sponsored by the Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters, showcased an array of talented teens from the Plymouth-Canton-Salem Educational Park complex.

But it wasn't just the teens in the spotlight. For the first time a P-CEP alumni band, comprised of more than 70 musicians graduating from 1975 to just last year, performed under the direction of Glen Adsit, former marching band director at the Park Adsit directed the P-CEP Marching Band during their back-to-back national

championships in 1990 and '91.

"There were several parents of current P-CEP Band members in the alumni band," said Booster President John Jackson. "It was really touching to see parent and child performing together."

The alumni joined the current marching band for a rousing rendition of the Salem and Canton fight songs at the finale of Saturday's Variety Is.

"There are plans for a very active alumni group to continue," said Jackson. "We will be doing something each year with the alumni."

While they were at it, the boosters helped raise some money for the Detroit High School for the Fine and Performing Arts, which suffered the loss of musical instruments destroyed or damaged by vandals. Booster President John Jackson talked



The 170-member P-CEP Marching Band rocked Salem's auditorium with the final production of last year's award-winning competition performance of 'Souls of the Gypsy Caravan'.

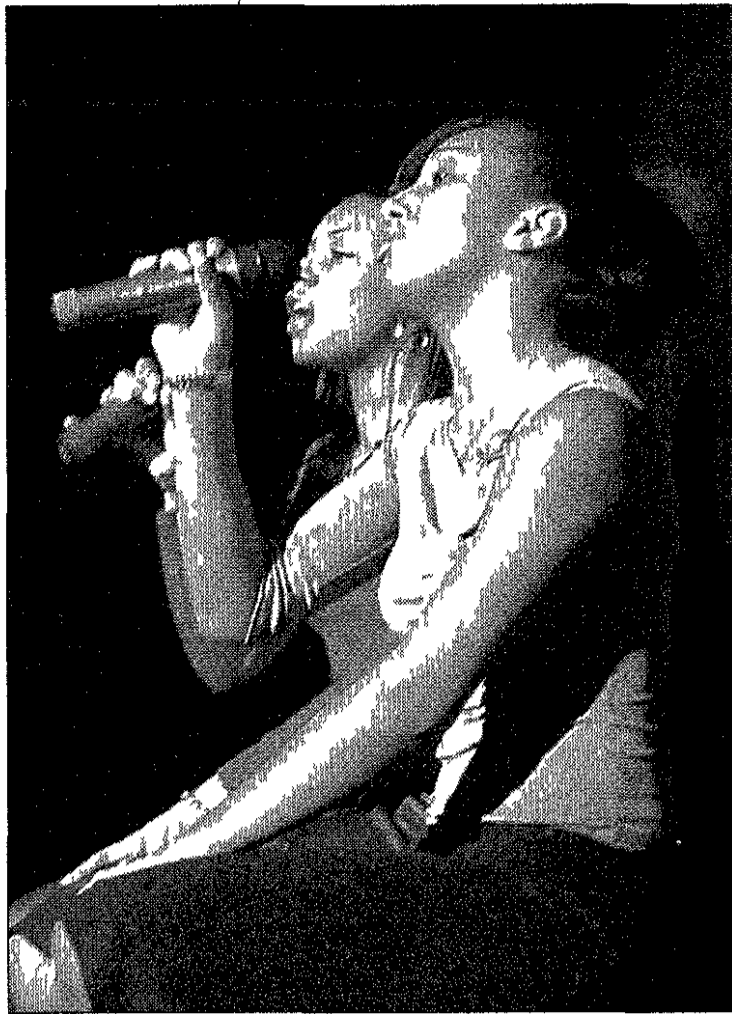
about the vandalism during an announcement at Saturday's performance, and asked for donations to help the school get replacement instruments.

The plea worked, raising more than \$500.

"This is exactly the right thing to do," Jackson said. "The immediate response by our audience and our membership

was touching and made me even more proud to be associated with Plymouth Canton Music Boosters and this community."

For more information about the P-CEP Marching Band Alumni organization go to www.pcbm.net and click on alumni Web site or call Lorraine Paffenroth at (734) 455-8213.



PHOTOS BY DANE HANSON

Lindsay Miles and Cierra Mitchell croon a duet at Saturday's Variety Is production.

REUNIONS

As space permits the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers print without charge announcements of class reunions. Send the information to Reunions, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48170. Please include the date of the reunion, one contact person and a telephone number.

REUNIONS

Brighton High School

Class of 1984
The class of 1984 is planning their 20 year reunion on Aug. 7, 2004. For more information call Sally Rector Langley at (517) 505-4970.

Cabrini High School

Class of 1984
If you're interested in working on the 20 year reunion please contact Debbie (Scott) Paulus at (734) 737-9743 or Laurie (Marra) Makawewicz at (734) 981-7263.

Cody High School

Class of 1957
The class of 1957 has invited other interested friends from all the 1950s classes. Being held at 7 p.m. Oct. 9, 2004 at Fox Hills Golf and Country Club near Plymouth. Cost is \$75/per person which includes sit-down dinner, open bar, music and many surprises. Call for more info on golf and reservations at the Hilton Garden Suites. For further info call Loretta (Muciek) Nedwick at (800) 859-9502.

Class of 1963 and 1964

A 40 year reunion will be Saturday, Sept. 25, 2004 at Ypsilanti Marriott at Eagle Crest, 1275 S. Huron, Ypsilanti, (734) 487-2000. Doors open 6 p.m., dinner 7 p.m. \$60 per person includes dinner/dancing, memory book, cash bar. Send check or money order to Cody Class Reunion, c/o Phil Varilone, 22911 Sheridan, Dearborn, MI 48128-2801. For more information e-mail the reunion committee at 6364Comets@comcast.net.

Cooley High School

Class of 1954
A 50 year reunion is planned for Saturday, July 17, 2004 at Livonia Marriott (not Courtyard) located at Six Mile Road and I-275. A reception will be at 6:30 p.m. with dinner at 7:30 p.m. An informal gathering will be held on Friday, July 16, in a hospitality suite at the Marriott. A bus tour of Cooley High School is also in the planning stages. Call Daneen (Stark) Gallo at (734) 462-2786.

Dearborn High School

Class of 1954
A 50 year reunion is planned for Saturday, Aug. 7, 2004. For information call Helen Kramer Turchan at (313) 565-4816 or Sally Hicks Williams at (734) 464-8263.

Dearborn High School

Class of 1974
A 30 year reunion is planned for Saturday, Aug. 7, 2004 at St. Mary's Cultural Center, 18100 Merriman, Livonia. Looking for classmates. Please pass the word. Contact Ann Kennedy Hutchins at (734) 591-6866.

Dearborn Lowrey

Class of 1954
Now organizing. Call Fay (Bolton) Reeves at (248) 349-2094.

Detroit Henry Ford High School

Class of 1964. Jan. June & Aug.

A 40 year reunion is planned for July 17, 2004 at Ypsilanti Marriott Eagle Crest. For more information call Christo (313) 255-9764 or jramseyer@bloomfield.org.

Ferndale High School

Class of 1979
A 25 year reunion being held on Aug. 7, 2004 at St. John's Armenian Banquet Center in Southfield. Contact Ferndale 1979 Reunion, c/o Richard Broder, 31700 Middlebelt, Suite 165, Farmington Hills, MI 48334.

Ferndale Lincoln High School

Class of January and June 1954
A 50 year reunion is being held Oct. 9, 2004 at the Detroit Golf Club. For more information call Isabelle (Wiggins) Paterson at (248) 548-6638.

Fordson High School

Class of 1988
A 15 year reunion is being planned. Classmates are being sought. Respond to either www.classmates.com class reunion1988@yahoo.com or mail your name, address and telephone number to Class of 1988 Reunion, 11349 Fenton, Redford, MI 48239.

Garden City High School

Class of 1984
A 20 year reunion tentatively scheduled for June 2004 at the Livonia Holiday Inn West. More information on classmates.com or e-mail Michelle (Pietryka) Taylor at msidrew@comcast.net.

Grosse Pointe North

Class of 1991
Call (800) 677-7800 visit www.taylorreunions.com or e-mail info@taylorreunions.com.

Lincoln Park High School

Class of 1974
A 30 year class reunion is being held with a five night Western Caribbean cruise from Feb. 21-26, 2004. For more information call Cindy (Conaway) Shaffer at Scottie Travel, (313) 277-3800 or scottietravel@vacation.com.

Livonia Bentley

Class of 1984
A 20 year class reunion is being held Sunday, Sept. 5, 2004 at the Italian American Banquet & Conference Center, 39200 Five Mile Road, Livonia. For more information contact April (Greig) Santoni, E-mail april_santoni@sbcglobal.net.

Mumford High School

Class of 1964 & 1965
A joint 40 year reunion is being held Aug. 4, 2004. Contact Andrea Hoberman Lewiston at (248) 738-3699 for further details.

Plymouth Canton/Salem

Class of 1984
A 20 year reunion is planned for Saturday, Aug. 14, 2004 at the Laurel Manor in Livonia. For more information www.plymouth-canton-salem.org or call (313) 533-2599.

Redford Thurston High School

Class of 1964
A 40 year reunion is planned for Oct. 2, 2004 at Laurel Manor in Livonia. For more information call Barb Smith (734) 427-1123.

Class of 1993
Looking for classmates to assist in planning reunion. Contact Daune Koester at either (517) 432-3949 or e-mail dkoester@msu.edu.

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OUR VIEWS

Hopefuls should keep it positive

It's not always the case that you can draw comparisons between what's happening on the national political stage and local politics.

But this year, politicians considering a run for Plymouth Township office would do well to take a long, hard look at what happened to Dick Gephardt and Howard Dean in the Iowa presidential caucuses before they file their petitions in May.

Gephardt and Dean were the front-runners going into Iowa, but engaged in such a withering, nasty campaign they turned off the voters, providing the springboard for John Kerry and John Edwards to come out of Iowa as the two left standing.

Gephardt withdrew after New Hampshire, and Dean has fallen far behind.

Plymouth politics have a tendency to get nasty. Remember four years ago, when former state Rep. Gerald Law, running against incumbent Treasurer Ron Edwards, made family an issue? Edwards beat him into political oblivion.

The race for state representative in the 20th House District is another one that has a weird and nasty history. Four years ago, Teresa Folino claimed victory over John Stewart despite what the totals said, forcing a recount. Two years ago, the campaign between Stewart and Jonathon Grant of Plymouth also got mean.

This year, there are going to be at least two contentious races, for supervisor and for clerk Don Schnettler, who headed up Citizens for Responsive Government, is scheduled to challenge sitting Supervisor Steve Mann, who himself beat an incumbent supervisor four years ago.

Schnettler has been uber-critical of Mann over his handling of the whole township hall issue. Mann has pushed the new hall virtually since he took office, continuing a theme echoed by township boards past. But Mann plans on using some \$6 million in municipal bonds to pay half the cost, and Schnettler thought it should be put to a vote of the people.

The resulting petition drive got somewhat prickly, and Schnettler won the battle by forcing an election. However, Mann won the war when voters passed the issue handily.

The clerk's race figures to feature even more tension, with former Deputy Clerk Sandra Groth challenging Marilyn Massengill. Groth has already made integrity an issue, and Massengill is sure to fire back with issues of experience and dependability.

That's OK, there's nothing wrong with a tough fight. But we urge the politicians to back up their claims with facts and evidence, not simply innuendo and rumor.

They'd do well to remember those who don't learn from history are doomed to repeat it.

Community service good for everyone

Even Republican Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema was enthusiastic about a proposal by Democratic Gov. Jennifer Granholm to tweak the MEAP Merit Scholarship requirements to require that students perform community service work.

This is an idea that both parties can wholeheartedly embrace. It gives added value to the \$2,500 scholarships by emphasizing to high school students that life is more than academic success (or business or professional success). It costs the state nothing and brings back dividends for our communities and for the students themselves.

Gov. Granholm and her husband, Dan Mulhern, have long been advocates for volunteerism, especially youth mentoring programs. Even as they call on adults to mentor to young people who need extra support, Granholm now calls on young people to offer support to others.

Beginning with the 2005-06 school year, students will be required to complete at least 40 hours of community service prior to graduation to be eligible for the MEAP scholarships.

"As a result of this added requirement, these students will contribute over two million hours of service in their communities — helping senior citizens, mentoring elementary school students, volunteering in homeless shelters or cleaning up our rivers and streams," Granholm said in her State of the State address. "Schools that already have community service programs tell us that their students grow as citizens of the world through experiences giving back to the community."

Many of our school districts do have a community service requirement. We encourage those districts that do not to develop a program that fires the enthusiasm of students to care as much about their community and its needs as about their own academic and social lives.

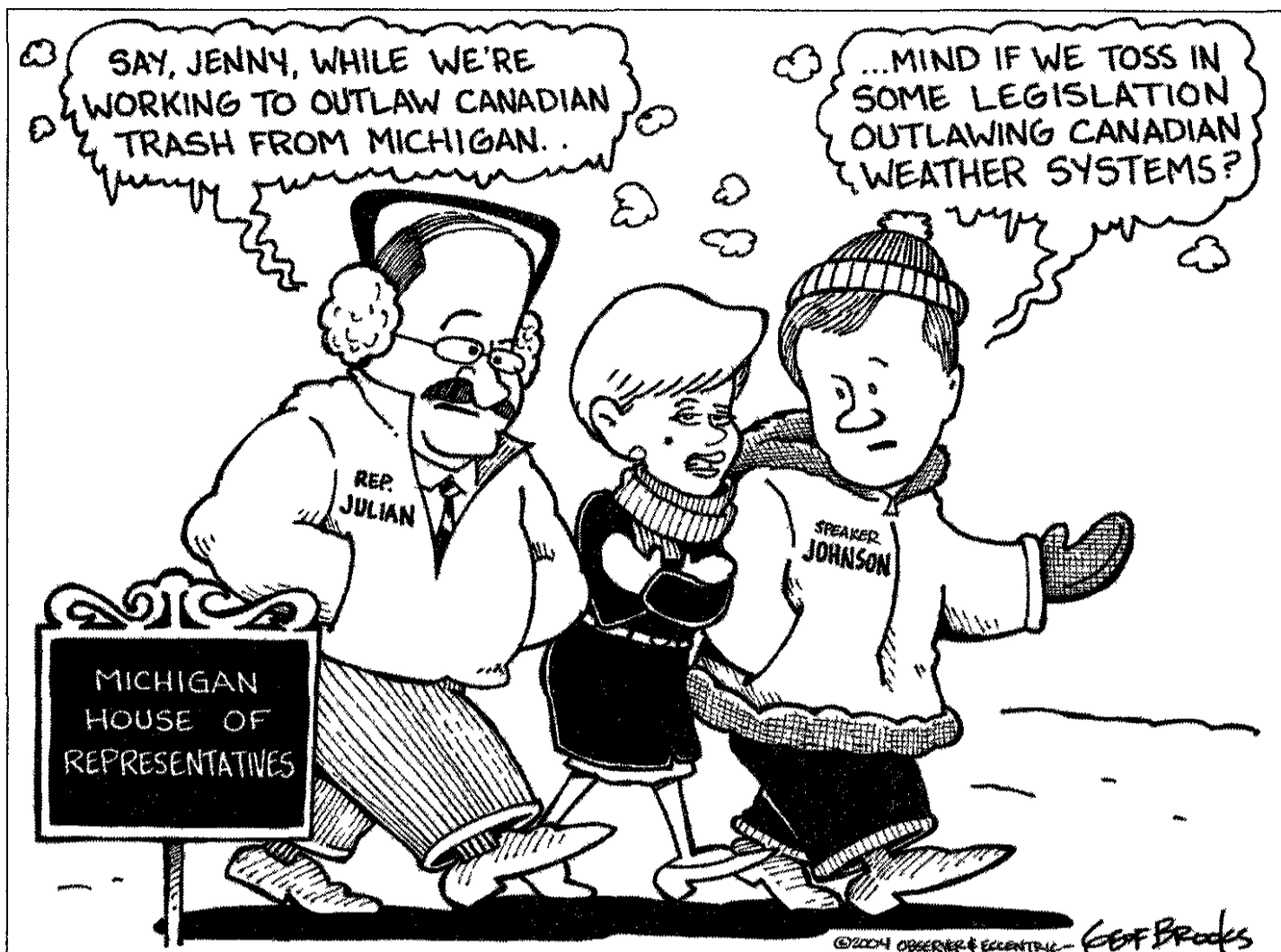
As Granholm so eloquently expressed it, "Merit demands more than high test scores. Merit demands high character as well."

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Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.



LETTERS

Black history spotlighted

This is the month that we as a nation can reflect upon the fact that even though presented with monumental trials and travails Black Americans have provided all of us with things that we can be forever grateful for.

Dr. King is one of America's greatest orators. His speeches and writings are sprinkled with ideas that today are part of the fabric of society around us and include ideals that we now strive to live by. He took the time to remind us of who we are.

Dr. George Washington Carver helped to return respect and integrity to the use of the scientific process in agriculture to the betterment of our schools and our tables. He is known as the man that brought us peanut butter, but what is not generally recognized is how his experiments paved the way for extracting chemicals and lifesaving drugs from plants that were previously overlooked or looked on with disdain. He taught us that there is always something new to learn, something new to discover.

Jim Hendrix, whose music has been described as "psychedelic," suffered a tragic death that is all too common these days throughout the American society. That is death by drugs. His words and music, marketed with a negative image, need to be re-examined in a "modern" light to give us a glimpse into the terror and horror of war that is ignored with peril by those who wage it. An example of this new interpretation of his works includes another look at the song *Little Wing* with regard to war crimes and *Purple Haze* when considering the plight of a soldier with eyes held tightly shut and praying for relief from aerial bombardment.

I will be providing a lecture in honor of Black History Month on Feb. 15, between the hours of 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. at the Canton Public Library. The lecture will be on the works of Amos Tutuola and in the manner in which the works of this great writer can be used to teach cooperation to others.

Alfred Brock
Canton

Presidential mission? Mars

Dear Mr. President, Are you feeling OK? Are the pressures of the job finally getting to you? I only ask because of your recent "let's go to Mars" remark. Did you clear this statement with your dad's friends at the White House? America is currently facing record high budget and trade deficits. On 1/1/2004, there were 8.39 million Americans out of work. A very divisive year in Iraq looks to be the first of several. Osama Bin Laden remains a fugitive. And what's on your mind? "Let's go to Mars?"

Mr. President, have you been choking on pretzels again? How many tax cuts would it take to finance such a trip? Should the American people start filling time capsules with "I'm so sorry" notes to our great, great grandchildren? Please advise.

Actually, being a "space buff" myself and knowing that I won't have to pay for

it, I must admit I am intrigued with the idea. We could start the project by deciding who should be the first person on Mars. With the inherent dangers of such a mission I would suggest someone who is totally expendable. Perhaps a 55-60-year-old white male with no friends his own age. Hmm? Hey! L'il George! Wanna go for a ride? Bang! Zoom! Straight to Mars! When you're not busy conducting experiments on the Red Planet you might want to start compiling a list of comic books to include in your presidential library.

I do offer this warning: Mr. President, with all the incumbent respect due if you see any Martians by all means don't engage them in conversation! Just turn around and walk away. Trust me! I've seen a lot of movies about these ill-tempered little creatures. Unlike the Iraqis the Martians do possess weapons of mass destruction and from what I've seen they aren't the least bit shy about using them. They especially enjoy firing them at puny insignificant earthlings.

Good Luck and May the Force Be With You! P.S. Don't forget to write

Bill McCleverty

Better reforms

Politicians and power brokers once chose party candidates in smoke-filled back rooms, but polls and primary elections supposedly are more representative.

Pollsters considered Howard Dean unstoppable until voters had an opportunity to reject him. Turnout in primaries is so small that a few citizens voting one way in the primary and another in the general election influence both the selection and the election. Crossovers undoubtedly helped George Wallace in 1972 and Jesse Jackson in 1988 win primary victories in Michigan.

The McCain-Feingold reform may make this election bitterly contested as hanging chads did the last one. Better reform suggestions are: We could upgrade the back rooms to no smoking, make primaries more exciting or replace party ballots with write-ins. Americans would vote in greater numbers for a candidate they liked, rather than against one they dislike.

Hank Borgman

Out of bedroom, our pockets

Shell Weisberg wants government out of the abortion issue and out of people's bedrooms.

A woman's right to abortion and reproductive freedom has been the law of the land since 1973. But she stops short of the next logical step — keep government out of the pockets of American taxpayers and stop funding abortions with public money.

If someone chooses to engage in behavior that could result in pregnancy, she and her partner are morally responsible for all medical costs or the total cost of raising the child. It is not my right to tell another individual how to live their reproductive life, and they in turn cannot use force of government to make me pay for it.

Mike Marhugh

The job is not done

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 was passed to eliminate racial discrimination in the U.S., and significant progress has been made in the subsequent 40 years. Blatant public discrimination against minorities has been nearly eliminated from our society, except for a few hate groups who occasionally misuse their constitutional free speech rights to stage anti-minority gatherings.

And many of us may know black individuals who have achieved economic parity with their white contemporaries thanks to the helping hand received through an affirmative action program. But despite these successes the job of achieving complete equality between the races is still not complete.

When I won't drive by the house where I grew up in what is now a depressed area of Detroit, because I am afraid the current disadvantaged black residents might resent a white man in their neighborhood, I know the job is not done. When I still hear disparaging comments about minorities from some of my white acquaintances, I know the job is not done. When I reflect upon how most suburban youth (usually white) live in relative comfort and security and receive a good education while many inner city youth (usually black) may subsist near the poverty level and attend substandard schools, possibly in high crime areas, I know the job is not done.

Some say it is time to end affirmative action, but it takes more than a mere 40 years to fix problems that have been centuries in the making.

The Michigan Civil Rights Initiative has created a petition to amend Michigan's constitution to eliminate preferences based on race. While on the surface this appears to be an anti-discrimination proposal the issue is not as black and white as it may seem (pun intended). Contrary to eliminating discrimination the proposal, if adopted, would perpetuate the inequalities still existing in our society. If I am presented with the petition I will not sign it. If the proposition appears on the ballot I will not vote for it.

Robert Reitz

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

We welcome your letters to the editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask that your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content.

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QUOTABLE

"There's a pride of belonging and a challenge to becoming a Marine. This recruit wanted to be a Marine from his earliest memories."

— Matthew Bixler of Plymouth, on why he joined the U.S. Marine Corps

Gov. Granholm puts emphasis on employment opportunities

Although it's still cold outside, things are getting hotter by the day in Lansing. Gov. Jennifer Granholm submits her proposed budget for the state of Michigan this week. The administration hasn't had the forethought to provide me with an early copy, but it's clear enough from leaks this week and from her State of the State speech what the main emphasis will be: jobs.

The opening sentence in the State of the State speech Jan. 27 was forthright: "The State of the State tonight is one of total determination. Michigan will attract and keep good jobs." With Michigan's unemployment rate at 7.2 percent, manufacturing jobs still evaporating (they're

down nearly 200,000 over the past three years) and a prospective state budget deficit for the next fiscal year estimated at \$1 billion, Granholm is facing a big problem, and she doesn't have much maneuvering room.

But the governor has produced some interesting ideas already.

Calling for interest-free loans for college students who study technical fields and engineering and who agree to stay in Michigan after they graduate until the loans are paid off is

one first-class thought. Birmingham's Tom Anderson, director of Oakland County's Automation Alley, approves, saying the plan would assure young companies a supply of highly trained workers and emphasize Michigan's commitment to a high-tech economy.

I agree, our universities produce very talented technical graduates, but too many leave for greener pastures. We need their highly developed skills right here at home.

In indirect response to reflexive calls from some Republican legislators and the Michigan State Chamber of Commerce for yet more tax cuts, Granholm posed this question: What business would choose to locate and stay in a state that guts its education funding and tolerates rising health care costs, streets with potholes, contaminated lakes and rivers and dangerous criminals released early from prison? Does anybody really believe that a marginal cut in taxes for Michigan businesses is really going to overcome a \$10-\$15 per hour wage differential with Chinese or Indian competitors? Ple-e-e-ase!

Perhaps the most interesting initiative was headlined "Develop a 21st Century Workforce. No Worker Left Behind." Granholm pointed out that Michigan businesses need a high and consistent stock of highly skilled human capital. "In the last century, businesses came to Michigan looking for strong backs," the governor pointed out. Today, they also need strong minds ready for continuous learning, skilled hands and an ethic of excellence. She proposes to completely re-engineer work

force training in Michigan" to make sure that everybody looking for a job, young or old, will be trained in the skills employers need now. She cited development of a Regional Skills Alliance in Flint, where a coalition of business, labor, education and community groups identified a shortage of skilled health care workers. The alliance steers unemployed workers to training and jobs in health care, while at the same time helping local hospitals hire first-class medical workers.

David Hollister, director of the Department of Labor and Economic Growth, is supposed to create 12 such "skills alliances" across the state.

As astute readers will be quick to see the contrast between Granholm's job growth proposals — necessarily inexpensive, but at least strategic — and the tactical maneuvers being made by President Bush in his State of the Union speech last month. Facing increasing criticism at the loss of two million manufacturing jobs over the past two years and an economic recovery that is so far largely jobless, the president proposed a \$250 million job-training program for community colleges to train laid-off workers.

In a previous life, I served for nearly a decade as chair of the Michigan Job Training Coordinating Council, so I've been over this ground a fair amount. There is no doubt that community colleges are great places to provide up-to-date training for workers, they're flexible, demand-driven, often entrepreneurial.

But \$250 million for the 1,200 community colleges around the country comes to around \$208,000 for each college, which would be just a drop in the bucket for community colleges in Michigan, whose state funding has been slashed by 15 percent — millions — over the past two years.

I'd add two other points, both related to the old saw about the proof of the pudding being in the eating: (1) President Bush announced — with great fanfare — 18 months ago the creation of a manufacturing czar position in the Commerce Department, an idea pushed by freshman U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia. That position is still unfilled.

(2) The Bush administration early on tried to eliminate something called Manufacturing Extension Partnerships, which are based on the successful model of the agricultural extension service. The Michigan Manufacturing Technology Center in Plymouth, whose mission is to help small manufacturers develop more efficient systems and train high-tech workers, was one of the targets. Thanks to senators from both parties, the MEPs still survive — but only barely.

If this state is going to truly compete in the coming century, we are going to have to do a lot better than this.

Phil Power is the chairman of the board of the company that owns this newspaper. He would be pleased to get your reactions to this column either at (734) 953-2047 or at ppower@homecomm.net.



Phil Power

Parents frequently want to know the idiot who canceled school

One of my funniest memories of bad weather came when I was the superintendent of the Reed City Area Public Schools in Reed City in 1990.

The area was in that Big Rapids/Reed City/Cadillac snow belt and there was a run of much snowfall. I had cancelled school three days in a row due to the heavy snowfall, and then ran into a morning where the outside temperature was minus-25 degrees, minus-35 degrees with wind chill.

Unfortunately, I had to cancel again, and that morning at work, the telephone rang. When I answered, the man asked who was

"the idiot who canceled school today?" I said, "Speaking!" Fortunately, he laughed and I was able to have a civil discussion with him. He even apologized for calling me an idiot. Sometimes people judge you without knowing you.

The decision to close school is not made on a whim. Let me describe the typical process for you.

First, our executive director of support services and director of transportation are out on the roads at 2 a.m.

They are driving specific routes that represent the types of roads throughout the district. We have dirt roads, gravel roads and paved roads, and these two staff members are actually driving those roads to check conditions.

While the roads are being evaluated, our maintenance staff is beginning to plow the parking lots and roads around the 26 buildings in our district. We have pickup trucks with snowplows, one road grader and trucks that spread salt. These crews normally start plowing around 3 a.m., because we have to have the Educational Park (where the three high schools are located) ready for arrivals by 6:30 a.m.

Next, these two staff members meet at 4 a.m. to begin discussing road conditions and the weather report. They also are in contact with staff in adjoining districts to check the roads near us to add to their picture on the weather conditions.

Once they have organized the information they have collected, the executive director calls me with that update. As the superintendent of schools, I am responsible for making the decision on whether or not to close. If I decide to cancel school, our communication system is put in motion. Radio and television stations need to be called, and the telephone tree to notify our 3,000

If I don't cancel school and there is bad weather, people call to ask why I am risking staff and students' lives by making them travel in this weather.

full- and part-time employees is activated. I try to make my decision by 5 a.m. to give us time to get the word out.

The decision is rarely cut and dried. As the superintendent, I try to decide if it is safe for our buses to pick up our students, can our students walk safely to the bus stop and/or to school, and can our staff drive safely to work? I take all the information into account and make the decision.

Does it always work? No. Regardless of the decision, I get telephone calls or e-mails that not only question the decision, but my mental capacity, sanity and manhood as well. Some people ask me if I have lived in Michigan long (most of my life), meaning am I seeing snow for the first time and panicking? Some people ask if I plan to pay for their baby-sitting costs because I canceled school and now they have to hire someone to watch their children because they work.

If I don't cancel school and there is bad weather, people call to ask why I am risking staff and students' lives by making them travel in this weather. They tell me they will come get me if anything happens to their loved ones.

I know it goes with the turf of being the superintendent and the person who makes the decision.

Rest assured that I take this responsibility very seriously, as do all the staff members involved in the process. Safety will always be my primary focus.

So the next time you hear there is no school for the Plymouth-Canton Community School District, I hope you realize we work hard to make what I believed to be the best decision possible. Please know we took that decision very seriously, whether you agree or not with it.

As always, I am proud to be the superintendent of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. Thank you for this opportunity to share this information and for your continued support.

Jim Ryan is superintendent of Plymouth-Canton Schools. He can be reached via e-mail at ryanj@pcccs.k12.mi.us or by phone at (734) 416-2700.



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Follow your favorite high school sports team each week in the Observer

RADIO

FROM PAGE A1

World War II People call from all around the country looking for a certain kind of radio, knob or speaker. A lot of times, Mark can accommodate them by finding a reproduction.

Oppat helped Steve Slage, 45, of Garden City restore his 1942 Philco console radio.

"I found this console radio and I thought it looked so neat," said Slage. "I just had to find someone to fix it. Within two weeks, Mark had it sounding like a thousand dollar stereo."

Slage said as a teen he loved listening to baseball games on his old, table top radio that belonged to his grandfather.

"My brother broke it, and I still remember how mad I was at him," he said. "This thing has changed my life. I quit watching television."

Through antiques you can connect with history," said Slage, who now owns a half-dozen antique radios. "You melt away into time."

Oppat estimates there were about 50 different radio manufacturers and well over 100,000 different models from 1920 to 1942. And the challenge is to find parts and service catalogues to each one of them.



Mark Oppat tunes his 1937 Sparton Bluebird mirrored radio.

In fact, Oppat will spend part of Saturday (Valentine's Day) at a swap meet in Farmington Hills, buying and selling radio paraphernalia.

"Old literature is wonderful, like extensive catalog collections, magazines and service manuals," he said. "You can bring almost any radio in from any period before 1955 and either Dan or I have the original service information for it."

Oppat said he gets a lot of satisfaction in repairing antiques for people who want to relive memories.

"People come in with an old family radio that's broken and they cry when they hear it play again," he said. "They can't

Club sponsors swap meet

The Michigan Antique Radio Club is sponsoring a swap meet Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Costick Activities Center, 28600 Eleven Mile Road (east of Middlebelt) in Farmington Hills. Admission is \$5.

People can walk in and see things for sale, such as old radios and parts, said Mark Oppat, owner of Antique Radio in Plymouth. There is also a radio rescue, where people can bring in a radio and get a free evaluation, and find out about getting it serviced or putting it up for sale.

The club is always looking for donations of parts or radios," he said.

Questions concerning the radio flea market or antique radios in general can be directed to Oppat at Antique Radio, (734) 207-2346.

believe it's the same radio they remember listening to at the kitchen table with grandma.

tbruscato@oe.homecomm.net
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Mark Oppat with a 1938 Sparton console made in Jackson, Mich.

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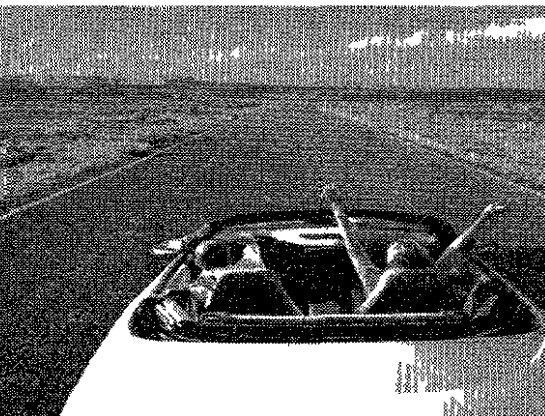
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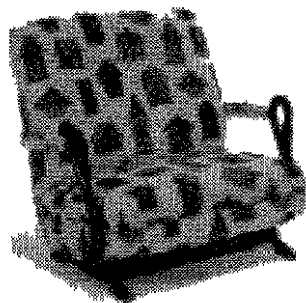
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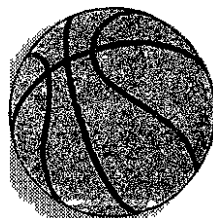
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Sidelines

Madonna recruits

Madonna University softball coach Al White announced Saturday the signing of four recruits in what he considers one of his best recruiting classes in his six seasons at Madonna.

Joining the Crusaders are catcher/first baseman Stephanie Day of Livonia (Ladywood HS), utility player Lynzee Smith of Garden City left handed pitcher Elizabeth Ballinger of St. Johns and pitcher/shortstop Crystal Beauchesne of Flushing.

This is just a real good class here all the kids complement each other and we have four legitimate players who could have an immediate impact," said White.

These are all versatile kids who can hit the ball and play a number of positions. Day will be joining her sister Kathy, currently a junior who started at third base for the Crusaders last season. Stephanie Day hit 306 in her junior season at Ladywood and was named a Catholic League and all district.

The 5-foot-10 Day also plays basketball and was named to the National Honor Society's honor roll.

Smith is one of those players White truly appreciates. "She's what we call an agitator, the type of player you hate to go against but love to play with. She is a great infielder that comes from a great program. We are very high on her."

Beauchesne helped her Flushing HS team win the Big Nine conference title as a junior last season and to state district and regional championships as a sophomore in '02.

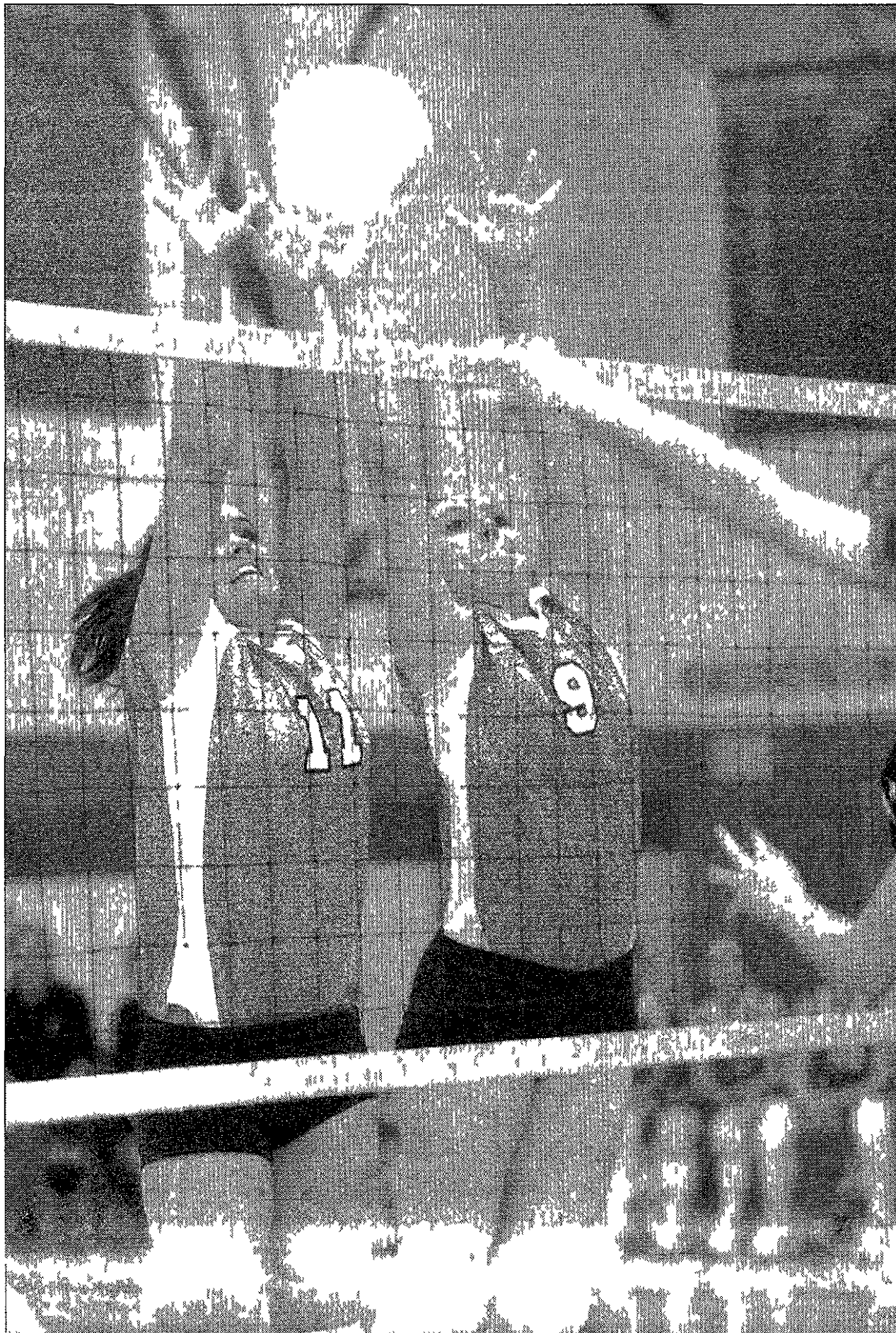
Ballinger was another who was a standout in basketball at St. Johns as well as in softball. She was all-conference and first team all-district as a junior and she brings in a certain unique ability as a left-handed pitcher.

Top keeper

Cindy Bennett, a Canton native now attending Stony Brook (NY) University, has been selected to attend the U.S. U-21 National Team Training Camp Feb. 16-22 in Carson City, Calif.

"This is something I had wanted to do ever since I started playing soccer, the standout keeper said. "I am proud to represent Stony Brook at the national camp and I look forward to training with some of the best players in the country."

In January, Bennett (from Belleville HS) was part of the Region I team that competed at the U-19 Inter-regional Event in Carson City, which put teams from four regions against each other. Her Region I team made up of players from the north east, won the gold medal, thanks in large part to her play in goal. That earned her a tryout with the U-21 team.



Canton's Molly Conlon (11) and Kelly Baker (9) go up to block a shot against Livonia Stevenson. Baker had an exceptionally strong all-around match with six kills, two service aces, three blocks and four digs.

Spartan rally stuns Chiefs

Stevenson overcomes Canton lead

It just wasn't going to be Canton's night Monday when the Chiefs hosted Livonia Stevenson in a Western Lakes Activities Association crossover volleyball match.

Of course, the Spartans had something to do with that.

After the Chiefs scored the first point of the match, Stevenson got the next six. Canton battled back to within a point of the Spartans, on four separate occasions. But the Chiefs couldn't get over the hump and lost that opening set, 15-9.

In the second game, the trend was reversed. With Kara Jones serving, Canton opened the game by scoring six straight points. Twice the Chiefs had leads as big as seven points, the last at 12-5.

Then the bottom fell out. Canton mistakes opened the door for the Spartans and they gladly danced through, scoring 10 straight points to win the game and the match, 15-12. A third game was played anyway, which the Chiefs won 16-14.

Including the results from Saturday's tournament, Stevenson stood at 16-10-5 overall, 4-1 in the WLAA and 0-1 in the Lakes Division.

Canton is 16-12-6 overall (including the Bloomfield Hills Andover tournament last Saturday), 3-2 in the WLAA and 1-0 in the Western Division.

"We started out in the first game a little flat," Stevenson coach Kelly Graham said. "Fortunately, it balanced out for us. When we made mistakes, they came back and made mistakes of their own."

In the second game, I thought when (Kristen) Hutchins got that kill into the corner on a back-row attack, it changed the whole momentum of the game. "This is one of the few times we've battled back and won a match."

There are always different views of a match. One for this would be that Stevenson knew how to hold onto a lead and Canton didn't. Another would be that, while Canton couldn't overtake Stevenson in the first game, the Chiefs certainly aided the Spartans' comeback in the second.

Six of Stevenson's final 10 points in Game 2 came on Canton mistakes: four service aces by the Spartans (two by Jamie Radley, two by Maria Mezzadri) and two on Chiefs hitting errors.

Stevenson played the better match. Canton coach Steve Anderson said. "They deserved the win. They got better hitting, better blocking and good setting."

I thought our defense played outstanding. We just

PLEASE SEE SPARTANS, B6

Quick strikes carry Salem past Chelsea

Two teams crammed six goals in a span of 10:30 — and did nothing else offensive in the game.

Fortunately for Salem, four of those goals belonged to Rocks, who defeated Chelsea 4-2 Saturday in a non-conference hockey game at the Arctic Coliseum in Chelsea.

Salem improved to 9-7-2 overall. The Bulldogs opened the scoring, Schyler Williams scoring at 2:53 of the second period. Dan Crockett and Kyle Emmons answered for Salem, however, with goals 11 seconds apart. Crockett

HOCKEY

got his at 7:51, with assists from John Peterson and Andy Thackaberry. Emmons followed at 8:02, Ryan Jones assisting on his goal.

Chelsea got the tying goal four minutes later, scored by Lucas Daniels, but again the Rocks used their quick-strike offense to pull away, with goals this time by John Maurer (from Mike Barr) at 13:07 and Andrew Majorana (from

Steve Tripp and Brooks Belhart) at 13:29.

Brandon DeMars faced 26 shots in goal for the Rocks. J.R. Engelbert faced 19 shots for Chelsea.

CC 3, Brighton 2. It was one of the most physical games that Redford Catholic Central has played in quite some time.

At least dating back to, well, last season's quarterfinal game with Brighton.

But a pair of third-period goals lifted

PLEASE SEE SALEM, B4

Chiefs score well at Invite

First, the good news: Canton enjoyed one of its best gymnastics meets of the season at Saturday's Canton Invitational.

Megan Chappo, who together with Alyssa Kelley had been missing from the lineup since the second meet of the season, returned to action and posted a 36.225 all-around score.

Chappo and Kelley were the reasons Canton broke the school scoring record in its first meet of the season. With Chappo back competing in every event and Kelley scoring quite well in the floor exercise, the Chiefs put up a 142.375, their second-highest score of the season.

But it's not all good news. Despite their impressive score, they could do no better than finish sixth against the toughest teams the state has to offer.

Indeed, as Canton coach John Cunningham noted, nine of the top 10 teams in the state were present at Saturday's invitational, held at Plymouth HS.

"It was a highly competitive meet," Cunningham said. "I think Rochester Adams is good enough to beat (Tri-)Farmington, but I don't think they will

GYMNASTICS

"We're going to be close. We're a heartbeat away from the top three."

At the top of the state's heap appears to be Tri-Farmington and Adams.

Tri-Farmington won the invitational by posting a 147.175 team score, Adams was second with a 146.250. The total posted by Farmington was nearly three points higher than its score at last year's state meet, which earned it a third place.

The next four spots belonged to Western Lakes Activities Association teams, starting with Northville-Novis (144.70), Livonia Unified (144.10), Brighton (142.50) and Canton. Salem placed ninth (136.10) and Plymouth was 14th (126.80).

As for the Chiefs' improved scoring, Cunningham had a simple reply: "It's the return of Megan. She's a trouper. Scoring 36-something (in the all-around) is good for her."

"If I can get Alyssa and Megan in a meet, and Kara (Ahern) is having a great year."

The best is yet to come for Canton



BRYAN MITCHELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Mina Pirzadeh scored an 8.6 on the balance beam, tying for 15th place in Division II. Pirzadeh had a 34.4 in the all-around good for 11th

Not pretty, but Rocks stop Pats

Free throws were the difference Tuesday as Salem held off visiting Livonia Franklin, 43-39, in a Western Lakes Activities Association boys basketball crossover.

The Rocks improved to 6-8 overall. Franklin is 3-11.

Salem made 19-of-23 (82.6 percent) of its foul shots, while Franklin made just 4-of-12 (33 percent).

BASKETBALL

Included in Franklin's misses were the front ends of three one-and-ones.

Junior Dominique Washington, who made 9-of-12 free throws, and senior Brian Bradley each scored 11 points for Salem. Washington canned 7-of-10 from the line in the decisive fourth quarter. Brad Clark was next best for the Rocks with seven.

"We're plugging away, we're trying to get better," Salem coach Bob Brodie said. "It was a sloppy game. Both teams didn't take care of the ball very well. There were a lot of turnovers, a lot of missed shots, but both teams played hard."

Senior Andy Lynett tallied 10 for the Patriots, who trailed 18-15 at halftime and 30-28 after three quarters. Sophomore Matt McCullough finished with eight and junior James Kelly had seven.

"We missed our first seven layups, it was back to the same old problems," Franklin coach Russ Keberly said. "Defensively we made stops and were diving for loose balls. We played our hearts out, but we just don't finish."

Salem hosts Livonia Stevenson Friday, while Franklin hosts Walled Lake Western. Both games start at 7 p.m.

3rd-ranked Cranbrook shuts down Stevenson

In a non league matchup Saturday, goals by Chad Langlais, Elhott Vidlers and Kyle McNealy earned host Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook (12-6-1), ranked No. 4 in Division III, to a 3-1 hockey victory over Livonia Stevenson (9-5-3) at Wallace Ice Arena.

Langlais scored with 2:07 left in the first period, while Vidlers added a power-play goal with 31 seconds remaining.

After a scoreless second period, Stevenson pulled to within one in the final minute of the third period on Dave Kubert's goal from Jimmy Nawrocki and Brad Fischer.

McNealy's empty-netter with four seconds left put it away for the Cranes.

Stevenson netminder Ryan Dennett stopped 29 of 31 shots, while Cranbrook's Andy Chuma made 25 saves.

"The whole difference in the game was they (Cranbrook) were 1-for-3 on the power-play and we were 0-of-7," Stevenson coach Mike Humitz said. "We had some pretty good opportunities, but we couldn't solve the kid (Chuma). He's a good goal-

tender. What hurt us is that we gave up two goals in the last two minutes of the second period. But overall I think the guys are playing pretty well."

Ladywood 10, Bloomfield 0: Livonia Ladywood scored five times in the first period and four in the second period en route to a 10-goal mercy rule win over winless Bloomfield at Viking Arena in Hazel Park.

Ladywood is 13-6 in the Michigan Metro High School Girls Hockey League, while Bloomfield falls to 0-16.

Laura Szwed led the victorious Blazers with two goals and two assists. Mary Beth O'Dea contributed two goals and one assist. Brittany Andrews also had a pair of goals.

Mariah McVeigh chipped in with one goal and two assists, while Joy Troczynski and Jenna Keenan each record a goal and one assist. Jess Blaesser had the other Ladywood goal. Molly Zarb assisted on two.

Goaltender Danni St. Onge, who played the first period, and backup Jessica Tuggle, who worked the final two, combined for six saves and the shutout.

Whalers follow OT win with 2-straight losses

They started the three-game weekend right, the Plymouth Whalers did. On Friday, they came back to score an overtime win over the Erie Otters in the final six seconds.

Things didn't go so well after that, though. On Saturday in Toronto, St. Michael's Majors got five power-play goals, including a goal and three assists from Tim Brent and two goals from Cory Vitarelli, to pull away to a 5-2 triumph.

Sunday's game at Plymouth's Compuware Arena against the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds was no better. Scott Dobbson scored twice in the 'Hounds' 3-1 victory.

The back-to-back defeats left the Whalers with a 23-20-9-3 Ontario Hockey League record, second in the West Division with 58 points.

OHL HOCKEY

Sarnia leads the West with 64 points (having played two fewer games).

The Greyhounds (23-28-3-1) and Windsor Spitfires are tied for third in the West with 50 points apiece (Windsor has played two fewer games than Sault Ste. Marie). Toronto is second in the Central Division with a 28-18-6-2 mark (64 points).

On Saturday in Toronto, the Whalers started well enough, getting a power-play goal from Rane Carnegie at 2:53 (assisted by Vaclav Meidl and Tim Sestito). The Majors tied it with their first power-play goal at 12:30, scored by Ryan Rorabeck, but Plymouth recaptured the lead with a

goal by Ryan Ramsay 5:3 later (assists to Dan Collins and Carnegie).

Brent's goal, his 20th of the season, knotted it at 2-2 at 15:47 of the first. Scott Lehman broke the tie with a goal for Toronto at 13:02 of the second, then Vitarelli scored twice, with 14 left in the second period and at 6:04 of the third, to ice the win for the Majors. Brent assisted on the last three Toronto goals.

Ryan Nie had 24 saves in net for Plymouth. Michael Ouzas had 21 stops for the Majors, who converted 5-of-7 power-play opportunities (Plymouth was 1-for-9).

On Sunday, Dobbson scored at 14:34 of the first period and 2:38 of the second to give the Greyhounds a lead they would not surrender.

Collins narrowed the gap to

2-1 with a Whalers' goal at 18:37 of the second (from Richard Power and John Vigilante), but Jason Pitton clinched it for Sault Ste. Marie with a score at 6:47 of the third.

Jeff Larsh and Jordan Smith each had two assists for the Greyhounds. Paul Drew had 29 saves for the Whalers, Kevin Druce stopped 33 shots for Sault Ste. Marie.

The Whalers are on the road all this weekend, playing at Windsor tonight and at Guelph Friday, then traveling to Saginaw Sunday. Team captain James Wisniewski, suspended for five games for using what was called a racial slur (in skating away from a fight, he called a European opponent a "Euro"), will be able to return for Sunday's game.

GYMNASTICS RESULTS

CANTON INVITATIONAL
Feb 7 at Plymouth HS

Team standings 1 Tri Farmington 147 175 2 Rochester Adams 146 250 3 Northville/Novi 144 700 4 Livonia Unified 144 100 5 Brighton 142 500 6 Canton A 142 375 7 Portage 141 475 8 Troy Athens 140 850 9 Salem 136 100 10 Hartland 136 050 11 Traverse City 135 100 12 Holland 128 650 13 Fraser 127 750 14 Plymouth 126 800 15 Canton B 126 300 16 Troy 125 900 17 Western 118 800

Individual results

VAULT Division One - 1 Gwen McConkie (TA) Cynthia Hughes (Port) 9.6 3 Shannon MacDonald (RA) 9.5 4 Kyla Krygier (TC) 9.4 5 Shannon Jodoin (Tri F) 9.35 6 Heather Scheffler (TA) 9.3 7 Cheryl DeGrandchamp (RA) Megan Chappo (C A) 9.25 9 Sarah Tomkovich (Tri F) 9.25 10 Nicole Drouillard (B) Nicole Bastien (B) 9.2

Division Two - 1 Danielle Dudak (RA) Julie Foucher (N/N) Laura Merrill (Tri F) 9.3 4 Katie Hicks (Port) 9.275 5 Emily Plott (H) 9.25 6 Alyssa Supplee (LU) 9.2 7 Rachel Wasson (Tri F) 9.1 8 Jessica Concannon (B) 9.05 9 Kelsey Ouffer (RA) Lauren Dilullo (B) 9.0

UNEVEN PARALLEL BARS Division One - 1 MacDonald (RA) 9.7 2 Hughes (Port) 9.6 3 Sara Wilchowski (N/N) 9.55 4 Lindsey Reed (LU) 9.5 5 McConkie (TA) 9.4 6 Tomkovich (Tri F) 9.35 7 Jodoin (Tri F) 9.25 8 Krygier (TC) Scheffler (TA) 9.15 10 Andrea Pisan (LU) 8.95

Division Two - 1 Alyse Quinn (Tri F) 9.4 2 Elena Gueroguev (S) 9.35 3 Maggie Mills (N/N) 9.3 4 Dudak (RA) Plott (H) Ashley Aquino (S) 9.15 7 Hicks (Port) 9.1 8 Keshia McClain (H) 9.0 9 Saah Ikhan Pour (N/N) 8.95 10 Ouffer (RA) Janna Ramsey (N/N) K is en Lowery

CANTON 136 15
WALLED LAKES 129 00
Feb 4 at Walled Lake Central

Vault 1 Kara Ahern (C) 8.55 2 (tie) Stefanie Schmalz (WL) Kim Stevenson (WL) 8.45 4 Mina Pirzadeh (C) 8.4 5 Kate Staley (C) 8.3 6 Kaitlyn Burns (C) 8.25

Uneven parallel bars 1 Kara Ahern (C) 8.75 2 Schmalz (WL) 8.6 3 Staley (C) 8.3 4 Pirzadeh (C) 8.1 5 Audra Ahern (C) 7.75 6 Burns (C) 7.5

Balance beam 1 Kara Ahern (C) 9.0 2 Schmalz (WL) 8.5 3 Stevenson (WL) 8.25 4 Staley (C) 8.15 5 Pirzadeh (C) Audra Ahern (C) 8.05

Floor exercise 1 Alyssa Kelley (C) 9.45 2 Kara Ahern (C) Schmalz (WL) 9.05 4 Burns (C) Audra Ahern (C) 9.0 6 Lauren Foley (C) 8.75

All around 1 Kara Ahern (C) 35.35 2 Schmalz (WL) 34.6 3 Audra Ahern (C) 32.95 4 Pirzadeh (C) 32.35 5 Burns (C) 31.45

PLYMOUTH 126 90 BERKLEY 119 95
Feb 4 at Plymouth HS

Vault 1 Gabby Mayes (B) 8.3 2 Amy Quiambao (P) 8.1 3 Courtney Pickard (P) 7.95 4 Jackie Ferman (B) 7.9 5 Chelsea Pickard (P) 7.85 6 Alie Bates (P) 7.75

Uneven parallel bars 1 Quiambao (P) 8.85 2 Alie Saker (P) 8.6 3 Mayes (B) 7.8 4 Sarah Paruch (B) 7.6 5 Ferman (B) 7.4 6 Bates (P) 7.15

Balance beam 1 Mayes (B) 9.0 2 Chelsea Pickard (P) 7.75 3 Saker (P) 7.7 4 Megan Mysliwiec (B) 7.65 5 Courtney Pickard (P) 7.25 6 Mari Abraham (B) 7.15

Floor exercise 1 Quiambao (P) 8.85 2 Mayes (B) 8.65 3 Saker (P) 8.5 4 Katie Hale (P) 8.45 5 Mysliwiec (B) 8.25 6 Courtney Pickard (P) 8.05

All around 1 Mayes (B) 33.75 2 Quiambao (P) 32.85 3 Courtney Pickard (P) 30.25 4 Hale (P) 28.95 5 Bates (28.60)

ALL AROUND Division One - 1 MacDonald (RA) 38.15 2 Wilchowski (N/N) 37.00 3 McConkie (TA) 36.90 4 Krygier (TC) Jodoin (Tri F) 36.65 6 Hughes (Port) 36.55 7 DeGrandchamp (RA) 36.525 8 Chappo (C A) 36.225 9 Scheffler (TA) 36.15 10 Ahern (C A) 36.05

Division Two - 1 Dudak (RA) 36.375 2 Gueroguev (S), 36.30 3 Hicks (Port) 36.275 4 Plott (H) 36.25 5 Mills (N/N) 35.95 6 Foucher (N/N) 35.75 7 DeYoung (TC) Ouffer (RA) 35.20 9 McClain (H) 34.95 10 Dilullo (B) 34.50

COACHES WANTED

■ Redford Union is looking for several coaches for its athletic programs.

For the Spring season, RU is seeking a girls junior varsity soccer and junior varsity baseball coach. For the Fall 2004 season, RU is seeking a varsity girls swimming coach, an assistant varsity football coach and a boys junior varsity soccer coach.

For more information or to apply, please call athletic director Brett Steele at (313) 242-4270.

■ Plymouth High School is looking for a ninth-grade softball coach for the 2004 season.

For more information or to apply, please call athletic director Terry Sawchuk at (734) 582-5700/02.

■ Salem HS is in need of a varsity girls track coach. All candidates must be high school graduates and have experience coaching at the high school level or competing in track at the collegiate level. Those interested must have a schedule compatible with that of the high school, CPR and/or first aid training is preferred, as is a demonstrated ability to work with parents and children.

To apply or for more information call Salem athletic director Tom Willette at (734) 416 7775.

■ Livonia Ladywood has openings for a girls junior varsity golf coach, girls varsity and junior varsity tennis coaches, and a girls' shot put and discus coach for this spring. Interested candidates can fax their resumes to Ladywood High School at (734) 591-2386.

■ Canton HS is accepting applications for a freshmen softball coach. Experience in fast-pitch softball is necessary.

For further information, contact Canton athletic director Sue Heinzman at (734) 416-2925.

■ Redford Thurston is looking for a varsity girls tennis coach.

For more information, please call athletic director Al Chambo at (313) 535-4000, Ext. 1166.

■ Plymouth Christian Academy needs a varsity track coach, a junior high school track coach and assistants for both positions. For more information or to apply, call PCA athletic director Doug Taylor at (734) 459-3505, Ext. 136, or email him at dtaylor@plymouthchristian.org.

■ Troy High and Troy Athens high schools are in need of girls water polo coaches. Interested candidates are asked to contact Troy Director of Athletics Jim Feldkamp at (248) 823-5093.

■ Farmington High School has a position available for someone willing to serve on a volunteer basis as a strength and conditioning coach for the football program. The position would involve approximately nine hours per week, starting in January. To inquire, call the athletic department at (248) 489-3352.

■ Livonia Stevenson High School has openings for the following coaching positions: Freshmen girls track, and assistant boys track. Letters of application should be sent to Stephen Smith, assistant superintendent of human resources, Livonia Public Schools, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, MI 48154-5474.

■ Livonia Clarenceville is seeking a junior varsity boys soccer coach for the upcoming season.

Those interested should call athletic director Tim Wilson at (248) 473-8926 or varsity coach Cassandra Gray at (734) 564-0993.

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Win keeps Ocelots alive

India Monteiro poured in 27 points and grabbed 19 rebounds to lead Schoolcraft College's women's basketball team to a 67-56 triumph over Delta CC Saturday at SC.

The victory improved the Ocelots record to 16-6 overall, they are 10-2 in the MCCAAs Eastern Conference. Delta slipped to 9-12 overall, 6-5 in the conference.

Monteiro had an exceptional game, connecting on 12-of-18 floor shots, with eight of her 19 rebounds at the offensive end. She also had five steals and three blocks. Tara Charles (from Redford Bishop Borgess) contributed 14 points, 10 boards and three steals. Shareece Crosby had 10 points, and Takara Tuff had eight points and four assists.

Delta was paced by Staci Garth with 33 points, 18 rebounds and seven steals. Kara DeWitt added nine points.

SC took command early, opening up a 35-21 lead by halftime. The Pioneers narrowed the gap in the second half, but could not overtake SC.

Spring Arbor 74, Madonna 69: Five players reached double figures in scoring for Spring Arbor Saturday at Madonna, and that kept them unbeaten in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference at 9-0. The Cougars are 20-7 overall.

For the Crusaders, it was their first home loss in league play, they are 5-4 in the WHAC, 9-16 overall.

A late surge in the first half gave Spring Arbor a 40-27 lead with 1:24 left. Madonna managed to narrow that to 42-33 at the half and got to within four in the second half, but could not overtake the Cougars.

Sarah Thomson led the Crusaders with 19 points and eight rebounds. Marwa Ayoub had 13 points, seven boards, three blocks and two steals. Stephanie Childs had 11 points, eight rebounds and two steals, and Amy Henry (from Canton Agape Christian) and Hayley Myers each scored eight.

Spring Arbor got 15 points from Shanna DuBose, 14 points from Shanna Grubaugh, 13 points, 15 rebounds and eight blocks from Kristin Van Valm, and 12 points apiece from April Bennett and Jaclyn Burken.

Madonna made 24-of-65 shots from the field (36.9 percent), Spring Arbor was 29-of-61 (47.5 percent).

Shamrocks get lucky with late rally

As expected Warren De La Salle didn't have an answer for Redford Catholic Central's 6-foot-10 center Dan Waterstradt.

The surprise was that the Pilots didn't have an answer for 5-9 guard Rob Fragoso.

And while Waterstradt's 28 points certainly didn't help the Pilots, Fragoso's drive to the basket with seven seconds left for his only two points of the game absolutely crushed them.

Fragoso capped an 11-2 run by the Shamrocks over the last 3:41 of the game, which not only gave CC a 53-52 win but clinched second place in the Catholic League's Central Division heading into the playoffs.

"At the beginning, the play was supposed to go to Dan," said Fragoso, as CC worked the ball down in the last 33 seconds. "But I saw the lane open up and I drove it, figuring that if I didn't make it I'd draw the foul."

And not only did he make it, but stole the ball on the inbounds play as the Pilots opted to try and push the ball up the floor instead of calling time out to set something up.

"He can drive to the hoop, but it was just a scary thing," said Waterstradt, laughing then explaining himself. "When anyone has to drive in and score to win it's scary."

The Pilots (11-4 overall, 4-3 Central) inbounds play was a predictable one as CC went right into its "Blue" press. But they were also predictable in their effort to stop Waterstradt.

"We knew they were going to double-team me and we worked on it in practice all week," said Waterstradt, who scored 22 of his points in the paint, but knocked down a pair of 18-foot jumpers to boot.

"But if they were going to leave me open outside, I was going to

take it. We expected that they were going to stay on me. Coach (Greg) Esler is an amazing coach and you expect that from him."

Why it was even close in the first place was outside shooting. De La Salle had it for the most part - CC didn't. Keith MacKenzie knocked down five 3-pointers in the game and finished with 21 points, while the Shamrocks (12-3, 5-2) hit one - a 3-pointer by Garrett Sencyszyn who finished with seven points overall along with Kyle Smith.

"They did a good job of playing their game," said CC coach Rick Coratti. "They scrapped and played good defensively. I thought we played a solid game for most of the third quarter, but we played selfish at the end."

The third quarter was the one that got CC back in the ball game - although they closed the gap 24-22 at the end of the second before the Pilots pushed it back to 28-22.

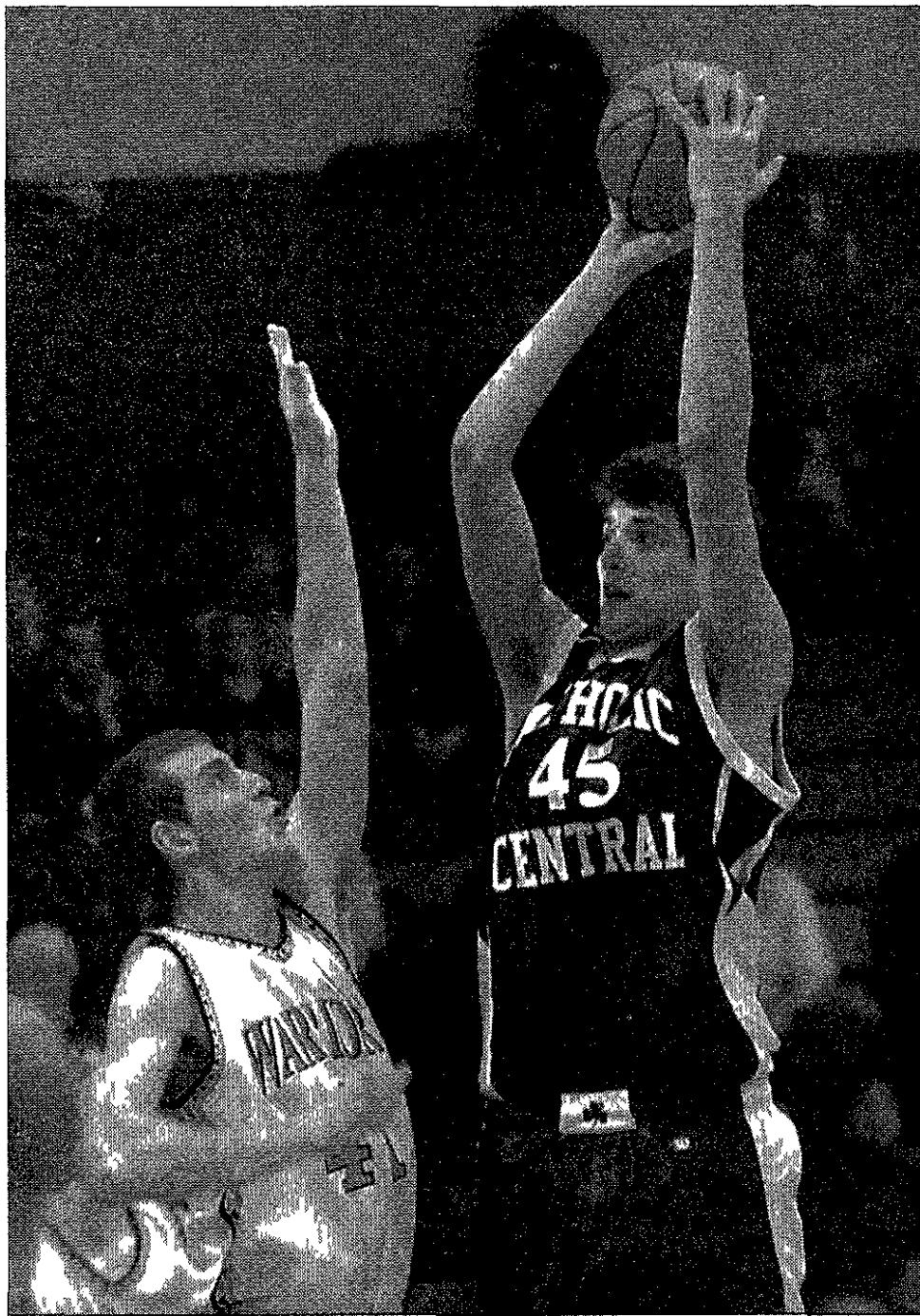
CC opened the third quarter on a 10-0 run and took a 32-28 lead for the first time since the first minute. But Andrew Grauzer hit a bucket and MacKenzie canned a pair of triples to give the Pilots back the lead.

De La Salle stayed ahead for the rest of the quarter and well into the third - hitting its high-water mark at 50-42 with 3:41 left on a shot by John Novak.

After that, it was all CC. The Shamrocks were 23-of-57 shooting for the game, but 14-of-29 in the second half with the Pilots 10-of-20 over the same stretch.

"It's always a tough game for us," said Coratti, whose team beat De La Salle 67-59 in Warren in the first meeting.

"When the game is in the 60s or 70s, that's more our style. But when Dan scores in the 20s, we usually do pretty good."



Dan Waterstradt (left) scored 28 points to lead Catholic Central to a pivotal win over DeLaSalle Tuesday.

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THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP BOYS BASKETBALL
Friday Feb 13
 WL Northern at Canton 7 p m
 Northville at Churchill 7 p m
 WL Western at Franklin 7 p m
 Salem at Stevenson 7 p m
 WL Central at John Glenn 7 p m
 A A Huron at Wayne 7 p m
 Business Tech at Ply Christian
 7:30 p m
 Huron Valley at Macomb Christian
 7:30 p m
 Redford CC at Brother Rice
 7:30 p m
Saturday Feb 14
 B H Roeper at Ply Christian 3 p m
GIRLS VOLLEYBALL
Thursday, Feb 12
 Huron Valley vs Zoe Christian
 at Livonia St Pauls 6 p m
 Luth Westland at Clarenceville
 6:30 p m
Saturday, Feb 14
 Canton at Fraser Invit 8 a m
 Salem at Temp Bedford Invit TBA
 Wayne State Invitational TBA
PREP HOCKEY
Thursday, Feb 12
 Redford CC vs PH Northern
 at McMoran Arena 6 p m
Friday, Feb 13
 Churchill vs WL Central (Edgar)
 6 p m
 Salem vs Canton
 at Arctic Edge 8 p m
 Franklin vs WL Western
 at Lakeland Ice Arena 8:20 p m
 Stevenson at Utica Eisenhower
 8:30 p m
Saturday, Feb 14
 P C S Penguins vs Cranbrook
 at Cranbrook Arena noon
 Stevenson vs Redford Unified
 at Redford Ice Arena 2:15 p m

Redford CC vs Grosse Pte North
 at Compuware (Olympic) 7 p m
PREP WRESTLING
Thursday, Feb 12
 Churchill at John Glenn 6:30 p m
Saturday, Feb 14
 W L A A Tourney at Churchill 9 a m
 Metro Conf at Clarenceville 10 a m
PREP BOYS SWIMMING
Thursday, Feb 12
 Canton at Churchill 7 p m
 Salem at WL Central 7 p m
 Franklin at Northville 7 p m
 Stevenson at Wayne 7 p m
 John Glenn at WL Northern 7 p m
Saturday, Feb 14
 MISCA meet at EMU 8 a m
GIRLS GYMNASTICS
Thursday, Feb 12
 Wayne Westland at Brighton 7 p m
Friday, Feb 13
 Livonia Unified at Royal Oak 7 p m
PREP SKIING
Thursday, Feb 12
 Regional at Alpine Valley 9 a m
COMPETITIVE CHEER
Saturday, Feb 14
 Livonia Public Schools Invitational
 at Stevenson 10 a m
MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Saturday, Feb 14
 Schoolcraft at Oakland CC 3 p m
 Concordia at Madonna 3 p m
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Saturday, Feb 14
 Madonna at Concordia 1 p m
 Schoolcraft at Oakland CC 3 p m
ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE
Thursday, Feb 12
 Whalers at Windsor 7:30 p m
Friday, Feb 13
 Whalers at Guelph 7:30 p m
Sunday, Feb 15
 Whalers at Saginaw 2 p m

BASEBALL CLINIC

The annual Salem Baseball Clinic will be in two sessions, the first on Saturday, March 27 and the second on Saturday, April 3, both in the Salem HS gym
 Three hours of baseball instruction from the Salem varsity players and coaches, for players ages 7-15, is included. Lunch is provided as well, registration fee is \$20
 To reserve a spot or for more information, call Ron Myers at (734) 459-4026

LACROSSE SIGN-UP

The Canton Leisure Services is sponsoring a Youth Lacrosse League, with the league running from March through June
 New and experienced players may join either the fifth-sixth grade team or the seventh-eighth grade team. Indoor practices are available in February
 Players must supply their own equipment, including helmet, stick, mouth guard, protective equipment and shoulder pads
 Teams must have a minimum of 10 players and no more than 25
 Included in the \$100 per player fee is a uniform, indoor practice time, a 12-week league schedule and an end-of-the-year jam-boree tournament
 Players may register right

now at the Summit on the Park, located at 46000 Summit Parkway. For more information, call the Canton Softball Center at (734) 483-5600

SOCCER CLINICS

The Michigan Wolves and Hawks Soccer Club is hosting a free clinic open to the public at Total Soccer's Wixom facility
 The boys clinic will feature University of Michigan men's soccer coach Steve Burns and will be Feb 19. Clinic times are U13, U14 - 5:30-7 p m, U15, U16 - 7-8:30 p m, U17, U18 - 8:30-10 p m
 Again, the clinics are free. The Wixom Total Soccer Facility is located at 30990 Wixom Road, 1 1/2 miles north of I-96
 Call Amy Richters at (248) 478-6692

SOCCER REGISTRATION

The Canton Soccer Club is currently accepting registrations for the spring season
 Registration forms may be obtained either on-line at www.cantonsoccerclub.com or at the club office, located at High Velocity Sports, 46245 Michigan in Canton. Office hours are 10 a m - 3 p m., Monday through Friday
 Registration fees for under-five division players is \$50, for

under-six through under-eight division players, the fee is \$65 for Canton residents and \$90 for non-residents, for under-nine through under-19 divisions, the fee is \$100 for residents and \$125 for non-residents
 Registration closes March 1. Registration form, copy of birth certificate and payment may be mailed to Canton Soccer Club, P O Box 87244, Canton, MI 48187. Call (734) 480-7046

a m - 9 p m Saturday, March 6, and 10 a m - 5 p m Sunday, March 7. Admission is \$8 for adults, \$4 for children ages 6-14 (5-and-under free). One dollar off coupons are available at all Speedway stations. Park is \$3 m lots adjacent to Ford Field. For more information, call (800) 328-6550 or visit www.MichBoatFish.com

HOOP TOURNEY

Northwood University's 11th annual 5-on-5 "March Madness" Basketball Invitational for sixth, seventh and eighth grade boys will be held March 6-7 in the Northwood University Bennett Sports Center
 Each team is guaranteed three games with individual trophies awarded to the first and second place teams in each age division. The first 16 teams in each age group to submit their \$235 entry fee will be guaranteed a spot.
 Have the player's most recent report card available upon request to verify grade
 Deadline for team entry is Feb 24. Mail a \$235 check payable to Jeff Curtis and player roster to Jeff Curtis, Tournament Director, 4911 Drake St Midland, MI 48640
 Contact Jeff Curtis at (989) 633-8409 or at curtis@northwood.edu

JERSEY RAFFLE

St Agatha is raffling off a Pavel Datsyuk autographed Detroit Red Wings jersey with wall mount display case with proceeds to benefit the school's youth sports program
 Tickets are \$5 each and can be purchased from St. Agatha athletic director Tim Sweeney at (248) 722-4036 or by e-mailing Jim Reed at original6@comcast.net. The drawing will take place on Feb 21. The winner need not be present to win

BOAT SHOW

The 21st annual Michigan Boat, Sport and Fishing Show will be Wednesday through Sunday, March 3-7, at Ford Field in Detroit. Show hours will be 2-9:30 p m Wednesday-Thursday, March 3-4, noon-9:30 p m Friday, March 5, 10

Makela and Wade LaFever Shots were at a premium in the period as the Bulldogs held a 3-2 edge
 "It wasn't because of bad play, but it was a physical game," Johnson said. "Bodies were flying"
 Brighton got two back in the second period as Dan L'Esperance scored on a power-play goal and Jeff Wiley got the other for a 2-1 lead
 "We've been accustomed to tight games after two periods," Johnson said
 "It's just another sign of

how good high school hockey has become"
 Just 1:08 into the third period, Jason Lewarne scored on the tail end of a power play as Mike Monterey and Tim Buttery assisted
 Chris New scored the game-winner 2:30 later, and Drew Kahle and Dan Barczuk drew the assists
 Andrew Godoshian made 14 saves in net for CC, but none was bigger than the one he made on Wiley with about a minute left
 Aaron Gidcomb stopped 12 shots in goal for Brighton

SALEM

FROM PAGE B1

of that game couldn't hold a candle to this one," CC coach Todd Johnson said after his team improved to 10-6-3 overall, one spot ahead of Livonia Churchill in this week's poll
 "It was as physical of a regular season game as we've been a part of. They are big and strong"
 "Part of our success is that we need to finish our checks, but that was the game plan for both teams"
 CC opened the scoring just 1:04 into the game as Pete Pfeffer scored from Billy

the Shamrocks to a win Saturday night over visiting Brighton before about 1,400 fans at Compuware Arena
 And the win over the second-ranked Bulldogs, along with Ann Arbor Pioneer's loss to archrival Huron, moved CC back into the top spot in this week's coaches poll
 "There was a midget major game on the other rink at Compuware and the intensity

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON REQUEST FOR BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton 1150 Canton Center S, Canton Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p m February 26th 2004 for the following
CARDIOVASCULAR FITNESS EQUIPMENT
 Bid forms may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department counter or you may contact Mike Sheppard at (734) 394 5225. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposal name company name address and telephone number an date and time of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race color, national origin, sex religion age or disability in employment or the provision of services
TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK
 Publish February 12 2004

PLYMOUTH HOUSING COMMISSION

Plymouth Housing Commission is seeking conceptual proposals for an office expansion. Work consists of architectural structural, mechanical and electrical renovation of an approximately 1650 sf area into office usage. Selection of the architect will be based on many factors including but not limited to qualifications, knowledge of federal reporting guidelines construction experience, and knowledge of local codes. Design proposals to include preliminary conceptual prints costs for providing construction drawings and construction inspection. Tours of the proposed project can be made by calling 734 455 3670 ext 222 or 226. Proposals to be submitted to Plymouth Housing Commission 1160 Sheridan, Plymouth, MI 48170 no later than EOB Friday March 26 2004
 Publish February 8 & 12 2004

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF INTENT TO ACCEPT PROPOSALS FOR ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES

The Charter Township of Plymouth is currently seeking proposals from interested and qualified firms to provide Architectural Services for a new Township Hall project. Specifications for the Request for Proposals may be obtained from the Office of the Clerk 42350 Ann Arbor Road Building No 3 Plymouth Michigan 48170
 Proposals will be received until 3:00 p m local time on or before Friday March 5, 2004 at the Office of the Clerk, Charter Township of Plymouth 42350 Ann Arbor Road Building No 3 Plymouth Michigan 48170 at which time they will be publicly opened and proposers name and address read aloud
THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND/OR NEGOTIATE THE BEST OFFER FOR THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH
MARILYN MASSENGILL Clerk
 Charter Township of Plymouth
 Publish February 12 & 15 2004

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Charter Township of Canton will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon two weeks notice to the Charter Township of Canton. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Charter Township of Canton by writing or calling the following
 David Medley ADA Coordinator
 Charter Township of Canton 1150 S Canton Center Road
 Canton, MI 48188
 (734) 394 5260
 Publish February 12 2004

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FY 2004 CDBG ACTION PLAN

Beginning February 12 and for 30 days thereafter, Canton Township will accept public comment on the FY 2004 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Action Plan. The Action Plan is funded at \$434,000. Comment will be accepted on the following project proposals: First Step \$36,000, Growth Works \$10,500, HelpSource Adult Day Care, \$5,000, Wayne County Neighborhood Legal Services, \$20,500, Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency, \$10,000, Volunteer Coordinator \$6,500, Leisure Services scholarships program \$2,500, Program Administration, \$85,200, Human Service Center Construction, \$275,000 (multi year), Housing Rehabilitation, \$9,400. Note not all project proposals are necessarily listed not all projects listed will necessarily be approved for FY 2004 nor will all projects accepted for funding necessarily be funded for the requested amounts. Written comments or requests for information should be directed to Gerald Martin Community Services Specialist Community Services Division, 1150 S Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan 48188, (734) 394 5194, Ext 5194
 Terry Bennett, Clerk
 Publish February 12 2004

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF HEARING ASSESSMENT BOARD OF REVIEW

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that the Plymouth Township Board of Review will meet on the following dates and times
 Hearings are by appointment please call 354 3267, between 8 a m and 4:30 p m for an appointment
Tuesday, March 2 9 a.m.-Noon Organizational Meeting
 2 p.m.-5 p.m Hearings by Appointment
Monday, March 8 2 p.m.-5 p.m Hearings by Appointment
 6 p.m.-9 p.m Hearings by Appointment
Wednesday, March 10 9 a.m.-Noon Hearings by Appointment
 2 p.m.-5 p.m Hearings by Appointment
Saturday, March 13 9 a.m.-11 a.m. First Come - First Served
 Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed
 All persons protesting their assessment must complete petitions prior to appearing before the Board. A personal appearance is not required. Appeals by mail will be accepted if received by March 13, 2004
 The Board of Review will be held in the Board Meeting Room of Plymouth Township Hall 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170
 Please come prepared as a ten (10) minute time limit before the Board of Review will be strictly adhered to
 Publish February 12 15 & 19 2004

"I Thought I Would Miss My House . . ."



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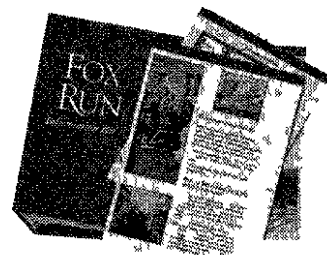
And since Fox Run is just a short drive, Frederick and Dolores can easily stay active in organizations and visit friends in their old neighborhood.

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Canton's 3rd-quarter run wrecks Stevenson

Livonia Stevenson stayed close for a half Tuesday before Canton exploded in the third quarter with an 18-3 run to earn a 55-33 win in a Western Lakes Activities Association crossover basketball game.

Canton is 8-6 overall. The Spartans, who shocked Westland John Glenn Saturday, are 4-9.

D J Bridges led Canton with 18 points and nine rebounds. He scored 10 in the third period.

"D J was in a little funk in the first half, but in the third quarter he started scoring and played great defense for us," Canton coach Charlie Paye said. "It was close at the half. They (Stevenson) play good half-court offense. They make you work."

Andy Cortellini added 11 points for the Chiefs, while Brad Waidmann had nine. Kevin Thornton finished with four blocks and three steals.

Senior guard Keith Hearn led the Spartans with 18, but nobody else had more than four.

"I think we may have worn them down," Paye said. "Hearn got 18, but he had to work for them."

Agape 41, B.H. Roeper 37: A tight game all the way, Canton Agape Christian didn't clinch the win over visiting Bloomfield Hills Roeper until the final five seconds Tuesday at Discovery Middle School, Agape's home court.

Two free throws by Charlie Henry gave the Wolverines their final margin of victory. They had entered the fourth quarter trailing the Roughriders, 31-30.

The victory gave Agape an 11-3 overall mark, 4-2 in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference. Roeper is 3-10 overall, 1-6 in the MIAC.

Agape also trailed at the half, 21-20, but its 11-6 fourth-quarter surge

proved decisive. Henry finished with 20 points, no one else scored more than six.

Roeper got 14 points from Chris Andrews and 12 from Eric Zinser.

Agape was playing without its top inside threat and scorer, Jordan Napier, who sprained his ankle in practice Monday.

PCA 65, S'field. Christian 55:

The third quarter was a blur. Everything else went splendidly for Plymouth Christian Academy Monday against visiting Southfield Christian.

PCA led 18-7 after one quarter and 36-17 by halftime. The third quarter, however, was different, Southfield Christian outscored PCA 17-6 to narrow the gap to 42-34.

Southfield got to within six in the fourth quarter, but no closer as PCA held on for a 10-point win.

"We pressed really well in the first half," said PCA coach Doug Taylor.

"We got a lot of steals and layups

"In the third quarter, the shots didn't fall. The momentum switched, but the guys never gave up. They handled the ball well in the fourth quarter."

PCA improved to 8-6 overall, 4-3 in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference. Southfield Christian is 4-8 overall, 2-4 in the MIAC.

Steve Sumner and Aaron Ciborowski each scored 20 points to pace PCA, Sumner also making four steals and Ciborowski getting 11 rebounds.

Ben Baloga added 11 points and Dan Carty collected eight points, nine assists, seven boards and six steals.

For Southfield, Matt Parker netted 19 points and Alex Martin had nine.

Northville 66, Canton 50: Up and down, up and down — so went Canton's game against WLAA leader

Northville Saturday at Northville.

A make-up after school was cancelled Friday, the Chiefs started well against the Mustangs, taking a 16-11 lead after one quarter. But Northville outscored them 19-7 in the second quarter to take a 30-23 halftime lead.

Canton narrowed that to 46-43 after three quarters, but the Mustangs asserted themselves in the last period — notably at the free-throw line — in outscoring the Chiefs 20-7. Northville was 25-of-35 at the line (71.4 percent), Canton was 9-of-15 (60 percent).

D J Bridges led the Chiefs with 12 points. Andy Cortellini had 11, and Julian Smith and Jason Houdek scored eight points apiece. Kevin Thornton had four points and six blocked shots. For the Mustangs, Mark Sorensen had 16 points, Marcus Davis netted 15, Tim Singleton got 13 and Alan Shanowski scored 10.

Schoolcraft dumps Delta; Spring Arbor outguns MU

Derrick Ponder scored a season-high 29 points and pulled down nine rebounds Saturday to lead Eastern-Conference co-leader Schoolcraft College past Delta Community College.

Schoolcraft is 20-3 overall and 11-1 in the conference (tied with Flint Mott). Delta falls to 6-15 and 3-8.

Anton Palmer added 15

MEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS

points and 10 rebounds for the Ocelots. Ray Metcalf also scored 15 and dished out five assists. Ryan Baumgartner chipped in with 11 points.

Spring Arbor 91, Madonna 88:

The Crusaders did just about everything right Saturday at Spring Arbor.

They hit 55.4 percent of their shots from the floor, 43.8 percent from three-point range, outrebounded the Cougars and had fewer turnovers.

But they couldn't win the game. Both teams are 2-7 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference, Madonna fell to 9-16 overall, Spring Arbor is 12-16 overall.

Although the Crusaders were sharp offensively, making 36-of-65 floor shots and 7-of-16 three-pointers, they had no answer for the Cougars, who converted 28-of-49 from the field (57.1 percent) and 9-of-17 triples (52.9 percent).

In addition, they were 27-of-33 from the line (81.8 percent), Madonna was 9-of-14 (64.3 percent).

Noel Emenhiser led the Crusaders with 23 points (on 10-of-19 shooting), including three three-pointers (3-of-4), six rebounds and four steals. Joe Kofahl had 21 points, Chad Nadoln scored 12 and grabbed six boards, Dan Kurtmatis had 10 points and 14 assists, and Chris Behrns scored nine points.

The Cougars were paced by Ryan Walter with 27 points (five threes), Mike Folkert with 22 (four triples), Josh Desmyter with 18 and Micah Lancaster with 11 points and 11 assists.

ROAD RALLY

The Canton Thunderbirds girls fast-pitch softball organization is hosting its second-annual Road Rally on March 13.

Space is limited, early registration is suggested.

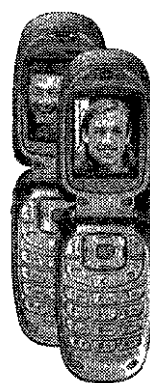
Cost is \$25 per person, which includes meal, prizes and music.

For further information contact Mike Roberts at (734) 397-1355 or on the Web at thunderbirdsoftball.tripod.com.

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BIRMINGHAM 34200 Woodward Ave 248 693 8679	DEARBORN 22137 Michigan Ave 313 566 2680	FLINT 3292 Linden Street 810 733 1770	LIVONIA 37677 Six Mile Rd 734 482 1110	MONROE MI Frenchtown Square Mall 734 243 0533	ROSEVILLE 31902 Gratiot 586 293 0142	TWELVE OAKS MALL 27304 X Novi Road 248 449 9082
BRIARWOOD MALL 814 Briarwood Circle 734 913 9257	DETROIT 2660 E Jefferson 313 259 1178	HURON VILLAGE 3217 Washtaw Blvd 734 973 2043				

Important Information

An additional monthly \$1.75 Regulatory Programs Fee applies to help fund our compliance with various government mandated programs which may not yet be available in your area. This is not a tax or gov't required charge. Requires qualified plan of \$39.99 or above, two year agreement, compatible device and \$175 cancellation fee. New activations also require credit approval and \$36 activation fee. Not available for purchase or use in all areas. Portability eligibility varies. Availability and reliability of service are subject to transmission limitations. Different rates apply when outside each applicable Service Area. Roaming additional minute and long distance charges apply. Various taxes, surcharges, fees and other assessments (e.g. universal connectivity charge) apply. Not available with other offers. Limited time offer. Other restrictions apply. Subject to Service Agreement and printed materials. Reachout Unlimited applies to calls placed from the applicable Mobile to Mobile Service Area to another AT&T Wireless subscriber when both are on our domestic network. Instant Activation Credits: Only available at AT&T Wireless stores: attwireless.com and 866 reachout. Instant Switch Credit: If final phone purchase price is less than \$50 then switch credit will be equal to final phone price. One credit per line available at AT&T Wireless stores to individuals with a current competitor's wireless invoice in their name. ©2004 AT&T Wireless. All Rights Reserved.



Salem sweeps to beat Central

SPARTANS

FROM PAGE B1

had some mental lapses. But our back-court defense was the one part of our game I was pleased with.

In the first set, after Stevenson opened up a 6-1 lead, Canton closed the gap to 6-5. Then to 7-6. Then to 9-8 and 10-9. But the Spartans always had an answer. Mezzadri served four straight points to take it to 14-9, including two aces, setting up Lisa Montgomery for the game-clinching kill on sister Linda Montgomery's serve.

In the second game, Canton came out

with a vengeance, starting with Jones' six straight points on the opening serve. Andrea Johnson served three straight aces to keep the Chiefs in control, making the score 9-2, and after the Spartans closed to within 9-5, two kills by Kelly Baker and another by Katie Mills boosted the Chiefs' lead to 12-5.

That's when the Stevenson comeback started. Radley served four points. Lia Williamson served two more, then Mezzadri served out the match with Lisa Montgomery again getting the game-clinching kill. Two Chiefs errors when they had the serve — a serve into the net and a kill hit out of bounds — further aided Stevenson.

Lisa Montgomery finished with seven kills to lead the Spartans. Linda Montgomery had four kills and was 6-of-7 on serve reception. Mezzadri had four kills and six aces. Hutchins had 11 digs and setter Laura Flaughner had three aces, 16 set assists and was 9-for-9 serving.

For Canton, Johnson got 15 digs, four aces and was 8 for 9 in serve reception. Baker had six kills with a 46.2 kill percentage, four digs, two aces and three blocks. Krissy Lillie had 16 set assists and eight digs, and Jones totaled 10 digs, four kills and two blocks.

Canton and Stevenson are both at the Fraser Invitational Saturday.

NOTES Last Saturday was typical of the way Canton has been playing this season, but frustrating nonetheless.

At the Bloomfield Hills Andover Invitational, the Chiefs split their two pool play sets with both Romeo and Bloomfield Hills Lahser, then swept both against Roseville for a 1-0-2 record. That gave them the fifth seed in the Gold Bracket for the elimination round.

Getting into the Gold or best bracket for the elimination round is nothing new for Canton. The Chiefs have done it at all but one tournament this season. But they haven't been able to do anything in the elimination rounds, winning just once against Sterling Heights in the quarterfinals of the Andover Invite. It was more of the same. The Stallions won, eliminating Canton.

Salem bounced back from a fourth-place finish at last Saturday's 31st annual High School Varsity Volleyball Invitational to rout Western Lakes Activities Association rival Walled Lake Central 15-5, 15-10 Monday at Central.

Combined with Saturday's 4-3 match record, the Rocks were 32-7-5 overall, 4-1 in the WLAA and 2-0 in the Lakes Division.

In the win over Central, Ellen Canale paced Salem with 17 kills and a 48.4 kill percentage. "She's really come on strong the last few playing dates," said Salem coach Tom Teeters of Canale's performance.

Theresa Coppellie contributed five kills (250) and three service aces. Jordan Falcusan had 28 set assists, three aces and five digs. Courtney Edwards had five digs, and Kelly Lepper got four digs.

At Saturday's tournament, formerly known as the Schoolcraft Invitational, the Rocks faced some of the toughest teams in the state. In their first match they defeated Woodhaven 25-23, 25-21 (all games were rally scoring), then bounced Livonia Ladywood 25-13, 25-22.

Their third match, a crossover against the top team in another pool, Salem came up against the No. 1-ranked team in the state, East Kentwood. The Rocks played well but lost, 26-24, 25-15.

In the elimination round, Salem first met Livonia Stevenson, the Rocks prevailed, 25-17, 25-22. That put them against Rochester Adams, which they dispatched 25-15, 25-13.

The semifinals featured Salem against Temperance Bedford and Livonia Churchill against East Kentwood. The Mules proved better, beating the Rocks 27-25, 25-15. Kentwood also knocked off Churchill, 25-14, 25-16, to advance to the title game against Bedford, while Churchill and Salem met in a consolation final.

That didn't go well for Salem, either. The Chargers won, 25-17, 25-18. In the final, East Kentwood prevailed, 25-23, 25-17.

Against Bedford, Canale had 11 kills and Coppellie had six, Jill Niemi and Edwards each had seven digs, with Lauren Price getting six.

Falcusan finished with 15 set assists, but the Rocks did not get a single serving ace against the Mules.

In the win over Stevenson, Canale led with four kills, Lepper had six digs, Lauren Kurtz got three blocks and Falcusan totaled 12 set assists. In the loss to Kentwood, Canale and Coppellie each got seven kills, Falcusan had 12 assists, Edwards got six digs, Lauren Price had four digs, and Lauren Marsonok and Kurtz collected three blocks apiece.

Salem travels to the Temperance Bedford Invitational Saturday.

Agape, PCA get wins

Monday was a good day for both Canton Agape Christian and Plymouth Christian Academy's volleyball teams. Agape edged host Deerfield 15-13, 11-15, 15-11, while PCA blasted Southfield Christian 15-9, 15-0 at Southfield.

PCA's victory was spurred by Camille Kimberlin, who had 10 digs and served 15 points (14 in the second game), and Bre Ruark, who had eight kills and 10 digs.

For the Wolvernes, their three-set win was sparked by A.J. Creps with eight kills, Amanda Tachnick with four kills, and Emily Tong with 11 set assists and four service aces.

Agape improved to 6-9 overall with the non-league win. Deerfield fell to 2-7.

PCA is 11-9-1 overall, 5-2 in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference.

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These outside companies don't care about homeowners or small businesses. There's not enough profit there. In fact, the law says out-of-state suppliers don't have to serve low-income customers or senior

citizens or first-time homebuyers or people out in rural areas. We do serve them, of course, we always have.

PA 141 says we must cover the entire cost of the electric system—all the power plants, a million utility poles, 42,000 miles of power lines—and all the people who make it work. The out-of-town suppliers don't contribute fairly to the maintenance and upgrading of the system. That remains our responsibility. The reliability of that system is at serious risk. The only way we can properly support and sustain the electric system is to make up for the loss of revenue by

increasing rates to homeowners and small businesses. We're talking about rate hikes of up to 30%. Is that fair to you? No. But our hands are tied. It could come to a rate increase or a very real energy crisis.

Michigan's electric deregulation law was meant to stimulate competition, give everyone a choice and keep electricity affordable. It's done none of those things.

As the law stands, it just isn't fair, not to you and not to us. It needs to be fixed. Help us change a law that simply doesn't work. Log on to dteenergy.com and find out how you can help keep energy reliable and affordable for everyone.

Anthony F. Earley, Jr.

Anthony F. Earley, Jr.
Chairman and CEO
DTE Energy and Detroit Edison

Detroit Edison



A DTE Energy Company

dteenergy.com



Accents

Gardening talk

Horticultural writer and researcher Allan Armitage, nationally renowned gardening expert Jeff Ball and garden columnist Nancy Szerliag will be among the speakers at the Ford Field Home & Garden Show Thursday-Sunday, Feb 19-22.

Armitage teaches at the University of Georgia and runs the

horticulture gardens there. Armitage is the author of eight books and over 300 articles in magazines such as *Fine Gardening*, *Horticulture Magazine* and *American Society of Horticultural Science*. Armitage has received numerous awards from the Garden Club of America, American Horticultural Society and the Garden Writers Association of America. Armitage can be seen at the show on Saturday.

Ball appeared on NBC's *The Today Show* for eight years as the show's gardening expert. He is a full-time garden writer with nine books to his credit, has produced garden videos, CD-ROMs and a garden planner software package and writes online at www.yardener.com. Ball can be seen at the show Friday and Saturday.

Szerliag is a master gardener and metro Detroit freelance writer who will present "Power Perennials and Hot Pots for Cool Places" on Friday and Saturday.

The Home & Garden Show hours are from 3 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Thursday, noon to 9:30 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$7-\$3 for children 6-14 and children 5 and under admit free.

Advance tickets are offered online. Weekday adult admission discount coupons are available at Speedway and Big Boy Ford Field. Daily parking rate is \$3 and over 2,000 parking spaces are adjacent to Ford Field. For more information, visit www.FordFieldHomeShow.com or call (800) 328-6550.

Last-minute gifts

Flirting begins with the perfect gift on Valentine's Day. Marshall Field's offers everything from sensual to sweet for all types of valentines.

All the senses will come alive with gift ideas from Marshall Field's including sparkling gemstones, clanking champagne glasses, fragrant scents, silky lingerie, and indulgent chocolates.

You will find a few extra special gifts including Spin the Bottle Game, \$15, Assorted Body Frosting, \$10, Fondue for Two, \$20, Frango 8 oz Heart Box, \$14, Vera Wang Fragrances for Men and Women, Ralph Lauren Romance Silver for Men, \$42.50, Indeed Watch Sets, \$29.50, Red and Purple Champagne Flutes, \$15, Field Gear Sovereign Down Comforter \$129.99.



Beth Meade stands at the sink in her remodeled bathroom. Beth's husband John wrote a Dear John letter to win a renovation of the bathroom.

Dear John,

Reader's witty letter wins bathroom renovation

Mold crawled up behind the shower wall. Plastic (yes, plastic) tiles cracked. The bathtub's enamel had worn.

Beth and John Meade of Livonia had enough. The couple knew the bathroom in their ranch home had to be remodeled.

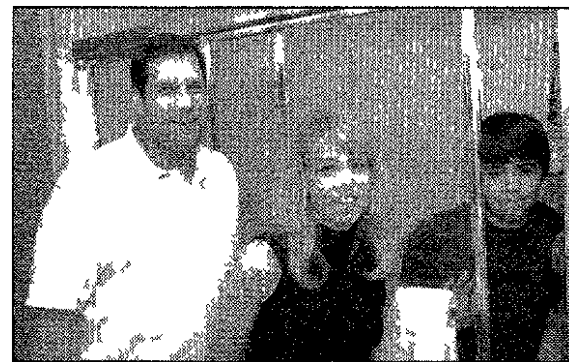
"I'm a clean freak and it was driving me crazy because I just couldn't get it

clean," Beth said. Beth went through a copy of her *Livonia Observer* and saw a story about a contest, in which readers and homeowners were asked to write a "Dear John" letter, bidding adieu to their humble commode. The winner would receive a bathroom renovation worth \$10,000.

The contest was sponsored by Frank Mathison,

owner of Mathison Kitchen, Bath & Plumbing in Canton, Garden City and Livonia, Lefty Frizzell, owner of Complete Home Improvement in Livonia, Jason air masseur tubs, Gerber toilets, U.S. Marble, and Cabinetry by Bertch Mathison also publicized the contest at his booth at

PLEASE SEE BATHROOM, C3



John and Beth Meade, along with son David, stand inside their old bathroom in this photo taken last summer. John wrote a letter to win a newly remodeled bathroom in the Dear John contest.

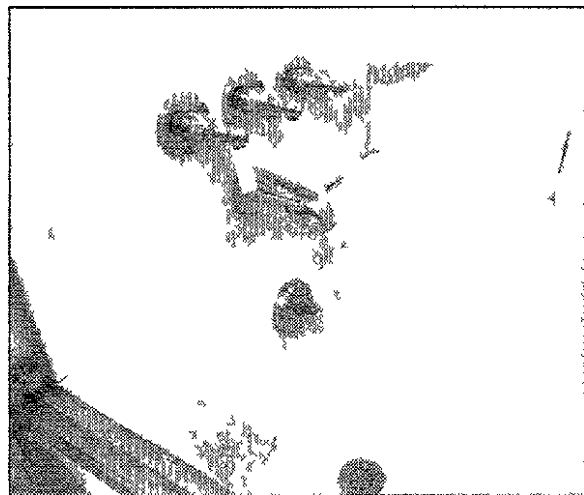
The Winning Letter

Here is an edited version of the winning letter (with a few selectively unedited sentences) in the Dear John contest from Barb and John Meade of Livonia.

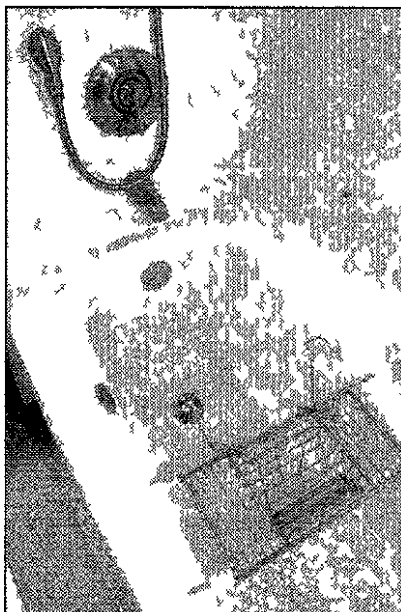
Dear John,
This may be the hardest letter I've ever had to write. I know we've been together eight years, and

those have been some of the best years I've ever had, but I think the time has come to say goodbye. I know we both hoped this would be able to go on even longer, but truth be told, I think we're both surprised we've strung it out as long as we have. The sad fact is, we both know we've held on longer than we should.

PLEASE SEE LETTER, C3



Above, here is what the old shower and tub liner and tub looked like before the remodeling project at the home of John and Beth Meade. At right, the new air masseur tub brings relaxation to the Meades.



MARKET PLACE

Submissions

Do you have a special item you'd like to showcase in Marketplace on the front of At Home? We'd like to feature it!

Send a photo or slide of the piece along with information to Ken Abramczyk, At Home editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009.



Sleeping Beauty

This Isabella bed is exactly what your beautiful princess needs to insure a cozy night's sleep. A stylish upholstered toile fabric panel adorns the headboard, while the footboard is ornamented with carved roses. The Isabella collection crafted by Stanley Furniture is a complete group of European styled furnishings for your princess's quarters. You'll find a variety of dressers and chests, beds, a doll chest and more in this group. Visit Walker/Buzenberg Furniture, 240 N. Main in Plymouth to learn more or call (734) 459-1300.

Get in sync with new kitchen sinks

BY MORRIS AND JAMES CAREY
FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

Q: Arthur asks Many houses built when mine was (about 50 years ago) had cast-iron sinks in the kitchen. I'm sure that many of them, like mine, are showing pitting where the fired enamel has worn down to the iron. Do you know if it is possible to obtain such sinks today? Mine measures 20 inches by 30 inches rim to rim, is 5-1/2 inches deep and has a 4-inch (drain) hole 6 inches from the end. It is manufactured by American Standard. I've already tried local plumbing houses.

A: We have good and bad news. The bad news is your sink style is no longer manufactured. The good news is swapping it for a new model probably will improve kitchen working conditions. Be flexible, and your story will have a happy ending. Look for a sink that is at least large enough to cover the existing hole in your kitchen counter. This will save the cost of counter replacement. A larger sink will require enlargement of the hole left by the old sink, but that cost is minimal. Even ceramic tile can be trimmed back without too much effort.

As you shop, remember that length and width aren't the only washbowl dimensions that vary. An inch or two or three in added depth can convert a typical kitchen basin to one almost as versatile as a janitorial-type deep sink. Apparently you are concerned about drain size and placement, but we can advise that your new sink will look terrible with the old drain outlet reinstalled. The best and most expensive ones run in the \$30 price range and will last another 50 years. Drain location can be altered with a new P-trap configuration for less than \$20.

Water quality

The Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority (SOCWA) sponsors Rouge River water quality education programs in cooperation with Rouge River municipalities. Rain Garden Success Stories from the Twin Cities will be presented by Sherril Busse, an award-winning landscape architect from St. Paul, 10 a.m. to noon, Friday, Feb. 13, at the Bloomfield Township Library, 1099 Lone Pine. Admission is free. The Rouge Green Corridor Past Present and Future will be presented by landscape architect Larry Falardeau, Oakland County Planning and Economic Development Division, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 19, at the Community House, 380 S. Bates in Birmingham. Admission is free. The Feb. 13 program will focus on design standards for soils and plants including clay soil sites on a community scale. Its audience is water quality specialists, planners and engineers working toward rain garden implementation. The Feb. 19 public workshop will be for community residents and organizations interested in the future of the natural vegetated corridor along the Main Branch of the Rouge River between 16 Mile Road and Eight Mile. This stretch of riverfront landscape is the last remaining greenway in southeast Oakland County and has been identified as the ecological ark for restoring downstream areas of the Rouge River.

Slides featured at the Feb. 19 event will highlight the Rouge River heritage as well as activities and opportunities in the public parks along the Corridor. Participants at the workshop will be invited to share their views and thoughts about recreation, education, land use, park access, park trails and other pertinent topics. The Rouge Green Corridor Project has been ongoing for two years with strong public involvement in landscape restoration and education projects. Land use and landscape maps are now available for organizations able to consider the natural landscape in their plans and projects. Rouge Green Corridor Project partners include Southfield, Beverly Hills, Birmingham, Friends of the Rouge, Oakland County Planning and Economic Development, Oakland County Drain Commissioner's Office, Oakland Land Conservancy and SOCWA.

For information or registration for any of the programs, call Karen Bever at (248) 288-5150 or e-mail LDean@aol.com. Oakland County call Judy Holt at (734) 326-3936 or e-

GARDEN CALENDAR

mail: JHolt@co.wayne.mi.us in Wayne County

Roses

English Gardens presents free garden seminars 1 p.m. Saturdays at each of its five metro-Detroit stores this winter. What's New in Roses will be the topic Feb. 14. Start planning your rose garden now. Preview new varieties of roses and get a healthy dose of growing advice to get you started. For more information about the seminars, call the stores in West Bloomfield (248) 851-7506, Royal Oak (248) 280-9500, Dearborn Heights (313) 278-4433, Clinton Township (586) 286-6100 or Eastpointe (586) 771-4200.

For the nearest English Gardens location, call (800) 335-GROW or visit the Web site at www.englishgardens.com.

Herb study group

The Friends of the University of Michigan Matthaei Botanical Gardens Herb Study Group will meet Monday, Feb. 16, at the Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Road in Ann Arbor. Lunch will be at noon in the auditorium and the program will begin at 1 p.m. The presentation, Herbal Remedies in the Kitchen Pantry, will be given by herbalist Joan Wysocki. The program is free. Visitors and new members are welcome. For more information, contact Joan Wysocki at jdwysocki@aol.com or (248) 349-5310, contact Lesley Chace at ledsbeaken@aol.com or (734) 730-2122, or call the Gardens at (734) 998-7061.

Glorious houseplants

The Community House Garden Club of Birmingham will present a program, How to Grow Glorious Houseplants, 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 23. The program will take place at The Community House, 380 S. Bates in Birmingham, south of Maple (15 Mile) and between Southfield Road and Woodward. Jane Suhail, staff horticulturist and chief trainer at Planterra Tropical Greenhouses in West Bloomfield, will present houseplant tips and techniques including watering, pruning, fertilizing and summering. The presentation will last one hour. A 15-minute question and answer period will be featured. Guest fee \$5. For more information, call Pat Jerzy at The Community House (248) 644-5832.

Master composter

The Master Composter Program sponsored by the Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority will begin 7:45 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26, at the Birmingham Department of Public Services Building, 851 S. Eton in

Birmingham. Master composters are gardeners with a strong interest in greening their own community. Volunteers learn about nuisance-free composting, healthy lawn care, natural mulches, sustainable landscapes, healthy soils and benefits of compost for water quality. Compost often called gardener's gold, holds water, encourages infiltration, helps avoid soil-borne diseases and provides a natural source of nutrients for plants. The Master Composter Program includes six classroom sessions, special events and required volunteer service. The \$30 class fee includes all materials and a Michigan State University soil sample. For a flyer with the complete list of classes or to register, call Karen Bever at SOCWA (248) 288-5150.

School of Gardening

The Michigan School of Gardening offers a variety of classes at 29429 Six Mile in Livonia, just west of Middlebelt in the Milo Shopping Plaza, and at Goldner Walsh Nursery, 559 Orchard Lake Road in Pontiac, north of Square Lake Road and east of Telegraph. Register early. Seating is limited. Some classes have pre-requisites. For more information, call (248) 4-GARDEN or visit www.michigangardening.com. The schedule includes Garden Design, five sessions beginning Friday, Feb. 13 in Livonia or five Fridays beginning Feb. 13 in Pontiac (fee is \$162). Presenting Your Design, Fridays, Feb. 13 to March 5 in Livonia (\$132). Propagation Secrets for Making More Plants, Mondays, Feb. 16 to March 1 in Livonia (\$98). Trees and Shrubs for Small Spaces, Tuesday, Feb. 17 in Pontiac or Thursday, Feb. 19 in Livonia (\$40). Focus on Design, four Thursdays beginning Feb. 19 in Pontiac (\$132) and Water Gardens, Wednesdays, Feb. 25 to March 3 in Pontiac (\$69). The Garden Design class is limited to 15 people.

Botany weekend

The University of Michigan Matthaei Botanical Gardens adult education program includes a Northern Winter Botany Weekend featuring plant identification and hiking trips to northern localities, Friday, Sunday, Feb. 20-22 (fee is \$195/\$175.50 for members). Call (734) 998-7061.

If you have an item for the calendar, please submit it at least two weeks in advance of the date it should be published. Send to Ken Abramczyk, At Home Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, or e-mail kabramczyk@oe.homecomm.net

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BATHROOM

FROM PAGE C1

home improvement shows "I was going through papers, saw the article and gave it to John," Beth said "I might be in the editing business, but he's the one who's got all the quips and he keeps them coming" I said, "This is your area of expertise" Beth once worked for a publishing company and is now co-owner of a Livonia-based business for party and events planning Husband John is a computer programmer for Ambrose Software in Troy The couple has one son, David

Eventually John wrote the letter He wrote about the "comfort" and "relief" the Meades' longtime companion provided them, but added that they also believed it was time for a change and that they needed "more space" The letter also provided details of the sad departure and breakup of the Meades with their bath room (See related story)

"He wrote it and faxed it to me," Beth said "He asked, 'What do we need to change?' and I said, 'Not a thing'"

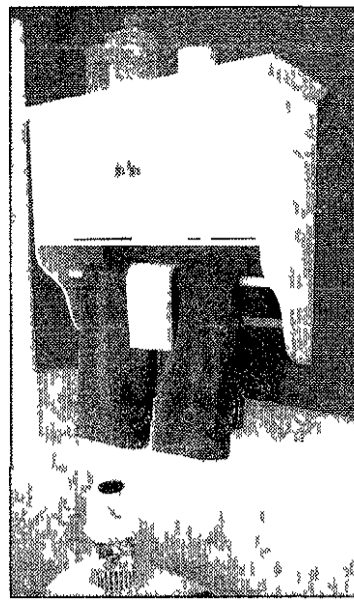
The judges agreed, choosing the Meades' letter from about 500 entries

Mathison said the letter was "witty and funny" "They really put some thought into it and made it fun," he said And that's what the contest is all about He joked about the bathroom

"It was very creative," Frizzell said "(John Meade) did a great job on the letter"

Frizzell donated his labor and completed the remodeling of the bathroom as part of the contest, installing a Jason air masseur tub, Gerber ultra-flush toilet and faucets, a sink, medicine cabinet, vanity and towel bar, items donated by Mathison

The remodel took place between August and December, taking a little longer because the Meades ordered a few upgrades, on which they paid the difference themselves They also hired contractors Gary and Paul Stokfisz, who remodeled the walls and installed lighting



The bathroom's renovation gives the room a whole new look

molding, flooring and heating Frizzell said he didn't face any problems when completing the remodeling project "It was just a standard bathroom, he said It needed updating It had an old plastic (shower/tub) liner that was taken out and US Marble was put in, and it looks a lot nicer

"I love the tub," Beth said when asked what was her favorite item The Jason air masseur tub features a larger shower head and, of course, jets Fifteen minutes after the bath, the blower shoots air out of the jets to clean them out, she said

The Meades upgraded the cabinetry If you're going to do the cabinets, you might as well get something you really love," Beth said

"We're really pleased with the cabinets They also upgraded to a charcoal gray granite counter top

The couple had contractors paint the room a deep gray to contrast the white cabinets, tub and toilet in the room

Doors lights and a fan were added items The doors and pergo floors came from Home Depot The lighting over the sink came from Brose Lighting in Livonia A recessed bathroom light also was installed Mathison supplied the fan

Contractors also checked to ensure that the mold had not spread into the walls or ceiling



The bathroom now has new walls with a fresh coat of gray paint, a new Jason air masseur tub towel racks and wood floor

This remodeling of the bathroom was its first, Beth said Photos of the old bathroom and a headline from a previous story in the Observer are framed on the wall of the new bathroom to illustrate the bathroom makeover It isn't until you see the before and after photos do you realize what a change it was Beth said You forget how ugly

LETTER

FROM PAGE C1

have and it's time to let go You may not believe it, but this is going to hurt me more than it hurts you I'll miss your golden bowl and tank, and of course the matching tub I know not everyone can understand what you gave to us, the relief you always provided whether it be early in the morning or the middle of the night, you didn't care what time it was, as long as we needed you And the comfort you provided when we were sick, knowing that you were always there, ready to take whatever we had to give

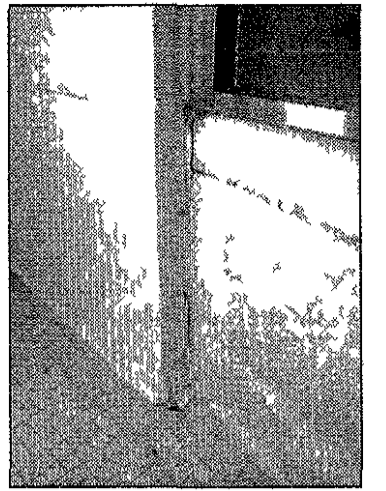
Yes, there are those who say you took more from us than you ever gave back, but we knew, that was the way it should be, and I thank you for that You've become a fixture in our lives

Others can never appreciate how much you've meant to us They say you're dated, that we should have taken you away years ago Some say you've gone out of style, that you're just a commode-ity, and that you should be replaced

Others say they no longer have your parts, but you've been like a part of us You've always been able to see our better side I hope it was always fulfilling for you, but now it is time to move on We both know the end is in sight

It's not you — it's me I just need some space — more than the cramped quarters that we try to maneuver every morning as three of us try to get ready at the same time, crowded around the one plug

I need a change of scenery from the moldy mildewed tank with its rusty pipes and bolts and constantly running valve I can't stand to see the tub and shower, once so shining, now just a broken shell of its former self Whenever it feels used it



The old bathroom looked dated

cries so hard the tears overflow down the wall and into the basement ceiling, a collection point for its misery

Things just aren't the same as they were eight years ago when we moved in with you I've tried to ignore the white plastic (yes, plastic) tiles falling off the walls, the sagging border, the peeling wallpaper, the mildewed paint on the ceiling I know we all change as we age, but let's face it, those aren't "laugh lines" we see more of everyday, highlighted by dirt, soap scum and mold

Your 1970s color scheme aside, I can only strip and caulk so many times before I reach the conclusion we both know is coming I'm afraid there's just been one crack too many, and we can no longer get a handle on it

It's time to put you behind us, and though we'll yearn for each other, try not to drip too many tears onto the dull, faded, ugly yellow tile You've been a great comfort and a relief to us, and you should never take a back seat to anyone

Thanks for everything

John and Beth Meade

'Others can never appreciate how much you've meant to us: They say you're dated, that we should have taken you away years ago.'

John and Beth Meade
Livonia

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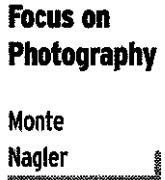
Want to expand your photography horizons and open up a whole new world of picture taking opportunities? It's simple. Move in close. I guarantee you'll see things you never saw before.

Imagine getting just a few inches from your subject. A single drop of morning dew clinging to the underside of a blade of grass, the delicacy of a leaf or flower, or a detail of peeling paint.

all of these and more can produce powerful portrayals of mood and sensitivity.

But most cameras will only enable you to get within a couple feet of your subject and this just isn't close enough. You really have to get in tight to obtain photographs with strong impact.

There are two main ways you can achieve this.



Focus on Photography
Monte Nagler



A macro lens enabled Monte Nagler to move in close and capture the beauty of this water lily and pads.

Close-up filters: These are the least expensive means of taking close-ups. The filters, which come in sets of three, are exactly like magnifying glasses when attached to the front of your lens. Each of the three has a different strength so you can get as close as you wish. You can use just one or a combination to move you in just where you want to be. You need to buy a set that will

screw onto your lens just like any other filter.

Macro lenses: A macro lens is a close-up lens in itself. Macro lenses can be used as a normal lens, and then quickly converted to a close-up lens without pausing to add accessories. All you have to do is continue to turn the focusing

ring and you'll move in as close as you want.

Many zoom lenses have a built-in macro mode. Depth-of-field is a very important factor to consider in close-up photography. As you know, the closer you get to your subject, the less depth-of-field you get.

By the time you move in very close, depth may be just a fraction of an inch.

Focusing becomes critical and a small aperture is a must. In addition, it follows that when an image is magnified, the slightest camera movement will be exaggerated in the finished print. Therefore, always use a tripod when shooting close-ups.

Lighting can be tricky. To bring out texture and pattern, try to use side or back-lighting early morning or late afternoon.

Close-up photography can be a fascinating experience and will open up numerous possibilities for your photography portfolio.

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Compartments frost up food

recently received several calls from homeowners who own a newer refrigerator. They say food packages stored in the freezer section of these refrigerators develop frost on them.

Some of these consumers call service technicians to check the freezer, only to be told there is nothing wrong. I believe air is entering the freezer in some location to create this problem. That has always been the only answer to the problem. Now we purchase refrigerators that must meet certain energy standards, and today we have new problems that are non-existent in older models. To give you a much better answer to these new problems I would like to quote one of the top technicians in the country, Jim Pearce, from an article in the Appliance Service News.

Freezer packages typically frost up when moisture from ambient air is allowed to condense on them, Pearce said, as he highlighted three reasons



Appliance Doctor
Joe Gagnon

for it. "Excessive air/moisture could be entering the refrigerator via an air leak within the cavity or at the door seals," Pearce said. "Be sure to check the icemaker water-line entry point behind the freezer compartment."

The second reason is that you or someone at home could be leaving moisture-laden dishes uncovered or there may be other sources of moisture within the fresh food compartment, Pearce said.

"The evaporator fan could be running intermittently, the fan speed could be too slow, or perhaps some designed air (flow) routes are obstructed with ice due to spillage or perhaps from a previous unintended long-term door opening episode," Pearce said.

(Of course you could find these three causes in any combination, Pearce said.)

On similar Frigidaire models, I've observed that loose terminals at the evaporator fan-motor connector caused intermittent fan operation or caused inadequate fan speed. You should check the fan blade to determine that it's turning in the proper direction and that it's not slipping on the motor shaft.

As a last resort, you could

try installing a higher-speed evaporator fan motor, but the fan speed is simply not adequate to deposit all the moisture contained with the cabinet onto the evaporator coil in exceptionally humid conditions and heavy usage. (That reminds me of an important basic check. Don't forget to confirm that the evaporator has a complete frost pattern!)

Pearce knows what he's talking about.

He communicates with thousands of service companies and has a direct line to manufacturers.

What he is saying is that there is a problem with fan motors on some refrigerators. Informing us that wires may not be connected tight enough or that fan motors might need to be changed is not going to help the average consumer very much.

It's a shame that manufacturers can produce and sell these products, put a one-year warranty on them and have product problems occur after the warranty has expired.

Joe Gagnon can now be heard on WWJ 950 and WXYT 1270. He is a member and past president of the Society of Consumer Affairs Professionals. His phone number is (248) 455-7281.

Do-it-yourselfers caught up in Web education

BY DAVID BRADLEY
FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

The Internet has flattened the learning curve for do-it-yourselfers faster than you can drive a nail into a board.

Project neophytes can check out the business end of a hammer. Seasoned pros can log on to weigh the pluses of finishing planers with new cutterhead locks (all the better to eliminate snipe). The Internet is fully tenured as a home project teaching and research tool. And consumers are driving cyber learning to be even faster, more detailed and more convenient.

For customers, it's all about speed. Their speed, said Meg Armstrong, Internet director for lowes.com, one of the Web's busiest home improvement sites.

"What they really say is give us what we want when we want it. They can explore as

broad or narrow or as deep into a topic as they want to go."

Armstrong should know. Without divulging numbers, she says traffic at lowes.com doubled in 2003. Visitors stick around too, the average visit is longer as they hunt-and-click among more than 1,000 how-to projects, project calculators and buying guides.

The marvel of the Web is megabytes of content condensed to the schedule and needs of individual Web surfers. Magazine stories pigeonholed by season are out the window. It's OK to bone up on late blooming summer plants in February or compare snow throwers in July.

The Web increasingly is the first spot people visit in their cyber search for knowledge and products.

"Once someone gets the idea, I don't like my cabinets, we want them to visit to get a grip

on the project and their potential costs even if they aren't quite ready to buy yet," said Armstrong.

Web-based education has come of age just when a new generation of 20- and 30-year-olds - groups most at home in front of a PC - are updating their first homes. "This group is so Web savvy, it is a natural resource for them," said Armstrong.

For most surfers, the price is right, too. Most Web content looks to remain free.

Even seniors embrace computers in droves, they aren't afraid to click away for information and help.

Web users who like the taste of Internet learning will find it the whole enchilada for projects. Beyond improved skill sets and research, homeowners can order goods online for in-store pickup or delivery. For the less skilled, installation can be arranged, too.

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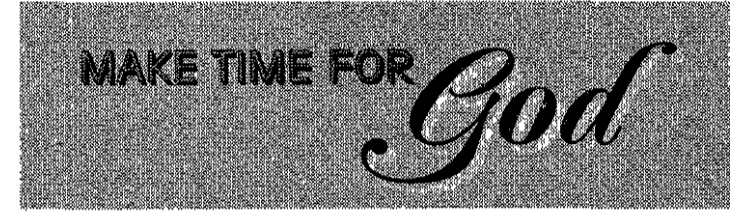
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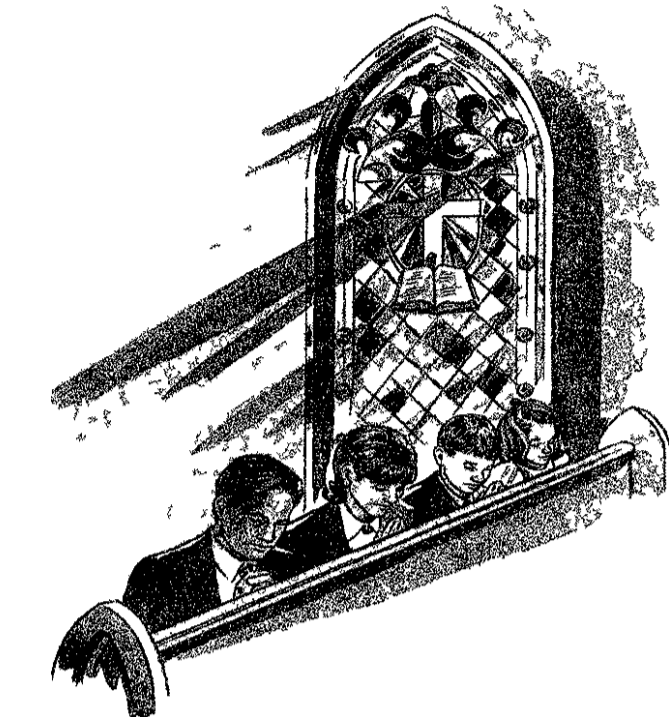
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It's Easy To Criticize... Offering constructive criticism to others can be beneficial, but only if the other person is receptive to our comments. In teaching situations or during on-the-job training, constructive criticism is usually necessary to instruct and help a person develop a trade or vocation. However, correcting someone, even in a kind or skillful manner, can be very challenging, since we are never sure how the individual may react. Many friendships and families have been destroyed because someone has been overly critical of another person's words or actions. Knowing when we should offer our comments can also be difficult, and we should be fairly certain that our comments are truthful and necessary. It often seems so easy to criticize others because we mistakenly believe that we are without fault or are such experts on most everything. The Bible tells us that we look at the speck in our brother's eye, but we pay no attention to the log in our own (Luke 6:41). Faultfinding and being overly critical of others, especially behind their backs, are wrong and can become habit-forming. However, kind words are good for the soul and help to build a person up.

The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice. RSV Proverbs 12:15

Pick one day a week to clean up clutter and reduce stress

I enjoy entertaining in my home but it causes me stress. We socialize with several groups of friends. I always panic when it is our turn to entertain. I am also anxious about unannounced visitors arriving at my door because my house might be a mess. How can I organize it so I can relax?



Domestic Planner
Diana Koenig

A clean, organized home is not a fairy tale that is only read in a book. It can be a dream come true if you establish routine and maintenance. Everyone has different standards concerning maintaining a clean home. First, you must establish how clean you want your home to determine how often you clean. For some people twice a month may fulfill their ideal of a clean home while others do not mind a little mess if they are by themselves and not entertaining. There is another group of people that may want their home clean all the time, not just when guests come for a visit. This requires a scheduled routine to which you must adhere. I clean every Monday with few exceptions. Being away on vacation, in the

hospital delivering a baby or helping a friend in need. I do not plan lunch, golf, shopping, volunteering at school or anything else on this day. Schedule a regular cleaning time and follow that plan with limited exceptions. There may be many other things you would rather do than clean but make it a priority. If you are not motivated by cleaning, then focus on enjoying the results of cleaning. I chose Monday for two reasons. ■ It is the beginning of the week and I find my week to be more productive if I start it with a clean house. ■ We do more entertaining on weekends so Monday is a good time to clean up after guests. Monday may not work with your schedule. The day and time does not matter. The most important goal is to

regularly schedule a cleaning time. When I worked Monday through Friday 9 a.m.-5 p.m., I had to readjust my cleaning schedule. I tried Saturday but became consumed with shopping, household errands and visitors. I switched back to Monday but cleaned in the evening after work instead of during the daytime hours. I have a friend who has difficulty keeping her house clean but desires to maintain a clean home. She has tried many systems of cleaning but the most common method she uses is cleaning on demand. When a room gets really dirty, she cleans it. This system frustrates her because she never has the entire house clean at one time. Using my routine as a model, she would like to clean on Monday. This day does not work because she drives car-pool twice on Monday and has other commitments that pull her away from the house. The day and time does not matter but the important thing is a consistent weekly commitment to cleaning.

We went through every day of the week, discarding the days that would not work for various reasons and found Thursday to be the best day for her. Once you have established a routine cleaning day, focus your attention on home maintenance. It will be easier to clean if you keep a clutter-free house during the week. Establish the motto, 'After you use it, put it back where it belongs.' You will not want to spend your time cleaning day picking up items and putting them away. If there are other members of your household, maintenance should be a joint effort because you will need their cooperation to maintain a clutter-free home. Today's Refrigerator Bulletin: 'The key to having a clean home is to establish and maintain a routine!' Send your questions and success stories to Diana Koenig, P.O. Box 1702, Manchester, MO 63011. E-mail: dianakoenig@hotmail.com www.domesticplanner.com

These tips will help with drilling

BY MORRIS AND JAMES CAREY
FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

Shed light on the spot you're drilling by taping a penlight to the casing of your drill. To make depth stops for your drill bits, drill undersized holes through the center of corks. Each cork should fit its bit snugly so that when you drill a hole to the proper depth, the cork doesn't move up on the bit. When drilling smooth sheet metal, stick a piece of masking tape where the hole will be. This prevents the bit from wandering. Finally, avoid splintering the back of surfaces of wood every time the tip of the bit emerges, by placing a block of scrap wood under the piece. The bit won't tear the wood as it breaks through.

RELIGION CALENDAR

If you want to submit an item for the religion calendar fax it to (734) 591-7279 or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspaper, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150. The deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

Women's Spiritual Retreat

To deepen one's personal relationship with God and with each other, it is a time for reflection on your inner life to reflect on the Gospel of Jesus as it illuminates your life and a time for quiet and solitude. Two more retreats are scheduled: The Sacrament of Suffering, Feb. 13-15 (call Marian (248) 852-2122) and Jesus All for Jesus, Feb. 27-29 (call Marge (586) 759-0830). The cost is \$100. Make your reservation today. For more information on upcoming retreats call Zora at (586) 977-8993. St. Mary's Retreat house is located on 40 acres at 775 W. Drahn Road in Oxford.

40 Days of Purpose

Continue with Small Group Bible Studies at Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile, between Farmington and Levan, Livonia. Bring a friend and discover the answer to the question: 'What on earth am I here for?' Interested individuals in the community are invited to join any of the Purpose Driven Life small groups which will meet in members' homes. For more information call (734) 464-6722 or visit the Web site at www.memorialchurchofchrist.org. During the 40 Days of Purpose, the truths about God's five purposes for people: worship, fellowship, prayer/study, ministry and evangelism - will be repeatedly communicated in worship services, sermons, small groups, meetings and Sunday School classes. The campaign concludes Sunday, March 21.

Festival of Handbells

The Birmingham First Concert Series presents the second annual Festival of Handbells, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 13 at First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham, 1669 West Maple between Cranbrook and Southfield roads. Meet the artists reception follows the program. The program features the First Presbyterian Church Ringers along with visiting bell choirs from other local churches. For more information call (248) 644-2040 Ext. 136.

Drama

From Narnia With Love: The Spiritual Voyage of C.S. Lewis, a two-act drama by Mark F. McPherson, 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 15 at Trinity Church, 14800 Middlebelt, Livonia. Tickets are \$10. For more information call (734) 425-2800. The performance features McPherson, an award-winning actor, playwright and author, who's written dramas about Winston Churchill, Charles Dickens, Mark Twain and Theodore Roosevelt. According to McPherson, the character of C.S. Lewis is different from others I have portrayed. He is not gallant or glamorous nor is he dangerous or irrelevant. He is instead a man confronted with the same burning questions

which we all have faced concerning God and our place in the world. **Summer Bible School preview** The International Christian Education Association presents a Vacation Bible School/Summer Ministries Preview featuring more than 25 workshops and 20 exhibitors, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21 at Ward Church, 40000 Six Mile, west of I-275 Northville. Designed mainly for those involved in church ministry, the conference welcomes all. Registration deadline is Feb. 16 but tickets will be available at the door. The cost is \$45 at the door, \$40 advance. Feb. 16 includes refreshments and lunch, \$25 additional for puppet ministry workshop that teaches you to make and take a puppet the same day. For more information or to register call (248) 557-5526 or visit the Web site at www.iceaonline.org.

Special Mass for Widowed

All widowed men and women are invited to attend mass followed by light refreshments and fellowship in a non-threatening and friendly atmosphere, 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 22 at St. Columban Church, 1775 Melton one quarter mile north of 14 Mile one half mile east of Woodward Birmingham, Call (248) 666-4826.

Blood Drive

2:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 23 at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 South Sheldon, Plymouth. Call Carolyn Liebau at (734) 455-5395 for an appointment or just drop in.

An Ordinary Day With Jesus

The Lenten study opportunity takes place Wednesday, Feb. 25 through April 21. All are invited to gather at 6:30 p.m. for a light meal followed by the study. The second opportunity will be 1 p.m. Sunday, February 29 through April 25. Participants should feel free to move back and forth between the two groups at Trinity Church of the Brethren in Redford. The community is invited to participate in these sessions by calling (313) 937-1199 or e-mailing trinityccomb@earthlink.net. Imagine spending a day of your life waking up, eating, working and socializing with Jesus. During the season of Lent, Trinity's pastor Mike Fletcher will be leading the congregation in the study. Participants are invited to explore the promise that it is possible to live every moment of every day in the presence of Jesus.

Diabetes Support Group

A monthly group for those dealing with diabetes. Catholic and non-Catholic, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26 at St. John Neumann Parish, 44800 Warren Road, Canton. For more information call (734) 455-5910.

Stronger Women

Faith Covenant Church is offering a program designed to challenge your body, stretch your mind and encourage your spirit, began 9:30-11:30 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 29, continues to April 1 at 35415 West 14 Mile, Farmington Hills, Call (248) 661-9191. The morning activities vary from beginning with your choice of aerobic exercise, jogging or a brisk walk to sampling delicious home-baked goodies and healthy snacks to sharing in a

moment of prayer and devotion then culminating with a craft or noteworthy speaker on issues designed to engage you. Also age appropriate activities for your infants to five-year-olds. Baby sitting available for \$2 per child, \$4 per family.

Pasty time

Pasties make great dinners and lunch box treats. Mark your calendar with the following dates so you remember to place your order. Orders will be taken March 7 and 14 at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia and by phone March 9-10 at (734) 422-0149. Pick up dates are March 18-19. The cost is \$3 each.

Birmingham-First Concert Series

Presents Brahms Requiem, 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 12 at First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham, 1669 West Maple between Cranbrook and Southfield roads. A Meet the Artists Reception follows the concert. No charge. Freewill offerings are collected to support future concert series events. Featured guests are the Chancel Choir of First Presbyterian Church and soloists Paul Tipton and Kimberley Dolanski. Orchestration includes four hand piano by Charles Kennedy and Rob Abbott joined by strings and timpani. A vocal quartet will offer excerpts from the Liebseder Waltzes.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

A weekend experience for married couples to improve their communication skills, learn the value of intimacy and renew their love for each other. Takes place March 12-14 and April 16-18 at St. John's Family Life Center, 44011 Five Mile, Plymouth. There is a \$50 registration fee. For more information or to register call (248) 528-2512 or (810) 286-5524 or visit the Web site at www.rcn.net/detroit/wme.

Memorial Concert Series

The Galliard Brass Ensemble performs as part of the Musicians Memorial Concert, 4 p.m. Sunday, March 28 at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 South Sheldon, Plymouth. Seating is limited. Tickets are required even though there is no charge. A free will donation will be taken which will assist with future concerts. For tickets call Michael Brittenback at (734) 453-0190 ext. 16 or send e-mail to mbritten@stjohnsplymouth.org.

ONGOING

Synagogue services

5 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. and 5:15 p.m. Saturday, 7:30 a.m. and 5:15 p.m. week days and 8:30 a.m. Sunday at Adat Shalom Synagogue, 29901 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills. For more information call (248) 851-5100.

AWANA

Every Wednesday night Faith Bible Church offers and AWANA program for children from kindergarten through fifth grade at Faith Bible Church, 23414 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. Drop your children off or stay for a Bible study offered to parents, 7:30 p.m. For more information call (248) 426-0096.



Passages

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

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FLY

Mr. Edward Winston Fly, 62, died Friday, Feb. 6, 2004. Services will be announced at a later date by Powell Funeral Home and Crematory of Southern Pines, NC. Born Feb. 24, 1941 in Toronto, Canada, he was a son of the late Winston Theodore and Barbara Spalding Fly. Mr. Fly was the owner and operator of a snack company in Ohio and was a member of Mulford County Club in Dublin, Ohio. He is survived by one son, Lovan Thomas Fly, one sister, Judy Hatcher of Southern Pines, and one brother, Bartlett Spalding Memorial. He may be made to the FirstHealth Hospice Foundation, 150 Applecross Road, Pinehurst, NC 28374.

HANSZ

Edith W. Hansz, 91, died Saturday, Feb. 7, 2004. She was married to Richard M. Hansz of Highland Park. Edith attended the Henry Ford Hospital School of Nursing in Detroit where she held a supervisory position after graduation. After living in Winona, MN for 2 years, Edith and her husband moved to the Triverse Care area in 2001. Edith was a member of the St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Winona, MN, where she was a member of the Altar Guild. Her other memberships included the Chataqua Club, Simplicity Club, the Westfield Golf Club, the Community Memorial Hospital Auxiliary and the Shrine Auxiliary all of Winona, MN. Edith is survived by her husband, Richard, three sons: Larry (Maureen) Hansz of Traverse City, Robert (Sue) Hansz of Holly Beach, SC, and Timothy (Carol) Hansz of Plymouth. Seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Cremation has taken place. Interment will be at a later date in the Memorial Garden of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church of Livonia where she and her husband were charter members prior to moving to Winona in 1974. Arrangement by the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home in Traverse City.

McALLEN

Delphine Dorothy, age 83, peacefully on February 9, 2004. Born December 6, 1920. Beloved daughter of the late Edward J. and Clara M. (Connolly) Dixon. Beloved wife of the late Thomas M. McAllen Sr. (5-13-91). Beloved and dearest mother of Mary McAllen (Michael) Robson, Thomas M. McAllen Jr. (Jack) (Gail) McAllen, Christine A. McAllen, Patrick J. (Diane) McAllen, Dede (John) Dezeliski and Jane (Greg Miller) McAllen. Beloved Grand of Colleen (Matt) Wandel, Kelly (Richard) Perry, Shannon McAllen, Tom McAllen, Robert Gruenwald, Molly McAllen, John McAllen, Tim Dezeliski (Jane Dezeliski), Dearest sister of Edward J. Dixon Jr. and the late Genevieve McGrath. Ired Dixon, Mattin Dixon, Winfred Reynolds, Betty Bowdell and James Dixon. Also survived by many loving nieces and nephews. Visitation at the O'Brien Sullivan Funeral Home, 41555 Grand River, Novi, 1-248-348-1800, Thursday, 2-9, Scripture Service, Thursday, 7:00 p.m. Prayer service, Friday, 9:15 with procession to Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church for the funeral liturgy at 10:00. Donations in Delphine's memory may be made to the Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh, Livonia, MI 48154. Obituary for sympathy messages online at obitlink.sullivanfuneralhome.com.

MUNSON

Waxson W. (Bud) Munson, 83, died Saturday, February 8, 2004. Bud was born October 20, 1915 in Swanton, Ohio. He was the son of Almond and Fannie Munson. He was always loved, remembered and missed. Bud loved fishing, nature and animals. He was an unaccompanied common man. Bud served in World War II, receiving an Honorable Discharge and Good Conduct Medal after his tour of duty with Company M, 355 Regiment and 84th Infantry Division, campaigning in the Ardennes, the Rhineland and Central Germany. He retired after working 40 years for Brooks & Perkins and Wolf Aircraft. He enjoyed many good times at the Harris Kehrer VFW Post 3923 in Westland. Bud was also a member of the Masons. Bud is survived by his wife of 62 years, Betty Jane, daughter, Jerry Darin (Richard LaDuca) von Edward G. Munson (Regina) daughter, Karen Munson (Michael Kapeta) and children, Lisa Darin, Nicola Tomi, Mario Darin, Edward W. Munson, Felice Munson, great grandchildren, Ronald Darin, Noah Brandenburg, McKenna Darin. The family is grateful to Four Seasons Nursing Center and Hospice of Michigan.

O'GRADY

Phyllis Constance, 74, of Rochester Hills died Monday, Jan. 26, 2004 at Lee Memorial Hospital, Fort Myers, FL. She was born in 1929 in Worcester, MA. She is survived by her husband of 51 years, Charles H. O'Grady, daughter, Robin L. O'Grady of Clarkston, son, Charles P. O'Grady, children, Caprice Ryan, Patrick and Alex, sister, Lois (Johnson) Krutick of Florida, six nieces and four nephews. She was predeceased by her parents, Everett and Eva Johnson. Mrs. O'Grady graduated from Commerce High School in Worcester where she was a Horace Mann scholar. She later worked as a flight attendant for Northeast Airlines, Boston, at which time she met her future husband, Charles. Following their wedding, May 10, 1952, the couple moved to Michigan. Mrs. O'Grady later attended Oakland University, earning a Bachelor's degree. Throughout her life, Mrs. O'Grady was active in the Our Shepherd Lutheran Church, Birmingham, Meadowbrook Theatrical Guild, Rochester, TWA Clipped Wings, American Lung Association, Lost Lake Woods Club and Nomads, Inc. She enjoyed golf and tennis, was an expert skier and participated in NASTAR ski racing events. She traveled to the Rocky Mountains and the Matterhorn in pursuit of her hobby. She also enjoyed ice skating and recently participated in events at the Birmingham Ice Arena, Rochester, Onyx Arena and the TPC O'Arna, Naples, FL. Memorial contributions may be sent to Mrs. O'Grady's name to the Lee Cancer Care Center, c/o Lee Memorial Hospital, 2776 Cleveland Ave., Fort Myers, FL 33901.

PRIONGO

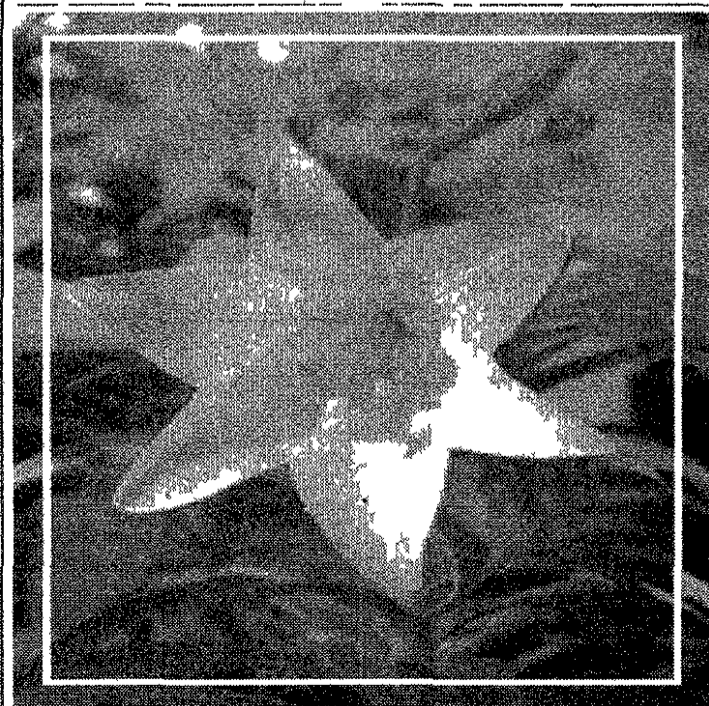
DORIAN R. age 97 of Marion, Ohio died Sunday, February 8, 2004. She was born June 21, 1916 in Sandusky, Ohio. She was predeceased in death by her husband, Judge Nandino F. Prungo of Plymouth. She is survived by one son, James (Shelia) Prungo of California, one daughter, Mary L. (Eric) Olson of Hawaii, two grand children and one great grandchild. She worked as a legal secretary and postal inspection service in Michigan, moving to Marion, Ohio in 1981. Member of Humane Society, Wildlife Federation, Nature Conservancy, Arrangements for graveside services and burial in Riverside Cemetery are being handled by Gunder Hall & Folk, Inc., 91 Directors, Marion, Ohio. Condolences may be expressed to the family at GunderHallFolk@aol.com.

STUART

Hubert Hanson, age 70 of Howell, MI died Saturday, February 7, 2004 at Memorial Hospital, Howell, MI. He was born October 7, 1926 in Plymouth, Michigan, the son of Harold S. and Irene (Himm) Stuart. Hubert graduated from Plymouth High School. He married Elaine J. Butler who preceded him in death April 17, 1998. Hubert was retired as a tool and die designer for Wychem Inc. Surviving are sons, Bryan (Kathy) Stuart of Marion, MI and Mark (Kristal) Stuart of Howell, daughter, Donna Stuart of Howell, 5 grandchildren and brother, Charles Stuart of Vandribit, MI. Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association. Envelopes are available at MacDonald's Funeral Home, 315 N. Michigan Ave., Howell, (517) 246-2800.

WALLACE

MARIANNE K. 83 of Bogart, GA died on Feb. 7, 2004. Born & raised in Shelby, OH. She was also a long time resident of Birmingham, MI and Gainesville, FL. Mrs. Wallace was a long time active member of Our Shepherd Lutheran Church in Birmingham, MI. A talented seamstress and accomplished milliner, whenever she lived, she was known as the "Hat Lady." In her later years, her greatest love was the study of the Bible and especially Old Testament history. Mrs. Wallace is survived by her son, Stanley Wallace of Athens, GA, a granddaughter, Amy, two sisters, Jeanette Oatis of Shelby, OH and Marjorie Pugh of Lima, OH and two nieces and two nephews. She was predeceased in death by her loving husband of 31 years, the late Walter Wally Wallace of Birmingham, MI. The family will receive friends on Sat. Feb. 14, 2004 at Barkdull Funeral Home in Shelby, OH. At her request, no viewing or memorial service will be held. A graveside funeral will be held on Mon. Feb. 16, 2004 at 9am at White Chapel Cemetery in Troy, MI. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Mary's Highland Hills Village, 1660 Jennings Mill Rd., Bogart, GA 30622 or to the Central Presbyterian Church, 780 Alps Rd., Athens, GA 30606.



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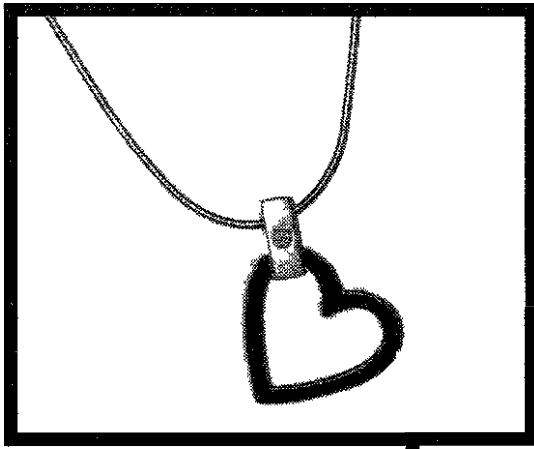
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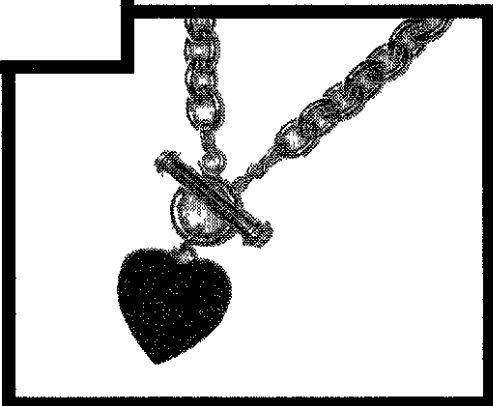
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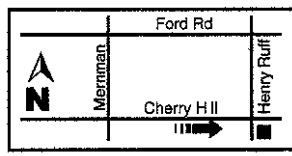
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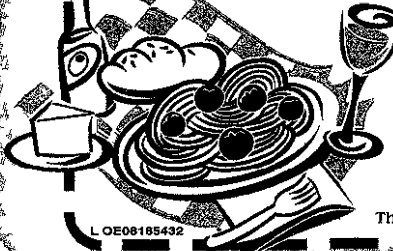
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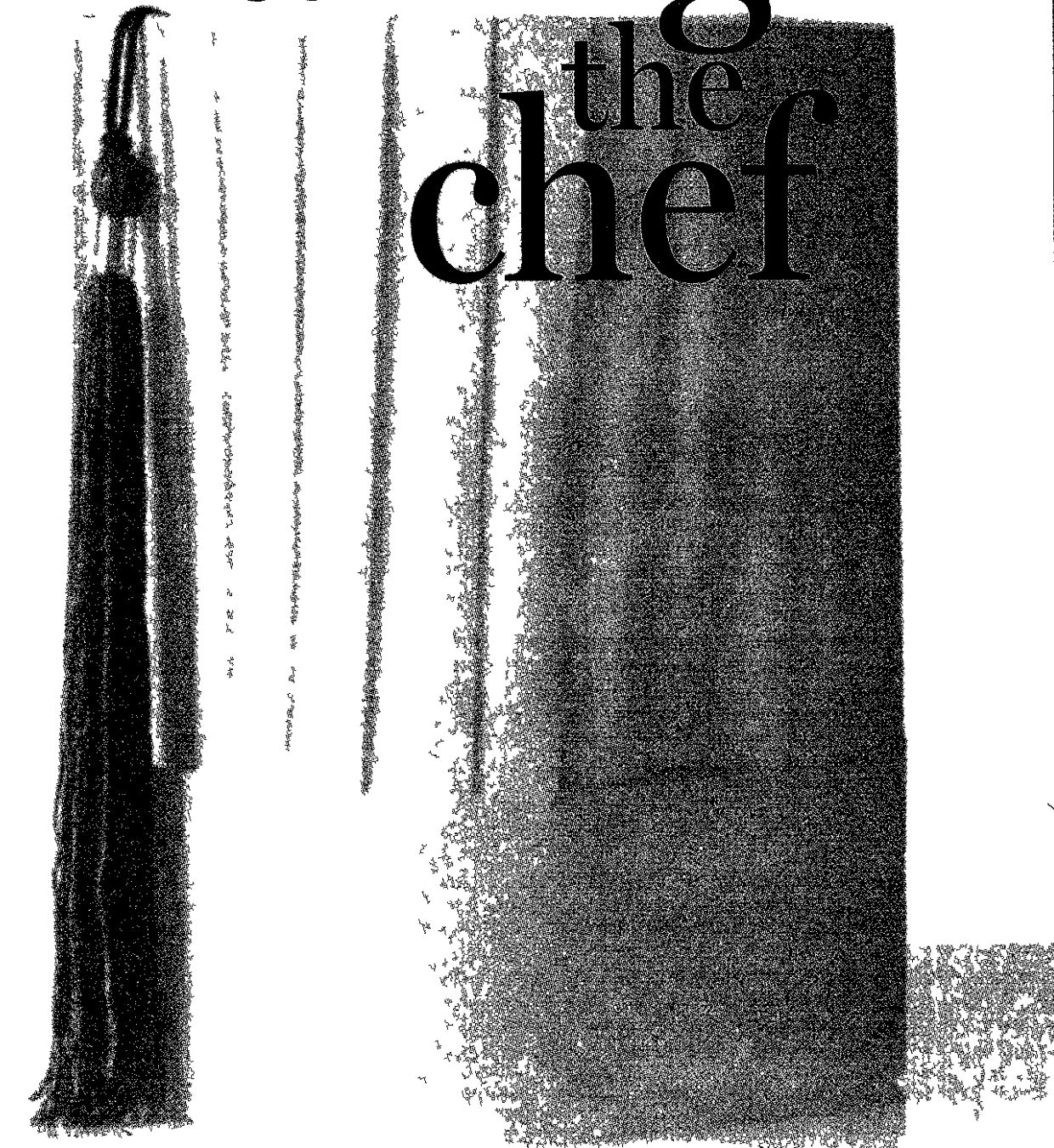


Stars and Moons snacks, plus taste-tempting Cracker Snacks Sargento SunBursts are bite-size, sun-shaped cheese snacks available in a Mild Cheddar, Colby Jack and Monterey Jack variety pack Consumers will enjoy Stars and Moons, shaped like the celestial bodies after which they are named Available in Mild Cheddar and Monterey Jack, Stars and Moons variety packs offer cheese enthusiasts enjoyment in bite size cheese snacks Packages of SunBursts Stars and Moons and Crackers Snacks have a suggested retail price of \$2.49 and are available at major retailers

Last minute gifts

Looking for St Valentine's Day gifts for Saturday? Papa Joe's Gourmet Market in Birmingham have truffles made by The Jacques Guyaux Company in France Guyaux is a family company established in 1931, which makes chocolates and truffles The truffles sell for \$7.99 With Valentine's Day just around the corner, Whole Foods Market presents a selection of idea and celebration ideas Rose Petal Tea, a royal tea blend has the light spice of delicate, young rose buds and petals atop the sweet fullness of China black tea A perfect treat to share with someone you love - from The Republic of Tea Add a little sweetness to your romantic evening with Honey Acres, an artisan honey from Wisconsin Little antique jars are filled with a choice of honeys including wildflower, clover, buckwheat and orange blossom Jars are available individually or in wooden crate gift sets containing two or four jars Available individually and in gift boxes Dark and Milk Chocolate Signature Squares from Lake Champlain Chocolates Whole Foods Market has stores in Ann Arbor, Rochester Hills, Troy and West Bloomfield

Making the chef



Veteran leads Schoolcraft postgraduate program



After working for 17 years at The Lark restaurant in West Bloomfield, Marcus Haight believed it was time for a change "I just wanted to do something different," Haight said "At The Lark, I had done everything I wanted to do and I wanted to be challenged in different ways" Today, he teaches Haight supervises the Brigade program, an advanced program at Schoolcraft College in Livonia for recent graduates of culinary arts programs and others in the food industry The postgraduate chefs in that program oversee the dinner operations of the American Harvest Restaurant inside the VisTaTech building, preparing five-course dinners for the public (See hours below) Prior to the opening of VisTaTech, the restaurant served lunch only along with International Dinners But with the larger facility and new demonstration kitchens and classrooms, the culinary program expanded to include the dinner hours for the public and created the Brigade program "Brigade is all about running and operating a restaurant, Haight said "You tell them things and teach them cooking techniques they may not normally see" In addition to his teaching, Haight's duties include all the restaurant menu

Marcus Haight, certified executive chef and instructor of the Brigade program at Schoolcraft College oversees the menu planning for dinners at the American Harvest Restaurant, recipe development and analyzing the nutritional content of the meals

PLEASE SEE CHEFS, D6

Growing grapes on the edge

To grow grapes in Oregon, you really need to love the process of winemaking," said the inspired Adam Campbell, winemaker at Elk Cove Vineyards "We're on the climatic edge of a ripening area, which is not a very easy place to grow



Focus on Wine

Ray & Eleanor Heald

grapes, so everybody who does carries a deep passion for wine" Elk Cove Vineyards, located south of Portland in the Willamette Valley, was founded in 1974 by Adam's parents, Pat and Joe Campbell The focus at Elk Cove has always been to produce handcrafted, estate-grown wines The estate vineyards cover more than 120 acres on steep south-facing slopes in the

WINE PICKS

Oregon weather is generally too cool to ripen merlot and cabernet sauvignon Searching elsewhere we rated the following wines as highly recommended **MERLOT** Pick of the pack: 2000 Stag's Leap Wine Cellars Napa Valley \$40 Best bets in the \$20s: 2001 Alexander Valley Vineyards Wetzel Family Estate \$20 and 2001 Sebastiani Alex Valley Merlot \$24 **CABERNET SAUVIGNON** Special occasion: 2000 Quintessa \$110 Napa Valley picks of the pack: 2000 Joseph Phelps Backus Vineyard \$50 and 2001 Stag's Leap Wine Cellars Artemis \$45 Sonoma County: 2001 Hanna \$26 and 2000 Sebastiani Sonoma \$17 Paso Robles: 1999 J. Lohr Hilltop \$32 Steal from Chile: 2001 Carmen Reserve \$15

perfect environment to grow the world-class grapes used to produce Elk Cove wines

In Oregon, it takes the proper site and scrupulous vineyard management, in addition to harvesting very low yields, to create concentration and depth of flavor, the trademark of Elk Cove wines

FAMILY ALL THE WAY

Elk Cove remains a family-owned and operated estate vineyard and winery Adam Campbell was raised among the vines and, while going to school worked summer vacations in the vineyards His first harvest was in 1989 and with no formal training in winemaking and viticulture, he joined the family as full time winemaker in 1995 "I learned winemaking from my father," he said

All wines mentioned are available in the metro Detroit area If a retailer does not stock a specific wine ask that it be ordered from the distributor

Since Oregon is a cool climate region for growing grapes, Elk Cove emphasizes those varieties that will succeed, such as riesling, pinot gris and pinot noir Campbell explained that he has dropped chardonnay because he doesn't like the variety when it's grown in Oregon

In Europe, riesling succeeds in the cool grape-growing regions of Germany and in Alsace, France The 2001 Elk Cove Vineyards Riesling (\$15) boasts aromas of peaches, apples and Bartlett pears with an off-dry finish that is perfect with Dungeness crab, oysters, whitefish and even soft blue cheese

Pinot gris and pinot grigio are the same grape, translated grey pinot because of the grape's skin color when ripe Oregon's wine laws require that the wine be labeled with the French name pinot gris Enjoy a young, chilled pinot gris as an aperitif or with poultry, grilled fish or shellfish, as well as Asian-inspired dishes The 2002 Elk Cove Vineyards Pinot Gris (\$17) is a delicious example, highlighting aromas and flavors of apples and pears with hints of grapefruit and a finishing mineral note

Our primary interest in Oregon is pinot noir, the great red grape of Burgundy, France Pinot noir is a very delicate, even finicky, variety that prefers a cool climate Its thin skin requires gentle handling in order to coax out its color and delicious cherry and red berry flavors This means harvesting low yields, hand picking and sorting, gravity flow movement of the wine during production and bottling the wine unfiltered and unfiltered This is exactly the method employed at Elk Cove

Pinot noir is a versatile red wine, complementing everything from fish to meat Although you may prefer a cabernet sauvignon with a grilled steak, the next time you are having veal, turkey, chicken or salmon, treat yourself to a food-friendly bottle of pinot noir such as the 2001 Elk Cove Vineyards Willamette Valley Pinot Noir (\$17), in an easy-drinking style with cherry and raspberry fruit plus a touch of smoke and brown spice

The Healds are contributing editors for the internationally respected *Quarterly Review of Wines* and *Troy* residents who write about wine spirits and restaurants for the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* Contact them by e-mail at focusonwine@aol.com

Home show hosts food demonstrations

If you can cook it you can grill it' is two-man grilling buddies Mad Dog and Merrill's motto offering tips for outdoor grilling at the Ford Field Home & Garden Show Feb 19-22 at Detroit's Ford Field.

Joining them with skills in turning desserts into modern works of food art Chefs Angus Campbell and Robert Garlough, chef instructors at Grand Rapids Community College, will present 'Classic Desserts/Modern Styles'.

Mad Dog & Merrill's wacky blend of barbecuing, satire, stunts and wit have been seen on ESPN, CBS and CNN. They will teach when you grill, you are not cooking in grease and share outdoor grilling tips and recipes with audiences.

The grilling artists are famed for their Green Bay Packers game tailgate parties. They can boast that they have grilled 8,000 bratwursts at 20° below zero. Mad Dog and Merrill have published numerous cookbooks including 'Grillology 101', 'Festive Holiday Grilling', 'We've Got Gas' and 'Forever Tailgating'. Sample recipes from Forever Tailgating are on their website www.maddogandmerrill.com.

Their repertoire includes the whole food pyramid - from vegetables and fish to desserts like grilled ice cream. 'We haven't worked a day in 21 years,' said Mad Dog. 'It's all fun.'

They can be seen at the show 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, 1, 3, 5 and 7 p.m. on Saturday, and noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. on Sunday.

Campbell and Garlough will prepare chocolate-topped profiteroles with vanilla sauce, tropical trifle with coconut rum, chocolate cups with hazelnut chocolate mousse and vanilla cheesecake tartlets with vanilla-vodka berries.

They can be seen at the show 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, noon, 2, 4, 6 and 8 p.m. on Saturday and 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. on Sunday.

Campbell will be working

with the students of the Hospitality Education Department of GRCC, where he has been the chef-instructor since 1991. Before his move to Grand Rapids, Campbell lived in the Bahamas for four years where he did culinary training in the Caribbean Islands. His culinary love began in Scotland, cooking with his family. He went to school and became a master craftsman in Scotland, the highest level in the culinary arts.

Campbell's television show, 'Cooking With Angus Campbell' airs on the local college channel and has recently been picked up by several other channels statewide.

His Website is www.chefangus.com.

Garlough is the director of hospitality education at GRCC and an American Culinary Federation Educational Institute certified culinary educator and a certified executive chef. He serves on Chef Magazines Foodservice Educators Network International Advisory Board and Executive Director of the Center for International Consortium of Hospitality and Tourism Institutes. He won a silver and bronze medal at the 1988 Culinary Olympics in Frankfurt, West Germany, holds the Auguste Escoffier Gold Medal of Merit by the American Culinary Federation and received the Chef Herman Brethaupt Memorial Award as national chef-instructor of the year.

Show hours are 3-9 p.m. Thursday, noon-9:30 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$7, \$3 for children 6-14 and children 5 and under admitted free. Advance tickets are offered online. Weekday adult admission discount coupons are available at Speedway and Big Boy Ford Field daily parking rate is \$3 and over 2,000 parking spaces are adjacent to Ford Field. For more information visit www.FordFieldHomeshow.com or call (800) 328-6550.

Steam, then purée, cauliflower

You have a craving for mashed potatoes but not for the calories and fat that come with them. Enter the cauliflower.

The color's right and the texture can be imitated. You can steam a head of cauliflower, puree it with a little oil and milk, add some salt and pepper and you have something that looks and - almost - tastes like mashed potatoes. (If you don't believe this, try it. You'll be amazed.)

Cauliflower is a good addition to any diet. It is part of the cabbage family in which flowers stop growing at the bud stage. The thick stems under these buds hold the nutrients that would have gone into the flowers and fruits if they had fully formed. This makes cauliflower rich in vitamins and minerals.

Like other cruciferous vegetables, cauliflower is an important part of a healthful diet. Studies indicate we're still not eating enough cruciferous vegetables. And research shows that compounds in these vegetables help fight off cancer of the colon, stomach, lung and possibly breast.



AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

Cauliflower has a naturally mild, sweet flavor. It can be steamed, baked, sautéed, or even grilled.

Cruciferous vegetables also are full of calcium, beta carotene, vitamin C and lutein, which is associated with a reduced risk of liver cancer as well as age-related macular degeneration, a leading cause of blindness in people over 65.

Cauliflower has a naturally mild, sweet flavor.

It can be steamed, baked, sautéed, or even grilled. It can be eaten raw with dips or in mixed salads. Cauliflower is added to curries, stir-fries and tomato-based dishes served with pasta.

When shopping for cauliflower, look for a firm head with compact florets that have no brown spots. The leaves should be crisp and green and

not yellowing. The size of the head doesn't affect the quality. Cauliflower is made up of bunches of tiny florets. While most cauliflower is white, some may have a purple or greenish tinge. The entire floret portion is edible.

The green leaves at the base also can be eaten, but take longer to cook and have a stronger flavor than the florets.

Separate cauliflower head into florets and wash. Adding lemon juice or milk to the cooking water will prevent discoloration.

It is preferable to steam cauliflower rather than boiling it. In boiling, the vegetable may retain too much water and become mushy.

UNCAULFLOWERED CAULIFLOWER

1 medium head cauliflower cut into florets
2 3 tablespoons canola oil
¼ cup low fat milk or to taste
Salt and white pepper to taste

Steam cauliflower stove-top, in a pot with a small amount of simmering water, or microwave with a small amount of water until soft. Purée in a blender or food processor with the oil and milk until fluffy. Season to taste with salt and pepper.

Makes 5 servings.

Nutritional information per serving: 97 calories, 6 g total fat (less than 1 g saturated fat), 9 g carbohydrate, 4 g protein, 4 g dietary fiber, 57 mg sodium.

TASTE CALENDAR

Please submit items at least two weeks in advance of the date it should be published. Send to Ken Abramczyk, Taste editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009 or e-mail kabram@oe.com.

Classic cooking
Busch's Meal Solutions presents the classic cooking series with 'Seafood: The Ultimate Fast Food' 6-7:30 p.m. tonight at Busch's 37083 Six Mile (at Newburgh) in Livonia. Feb. 19 at 15185 Sheldon in Plymouth and Feb. 26 at 24445 Drake in Farmington Hills.

Poultry All Time Favorites on March 11 (Livonia), March 18 (Plymouth) and March 25 (Farmington Hills).

Better Living
Dr. Arthur Weaver will discuss 'Nutrition and Looking for Total Health' at a seminar 2:30-6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 22 at the Metropolitan Adventist

School 15585 Haggerty (just north of Five Mile). This seminar will make you aware of the latest scientific discoveries in nutrition and learn the benefits and risks of low carb and high carb diets. Weaver will discuss what epidemiological studies have revealed and how proper nutrition can be used as a preventative strategy against cancer, heart disease, diabetes, and many other chronic diseases.

Dr. Weaver will present information on the principles of nutrition while his wife Natalie and other cooks will share techniques for making healthy eating tasty and enjoyable. Vegetarian cookbooks will be available for purchase and a delicious vegetarian meal will be served to conclude the program. To register call (313) 531-2179 or (248) 349-5683.

Schoolcraft College
Enjoy the talents of the staff at Schoolcraft College with culinary seminars offered through the culinary arts department and the college's Continuing Education Services. The seminars include Savory Soups and Stews with master chef Jeff Gabriel on Wednesday, Feb. 25. For a complete

schedule of seminars call (734) 462-4448 or visit the college's Continuing Education Services building 18600 Haggerty in Livonia (south of Seven Mile Road).

Bonnie's Patisserie
Low carb Cooking and Good Food Fast are among the classes offered at Bonnie's Patisserie 29229 Northwestern Hwy. in Southfield. Classes are scheduled 7-9 p.m. and cost \$35 each. The low carb class will be offered either Monday, Feb. 16 or Wednesday, March 3, while the good food class will be taught Monday, March 8 or Wednesday, March 10. (The class will be offered both nights so class attendees will choose one of them.)

Glorious Bunch IV with instructions for stuffed French toast with apple sauce, bacon, potato, fresh and smoked salmon, cakes, pear, mango salad and pullaway coffee cake will be offered Monday, March 15. Call (248) 357-4540 for information.

Celebrating Mardi Gras
The Ninth Annual Michigan Culinary Food & Wine Extravaganza, a Mardi Gras benefit for culinary students, features tastings from more than 20

restaurants and artful displays along with specially paired wine and live music 6-10 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 24 at Mac & Ray's Banquet and Conference Center 30675 North River Road, Harrison Township. Live and silent auctions will be held. Tickets are \$75 for general admission and \$125 for Gold Salon and are available by calling 586-463-9660 ext. 438. Complete event information can be found at www.mcfwe.com.

Bella Cucina
Bella Cucina of Plymouth instructs cooking classes in the lower level kitchen at Our Lady of Good Counsel church at North Territorial and Beck roads in Plymouth. The next session will give a demonstration on turkey pot-potone, porcini mushroom risotto, spinach salad with pancetta and pine nuts, and double cheesy garlic bread. The class taught 6:30-9:30 p.m. on March 9 and repeated March 16 and March 30. It is a hands-on demonstration. Class sizes are limited to 12 with a cost of \$50 per person and payment due at registration. For information call (734) 455-4232.

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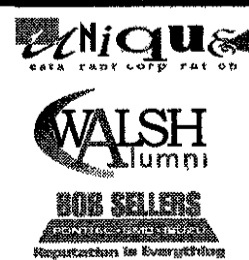
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AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

Pasta topped with savory, homemade sauce, studded with mushrooms and freshly cooked chicken, rates high as a comfort food

Cook spaghetti chicken once, serve twice

BY DANA JACOBI
CORRESPONDENT

Spaghetti Chicken sounds like a four-year-old exclaiming the name of his or her favorite meal. I created this versatile creation in the days when sharing the rent and grocery bills with a roommate was a necessity. It remains a favorite comfort food, convenience food and cost-saver, all still necessary on occasion.

Convenience first. Spaghetti Chicken is a one-pot that you cook once and eat twice. Well, maybe it is a three-pot dish, if you include the skillet for making the chicken, a pot for boiling the spaghetti and a saucepan for the soup I make from the rest of the chicken. As for its economic virtues, not only are the ingredients inexpensive, but it lets you use about one and one-half pounds of chicken to feed four, twice.

As comfort food, pasta topped with savory, homemade sauce, studded with mushrooms and freshly cooked chicken, rates high at my house. I usually use the leftover white meat in soup, most often a chicken and vegetable combo with beans, rice, or both — comfort food again.

Good eating as it is healthy is another virtue of this dish. It provides lean protein for two meals. And it works equally

well with whole-wheat or regular, semolina pasta. Sometimes, I use rice instead, preferably brown, or spoon the chicken and sauce over polenta.

Spaghetti Chicken also provides one to two servings of vegetables, along with grain and chicken the first time around. It can include whatever you choose the second time around. If you like, increase the amount of vegetables. As for seasoning, anything goes, including fresh herbs, chili powder, or sun-dried tomatoes. I have even added a touch of curry powder or cinnamon, which give this down-home dish an ethnic note.

SPAGHETTI CHICKEN WITH MUSHROOM SAUCE

- 1 split (2 halves) skinless chicken breast with ribs
- 4 skinless chicken thighs
- 1 teaspoon extra virgin olive oil
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 1/4 pound crimini or white mushrooms, thickly sliced
- 1 can (28 ounce) diced tomatoes
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1/2 teaspoon dried basil
- Pinch of red pepper flakes, optional
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 8 ounces spaghetti or linguine, preferably whole wheat

1/4 cup (1 ounce) freshly grated Parmigiano Reggiano cheese

Coat a large skillet with cooking spray. Heat pan over medium-high heat. Brown chicken, turning pieces, so it colors on all sides, about 8 minutes. Transfer chicken to a plate.

Heat oil in the pan. Sauté onions and garlic until translucent, 4 minutes. Add mushrooms. Sauté until moist, about 4 minutes. Add tomatoes and their liquid, oregano, basil and pepper flakes, if using. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Return chicken to skillet. Cover and simmer until chicken is white at the bone when cut with a sharp knife, about 40 minutes, turning it after 25 minutes.

Transfer chicken pieces to a plate. When cool enough to handle, pull the meat from the bones. There will be about 8 ounces white meat and 6 ounces dark meat. Set aside dark meat for Chicken Spaghetti. Cover the rest, and refrigerate, to use in soup or salad. For Chicken Spaghetti, cook 4 servings of pasta. If necessary, reheat sauce. When hot, add reserved shredded chicken. Spoon sauce over pasta. Sprinkle with cheese, and serve. Makes 4 servings.

Nutritional information per serving: 386 calories, 9 g total fat (3 g saturated fat), 54 g carbohydrate, 23 g protein, 6 g dietary fiber, 402 mg sodium.

Cook up a quick and easy pasta dish

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

How about a pasta variation on your BLT?

A simple but very good offering with a playful tie-in to the favorite bacon-lettuce-tomato sandwich, with an Italian flavor, comes from *Good Housekeeping 100 Best Pasta Recipes*, Hearst, 2003, \$14.95.

First, for those occasions when the hungry are breathing down the cook's neck, note that the recipe takes only about 30 minutes start to finish.

Second, note the switches in ingredients. Pasta replaces the bread, arugula replaces the lettuce, and pancetta replaces the bacon.

A 'kitchen tip' in the book explains that pancetta, an Italian bacon, is cured in a mixture of salt and spices, but unlike American bacon it is not smoked, so its flavor is milder.

It is sold in Italian markets, specialty meat shops, or large supermarkets. If you can't find it, use bacon.

The book is great value. It's bright, large-format, with plenty of full-page color photos, all recipes include cooking time required and nutrition analysis.

RADIATORE WITH ARUGULA, TOMATOES AND PANCETTA

- 16 ounce package radiatore or corkscrew pasta
- Salt
- 4 ounces sliced pancetta or bacon, cut into 1/2-inch pieces
- 1 garlic clove, crushed with garlic press
- 16 ounce container cherry tomatoes, each cut into quarters
- 1/4 teaspoon coarsely ground black pepper
- 8 ounces arugula, tough stems removed

1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese
Shredded Parmesan cheese for garnish

In a large saucepan, prepare pasta in boiling salted water as label directs.

Meanwhile, in a 10-inch skillet, cook the pancetta over medium heat until lightly browned, stirring occasionally. (If using bacon, discard all but 1 tablespoon fat.) Add garlic, cook 30 seconds, stirring. Add tomatoes, pepper and 1/4 teaspoon salt and cook 1 to 2 minutes. Remove skillet from heat, cover and keep warm. Drain the pasta, return to saucepan. Add pancetta mixture, arugula and grated Parmesan cheese, toss well. Garnish with shredded Parmesan cheese.

Makes 4 main-dish servings, or 8 accompaniment servings.
about 560 cal, 22 g pro, 93 g carbo, 12 g total fat (4 g saturated), 15 mg chol, 680 mg sodium

Bread pudding recipe adds fruit and almonds

GRAPE AND ALMOND BREAD PUDDING

- 4 cups (about 5 slices) firm white bread
- 3 eggs
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1 cup milk
- 1 cup half and half
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 1/4 cups seedless grapes
- 3 tablespoons sliced almonds
- 1 tablespoon butter, melted

Cut bread into 1/2-inch cubes. Bake in 350° F oven about 10 minutes or until lightly toasted.

Beat eggs in large bowl.

Add sugar, nutmeg, milk, half-and-half and vanilla, mix well. Add toasted bread cubes and grapes, mix well.

Spoon bread mixture into lightly buttered 2-quart baking dish, sprinkle almonds and drizzle butter over top.

Bake at 350° F 35 minutes or until top is golden and knife blade inserted near center comes

out clean.

Makes 6 servings.

Note: Two cups milk or 2 cups half-and-half may be substituted for 1 cup of each.

Nutrition information per serving: 254 cal, 8 g pro, 13 g fat, 26 g carbo, 132 mg chol, 1 g fiber, 186 mg sodium.

Recipe for AP from the California Table Grape Commission.

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Use a wood rasp to remove lemon zest

BY DANA JACOBI
CORRESPONDENT

We rarely eat a lemon or use the entire fruit in pies, chutneys, or salt-pickled as they are for North African dishes. Yet we use lemons all the time, often several times a day, to enliven both savory and sweet dishes, sauces, dressings and beverages. Mostly, we use the juice, and occasionally the aromatic, yellow outer layer of skin called the zest.

A lemon is a lemon to Americans, since the two commercially grown varieties, Lisbon and Eureka, are almost indistinguishable. Dark yellow Meyer lemons, in season from November to March, are now becoming more available, as well. A cross between a lemon and an orange, their abundant juice is sweet enough to drink straight. It makes a killer lemonade.

Fresh-squeezed lemon juice has a bright, sweet tart taste. I highly recommend using it rather than bottled juice. To extract the most juice, microwave a lemon for 30 seconds, then roll it on the counter top, pressing down firmly. Using a reamer, a good-size

lemon yields as much as four tablespoons of juice.

Lemon peel has two layers, the top layer of golden zest, rich in the health-protective phytochemical called limonene and a spongy underlayer of white, bitter-tasting pith. I favor two methods for removing the first and avoiding the second.

If possible, get a rasp. Chefs discovered that this wood-working tool zips zest off neatly, yields more and cleans up more easily than a grater or zester. Alternatively, use a vegetable peeler or sharp, thin paring knife to cut the zest away in strips. If any white clings to the underside, pin the peel on a flat surface, using your thumb at one end. Holding a paring knife so its blade is almost horizontal, gently slide the blade between the zest and pith, starting at the thumb-end and moving slowly down the strip. It doesn't matter if the strip tears, as you will probably be chopping it up anyway.

Served warm, this pasta salad uses both lemon zest and juice, plus an appealing combination of regular and whole-wheat pasta.



AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

Served warm, this pasta salad uses both lemon zest and juice, plus an appealing combination of regular and whole-wheat pasta.

LEMON PASTA SALAD WITH TUNA AND BROCCOLI

- 3 ounces semolina fusilli pasta or other type of spiral pasta
- 3 ounces whole wheat fusilli pasta or other type of spiral pasta
- 6 ounces (1 can) water packed white tuna, drained
- 3 plum tomatoes, seeded and chopped
- 2 cups cooked broccoli florets
- 1 tablespoon capers, drained
- 2 teaspoon grated lemon zest
- 1 teaspoon dried basil
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- Juice of 1/2 lemon
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil

Cook pasta according to

package directions.

Drain and place pasta in a bowl. Add tuna, tomato, broccoli, capers, lemon zest, and basil.

Using fork, mix until the tuna is well broken up.

In a small bowl, whisk together garlic, lemon juice and salt. Whisk in the oil. Season to taste with pepper. Pour the dressing over the pasta and toss to coat the salad.

Makes 4 main-dish servings, or 8 as a side dish.

Per main-dish serving: 290 calories, 9 g total fat (1 g saturated fat), 37 g carbohydrate, 17 g protein, 4 g dietary fiber, 241 mg sodium.

Dana Jacobi is author of *The Joy of Soy* and recipe creator for AICR's *Stopping Cancer Before It Starts*.

Prepare vegetarian cooking: stuffed celery, pizza and punch

BY J M HIRSCH
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

Having reached the age when seemingly everyone around me has young children, I've noticed a recurring theme at parties and family gatherings - children struggling with foods intended for adults.

Not that I didn't enjoy watching toddlers topple plates of hors d'oeuvres at a recent adult birthday party, but there seemed to be something wrong (even dangerous) in children running around with bacon-wrapped scallops on toothpicks.

Though it can increase the workload for the host, a party that includes but isn't necessarily for children ought also to include foods prepared specifically for those children.

This provides youngsters with items that are easy to handle, safe to eat and that appeal to their tastes. It also reserves the fancier and more costly foods for the adults (did the children at the party I attended really appreciate the baked brie?)

The first thing I learned while searching for suitable children's foods was that my definition of easy munchies differs widely from what some foodies envision.

As much as I love being in the kitchen, I wasn't willing to follow one author's suggestion to grill half a lobster still in the shell and serve it with a corn and red-pepper relish followed by panna cotta with balsamic strawberries for dessert.

That's too much work to make even for myself. Haute cuisine for the PB&J crowd doesn't seem to solve the problem.

Lucy Moll's approach in her book, *The Vegetarian Child* (Perigee Books, 1997), seems saner. The foods she suggests not only are easy to make but also involve simple preparation and ingredients and have appealing presentations.

For instance, there are celery spears slathered with peanut butter and raisins and spider cookies, round crackers with a dollop of peanut butter and pretzel stick legs sticking out from the sides.

And it's hard to go wrong with pizza, such as the French bread version offered by Joanne Stepaniak and Vesanto Melina in their book, *Raising Vegetarian Children*, Contemporary Books, 2003, \$18.95.

One parent friend mentioned that the hardest part of feeding children at adult gatherings can be drinks. With the focus often on alcohol and other unsuitable drinks, children can be left with few choices beyond soda.

Stepaniak and Melina have an answer for that, too. Their fruity party punch has more pizzazz than water or milk, and is preferable to most sodas. The older children also likely will appreciate having their own adult drink.

STUFFED CELERY WITH RAISINS

- 4 stalks celery
- 1/2 cup nut butter (such as peanut or almond)
- 1/2 cup soy or dairy cream cheese
- 1 teaspoon honey or maple syrup
- 1/2 cup raisins

Cut each celery stalk crosswise into 2 pieces.

Combine the nut butter, cream cheese and honey or maple syrup in a small bowl and mix well. Spread the mixture into the cavity of each celery stalk. Garnish by pushing raisins into the nut butter mixture. Makes 8 pieces.

Recipe from Lucy Moll's *The Vegetarian Child*, Perigee Books, 1997.

SILLY SPIDER COOKIES

- 3 tablespoons peanut butter
- 6 round crackers
- 24 thin pretzel sticks
- 12 raisins

Spread 1-1/2 teaspoons of peanut butter on each cracker. Break the pretzel sticks in half and push 8 sticks into the peanut butter on each cracker, positioning them as 4 legs on either side.

Push 2 raisins into the peanut butter on each cracker to make eyes.

Makes 6 cookies.

Recipe from Lucy Moll's *The Vegetarian Child*, Perigee Books, 1997.



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When you want to give shrimp or salmon sizzling Indian flavor, serve them with this chunky tomato chutney

Discover Southern Indian cooking

BY DANA JACOBI
CORRESPONDENT

Grilled tandoori, puffed nan bread and creamy spinach saag are classic dishes from the north of India. Recently, though, thanks to our increasing interest in heat and spice, Americans are being attracted to the hotter food of southern India.

Rather than the pounded blend of dry-roasted cinnamon sticks, cardamom, cloves and other spices called garam masala, cooking in southern India uses lots of hot chili peppers and whole mustard seeds. It also emphasizes vegetarian dishes and seafood more than the inland, meat-oriented cooking of the north.

Southern India is the sub-continent's tip, bordered by the Bay of Bengal on the east and the Arabian Sea on the west. Important southern Indian cities include Madras to the east, and the port of Cochin in the western state of Kerala. A fabled source of spices, like Malabar pepper, the Malabar Coast of Kerala was a magnet for ancient Phoenicians, Romans, Arabs and Marco Polo in 1294. Christopher Columbus was headed there rather than the Americas where he eventually landed. Vasco de Gamma the

Portuguese explorer, reached Cochin in 1498 and is buried there.

These foreign visitors brought foods that enriched the local cooking, particularly the tomatoes and chile peppers carried by the Portuguese from the New World. When Christians, Muslims, Parsees and Jews joined the local Hindus and stayed on, Kerala became an ethnic melting pot and a community of remarkable tolerance, a place where palcharcha is the custom of sharing celebratory dishes of your own faith with friends of other religions. At home, when you want to give shrimp or salmon sizzling Indian flavor, serve them with this chunky tomato chutney. Inspired by a recipe from Suvir Saran of Amma, a New York City restaurant, it is also splendid as an omelet filling, or served with cottage cheese.

INDIAN TOMATO CHUTNEY

- 1 teaspoon ground coriander
- 1 teaspoon curry powder
- 1 teaspoon sweet paprika
- 1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper or to taste
- 1/2 teaspoon dried red pepper flakes or to taste
- 1 teaspoon turmeric
- 2 pounds large plum tomatoes
- 2 tablespoons canola oil
- 1 teaspoon black or yellow mustard seeds

- 1 teaspoon cumin seeds
- 2 tablespoons tomato paste
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- Salt to taste

Combine coriander, curry powder, paprika, cayenne pepper, pepper flakes, and turmeric in a small bowl and set aside.

Halve tomatoes lengthwise. Scoop out and discard seeds and inner flesh. Cut each half into six pieces.

Heat oil in a medium non-stick skillet over medium-high heat. Add mustard and cumin seeds. When mustard seeds begin to pop, 1 or 2 minutes, stir in dried spices. Add tomatoes, tomato paste, sugar and salt. Cook, stirring often to prevent sticking. When skin at the edges of some of the tomatoes curls but they are all still firm and chunky, about 4 minutes, transfer the chutney into a bowl. Serve chutney warm (not hot), or at room temperature.

Makes 2 cups, for 4 servings as a side dish or 8 as a condiment.

Nutritional information per serving: 70 calories, 4 g total fat (less than 1 g saturated fat), 9 g carbohydrate, 2 g protein, 2 g dietary fiber, 15 mg sodium.

Dana Jacobi is the author of *The Joy of Soy* and a writer for the *American Institute for Cancer Research*.

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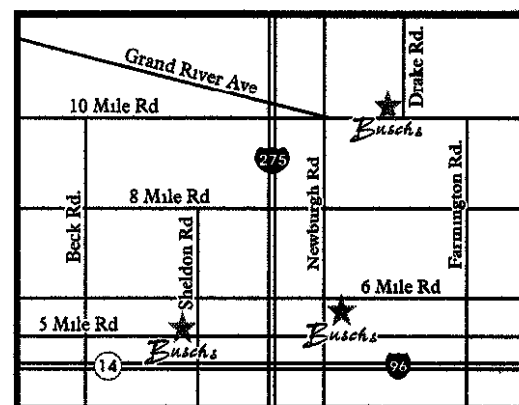
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CHEFS

FROM PAGE D1

planning, recipe development and analyzing the nutritional content of the meals. As the students prepare the dishes, Haight will oversee every station in the kitchen and all aspects of meal preparation — butchery, sautés, sauces, baking and pastry — simultaneously, going from area to area and constantly instructing.

Each week the students get a new menu, and they tweak it throughout the week, Haight said. "Each week it's a different menu," Haight said. "It's a great experience for them. It's very challenging. They have to come in Tuesday (the first day of class that week) and be focused."

Bruce Konowalow, director of culinary arts at Schoolcraft, calls Haight "a welcome addition to the culinary team."

"He brings with him a wealth of skills and knowledge that both students and faculty will be able to draw upon," Konowalow said. "His demeanor and teaching style will blend well with our team of world-class culinary arts professors."

"Marcus has a long history with Schoolcraft culinary arts, having graduated from the program more than 20 years ago, and as an adjunct instructor over the past several years. We are all extremely pleased that we were able to lure him into the world of culinary arts education."

The Brigade program focuses on principals developed by French chef Escoffier, Haight said. Georges-Auguste Escoffier (1846-1935) is credited with simplifying the complex French haute cuisine of his day with less elaborate dishes, lighter sauces and more seasonal ingredients. According to the *Encyclopedia of Food and Culture*, Escoffier's reorganization of the professional kitchen eliminated duplication of efforts and

Advanced baking class expected this fall

Instructors in Schoolcraft College's Culinary Arts Department expect to add an advanced baking and pastry program this fall in conjunction with the Brigade program.

Joe Decker, certified master pastry chef and instructor in Schoolcraft College's culinary arts department, is expected to create a curriculum aimed at intense baking and pastry production over 30 weeks. Students will learn intensive baking in five-hour, three-day work weeks for 15 weeks, then learn 15 more weeks of five-hour, four-day work weeks of pastry.

"We found a great need for those disciplines in the culinary arts," Decker said.

The class will be geared for those students who wish to work in the restaurant and hotel end of the culinary arts trade, or entrepreneurial side of baking and pastry. Instructors noticed a gap in the students' curriculum between baking and pastry classes. Some graduated with 15 weeks of study in two years. "We designed this class for more overlap," Decker said. "It will be 30 weeks, back to back."

"It will be a much more intensive program," Decker said. "Artisan breads will be in there for a much longer time."

Decker said students will study more intensively baking processes. Students take on large projects, such as creating an entire wedding cake.

Getting students into an advanced baking program gets students who already enjoy or are interested in baking, Decker believes. "That collective interest in the class is going to be great," Decker said.

Decker isn't concerned about the increase in chain stores, coffee shop chains and mega super stores driving out small bakeries.

"I think it's reverting back to a time when people looked at the value of good homemade food," Decker said. "There's a wholesomeness to healthy food and freshness."

Chef Marcus Haight joins Schoolcraft faculty

Marcus Haight, certified executive chef and certified executive pastry chef, has worked at some of the finest five star restaurants in the country.

Haight was the executive chef at The Lark restaurant in West Bloomfield. During his tenure, the restaurant maintained a four-star rating in the *Mobil Travel Guide*, received the AAAs top rating in the state and first Four-Diamond designation, was rated best restaurant in the U.S. by readers of *Condé Nast Traveler* magazine, and shared *Hour Detroit* magazine's Restaurant of the Year honor.

Haight is a Schoolcraft alum, having earned a Culinary Arts certification. Since 1987, Haight has taught cooking classes in the southeastern Michigan area, including the introductory skills class at Schoolcraft.

Haight's resume includes positions at four of the 15 *Mobil Guide* Five-Star restaurants in the U.S. Before The Lark, he spent two years as sous chef at Le Bec Fin in Philadelphia. He was pastry chef/cook at the legendary Le Francais in Wheeling, Ill. He worked as cook/pastry chef at La Maisonette in Cincinnati and was cook at The Greenbrier in White Sulphur Springs, W.Va.

resulted in a more efficient operation.

In Schoolcraft's Brigade program, that efficiency will be taught to each student as each of them work a specific station, then they will rotate from week to week to another station. We have a fish station, meat station and sauce station," Haight said. "Each week we give them a different sauce which requires different techniques, like a brown sauce or Hollandaise. We employ all the different techniques."

Haight wants students to develop as many different cooking techniques with different food items in different food groups.

For example, soups change every evening on the menu, but sauces remain the same for that week at that station.

They'll have to prepare five or six different sauces and a soup, Haight said. Brigade students learn efficiency and "what it takes" to run a restaurant, Haight said. "You not only have to make it, you have



Student Kathryn Cillick of Livonia strains a demi-glaze with Haight.

to produce it, Haight said. Haight saw his return as a great opportunity. It's a great institution here. It was perfect, he said.

One recent week, students worked on a rack of lamb with wild mushroom crust, spinach mousse and haricot verts (French green beans) with rosemary lamb juice.

With different soups every day, the class of students will have created 180 different ones by the end of the class term.

They've made duck consomme, brussels sprouts soup, hot and sour, pumpkin and celeriac with truffles," Haight said.

Haight said Konowalow has "good vision" for the program and commended the school's administrators for the support

of the culinary arts there.

Haight joins four certified master chefs (Joe Decker, Jeff Gabriel, Kevin Gawronski and Dan Hugelner) and certified executive chefs Brian Polcyn and Chris Misiak on the staff at Schoolcraft College. Haight appreciates and respects the talent and abilities of his colleagues, who institute an "air of desire to learn and achieve," Haight said. "There's an enthusiasm to give back what they've learned," Haight said.

Haight hopes students will be ready for anything that comes across the table once they complete the Brigade program. "We want them to learn how to cook squab, guinea hen or wild turkey so they don't have to ask, 'What am I going to do with this?'" Haight said.

American Harvest Restaurant's dinner hours are 6:45 p.m. and includes a prix fixe meal for \$37.50, a vegetarian option for \$25.95 or an à la carte menu.

The restaurant also serves lunch 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. For lunch or dinner reservations, call (734) 462-4488.

International dinners are scheduled at 6:45 p.m. Saturdays, created by second-year culinary arts students. Dinners are \$34.95 plus tax, except for the French dinners, which are \$36.95 plus tax. Dinners are: Chinese, Feb. 14; French, Feb. 21; German, March 8; southern Italian, March 13; Mexican, March 20; Thai, March 27; Japanese, April 10; French, April 17; and regional American, April 24. For information and reservations, call (734) 462-4488. For information on the Brigade program or the culinary arts program, call (734) 462-4423.

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Research loan for repairs to infrastructure

Our homeowners association is interested in borrowing money to make certain repairs to our infrastructure. Some of the banks in the local area have found it to be not an interesting proposition from the loaning standpoint. Do you have any recommendations?

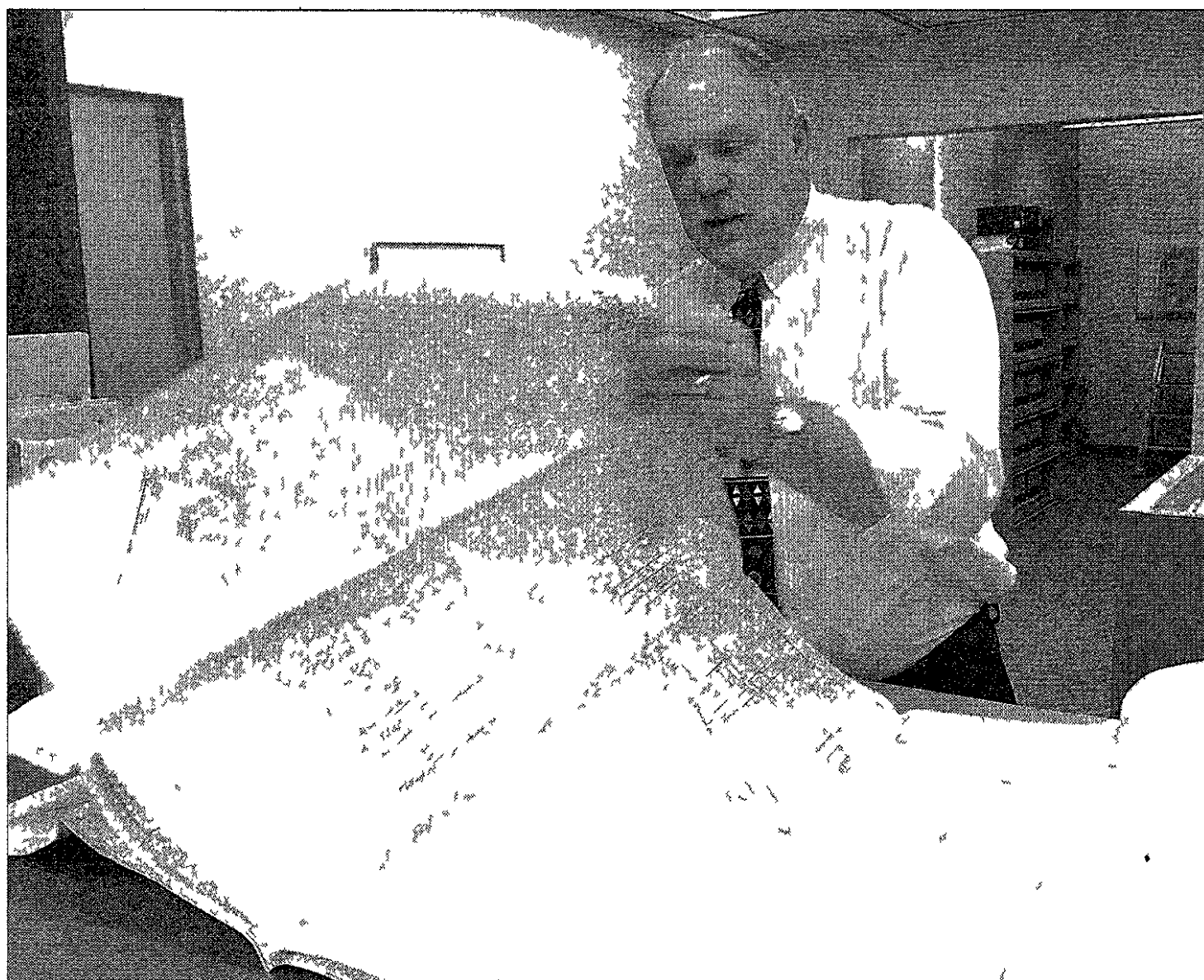
As a community association practitioner, I have recently received a letter from an investment banker who indicates that his company provided a closing of a \$2.1 million construction and permanent loan for a homeowners association in Tennessee. He indicated that the loan would be used to fund exterior and infrastructure renovations. It further provides for both construction period and 15-year fixed-rate permanent financing. The loan is secured exclusively by the monthly maintenance fees of the association without any property liens or personal guarantees from the owners. The plan, he claims, was designed to be serviced by monthly maintenance fees only without special assessments. You may be best advised to determine whether such an arrangement would be beneficial to your association.

I am involved in a commercial lease, but my tenant has abandoned the premises. I am hoping to be able to get all the rent from the tenant, but I am wondering if I have a duty to mitigate.

The modern trend of cases poses upon a commercial landlord a duty to mitigate damages where the tenant breaches a lease by leaving the property. This was recently affirmed by an Ohio Supreme Court decision. By mitigation, we mean attempting to re-let the property and the efforts to do so must be reasonable. It is more than likely that you would be held to that standard, as would be the case in any breach of contract action.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of *Condominium Operation Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track*, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$2 shipping and handling. For more information call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@mich.com. This column should not be construed as legal advice.

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Dean Babb, Farmington Hills city assessor, looks at drawings of homes.

How house is measured makes a difference

BY NORMAN PRADY
CORRESPONDENT

You know that old phrase, "Let the buyer beware." Maybe it should be, "Let the buyer bring a tape measure and calculator."

If you want to know the exact, precise, accurate, unarguable total square footage of the house you're thinking of buying, you just might have to measure it yourself.

If you ask five people to measure a house, Tim Spiro said, you're likely to get five different answers. Spiro is an associate broker with Century 21 Town & Country West Bloomfield. I try to tell my buyer that you're buying that house based on that space making sense for you, so don't be hung up on 2,100 or 2,200.

NO UNIVERSAL METHOD

The problem about footage, Spiro said, is that there is no protocol, no universal method, no law for measuring.

According to appraiser Janeen Cope of Troy, a house is measured from the outside or you might use the survey if the homeowner has one. The house then is noted as being so many feet by so many feet and doubled if it's two stories.

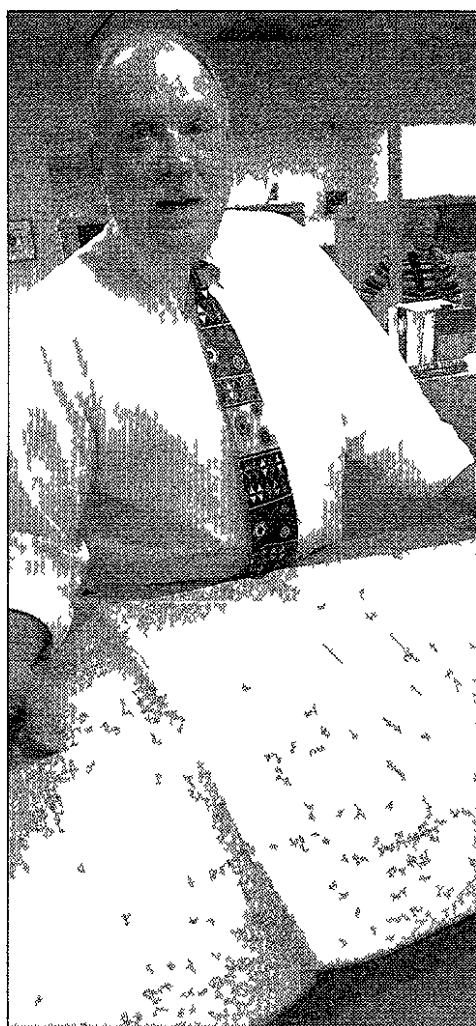
An appraisal, Cope said, only includes living space, attics and basements are not included. If the house has an irregular shape, the sections are measured separately and added together.

"Appraisers have a software program where you just put the dimensions in and it calculates footage," Cope said. "But some cities and townships measure differently. Say it's a bungalow. Some cities measure the lower floor and estimate that the upper floor is half of the lower because it's not full width. Some homes have vaulted ceilings, maybe in a family room. Some cities will give that a quarter credit. It varies from city to city. With tri-levels and quad levels, I see many different interpretations."

A city's reason for measuring a house is all about determining how much you'll pay in annual property taxes after you buy that house.

As Dean Babb, city assessor for Farmington Hills, said, there's a city county state process that begins with someone standing in front of your house with a sketch pad.

This assessor will make a one-dimensional drawing of the exterior of the box



Dean Babb, assessor for Farmington Hills, and his staff keep records on the approximately 20,000 residential units in the city.

and then physically measure it. Consideration is given, Babb said, to variations in story height and types of construction, such as brick or frame or a combination of those or other materials. "There are some subjective judgments," he said.

As for a finished attic, Babb said, "that portion of it which has seven-foot headroom can be included, but not a finished basement. Nothing below grade."

His staff of eight people, he said, keeps records on the approximately 20,000 residential units in his city. The data his assessors gather go through an equalization process on county and state levels to assure that taxing standards are being applied "the same in all of Michigan's 83 counties."

PRIVACY

When the assessor knocks on your door, Babb said, the homeowner has the right to refuse entry. "But then the assessor will have to use his best guess," he said. So the homeowner, Babb said, trades his privacy rights for the risk of inaccurate measurement as a basis for the assessment that follows.

A garage, Babb said, is not included in the footage of the house, but is taxed as part of the property. More if it's attached than not, more if the interior is finished than not, more if it's heated than not.

Built in kitchen appliances, he said, give the house a higher tax rate than do free-standing ones. There even are rates, he said, for kitchen fireplaces and charcoal grills. The additional taxes, he said, are just nickels and dimes. Eighty to 90 percent of value comes from footage and type of construction.

Over in Troy, Nino Licari, the city assessor, said homeowner complaints about measurement of his city's 23,000-plus residences often have to do with homes built in the 1980s. "Generally, it's about homes with clear-span two-story areas, such as a family room or foyer," he said.

Spiro said the two-story measurement problem is one reason she would like to see footage eliminated from listings or indicated only by category of size. Public records, she says, are sometimes unreliable about footage.

They can be based on the original plans filed with the city when a house was built 50 years ago, but the house might have been built larger or smaller," he said. "And every city seems to view a two-story room differently. One might say it's 400 feet and another will say it's 800 feet. Most real estate sales contracts state that footage is approximate. So if it's important to the buyers, it's up to them to verify it."

Spiro had a large sale fall apart because the 3,600 square footage on the listing was what the city had on its records and what the builder had, but the appraiser disagreed about 200 feet less.

"This was a house almost a half-million (dollars) and the buyer wanted a reduction of \$20,000 to \$25,000," she said. "If it turns out that a house actually is a hundred feet larger than listed, should the seller get another \$10,000? Buyers and sellers should understand that footage is a tool, not an absolute."

Mortgage Bits



Tim 'Timbo' Phillips

Great credit, great breaks

What do the following mortgage borrowers have in common?

Doug completes a cash-out refinance on his home, start to finish, in about 10 days. Ericka, a single mother who runs a home-based cash business, buys a home without having to show any income. Danny, a recent college graduate, gets 100 percent financing on his first home at a very competitive interest rate.

There is nothing magical about the bargains these borrowers received on their respective mortgages. They each deserved the great deal they received by paying their debts in accordance with their agreements with each of their creditors. They did not miss payments, then "double up" the next time. They did not leave high balances (in excess of 50 percent of the maximum) on all of their charge cards. In fact, most of them maintained only a few credit cards and paid on each of them consistently.

Mortgage underwriters always evaluate borrower reliability, and they know all about the "old dog, new tricks" thing. People who always pay bills on time will probably continue to do so. People who are chronically late will continue that pattern. For this reason, lenders rely heavily on credit scoring to provide insight into a borrower's character and to help assess borrower risk potential.

SCORES

Credit scores represent that statistical probability of the borrower defaulting. For residential purchases, credit scores range from less than 400 (worse) to more than 800 (better). A borrower with a score of less than 600 has a one-in-nine chance of defaulting, while the chance of a borrower scoring just above 700 defaulting is only one in 124.

How many reasons do you need to take care of your credit? Faster mortgage approvals, better interest rates and terms, less paperwork, less stress, larger loan amounts. Even if you currently have some credit blemishes on your record, you should work hard now to re-establish a positive credit record. Even an incremental increase in your credit score can make a huge difference in the mortgage rate and terms available to you.

Give yourself a break. Take care of your credit, because it certainly takes care of you.

Timothy J. Phillips is a mortgage broker and newspaper columnist. You may access his archives at www.HomeQuartersBIZ.com and you may phone him toll free at (866) 369-4516. Homebuyers should always consult a professional for guidance specific to their situation.

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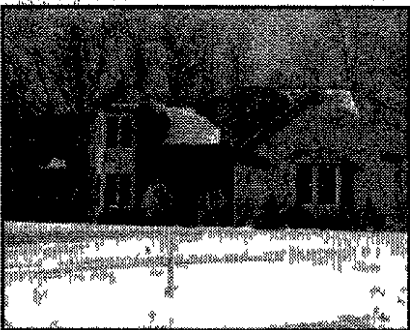
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Totally neutral cape cod n popular development awaits your personal touch! Contemporary and fresh nter or Two story foyer and great room Spacious maple stand kitchen w th f replace Entry level master suite
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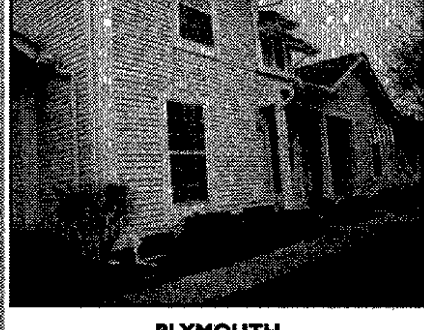
SALEM
Whatever your lifestyle this home s for you 2.2 wooded acres s only minutes from town Pro fess onally finished lower level w/ pub l ke bar and game room nclud ng furniture fin sh built ins TV & aquarium
734-455-6000 85SL-24008589 \$509,000



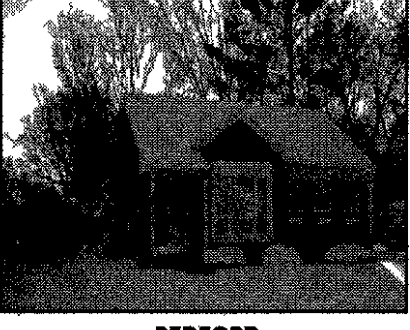
NORTHVILLE
Great location, large lot and contemporary updates make this mirror image duplex in downtown Northville profitable and easy to rent. 3 bedroom townhouse style units with 1213 sq ft. and walk out LL. All appliances
734-455-6000 15/RA-24011099 \$397,000



DEARBORN HEIGHTS
Meticulous best describes this beauty Attention paid to every detail of this Home Paver walk ways in front & back. Welcome to an exquisite interior Updates galore One stop and you too will call it Home
734-455-6000 29/WI-23117500 \$282,900



PLYMOUTH
Walk to everything True walking distance to downtown Plymouth. Clean & neutral T/O New full bath in basement Master w/ cathedral ceiling, WIC & access to bath 2nd floor laundry Great location in complex.
734-455-6000 60AN-24001184 \$187,900



REDFORD
A beautifully built neighborhood only enhances this 3 bedroom brick ranch Updates galore Newer roof C/A, furnace glass block windows kitchen bath solid side entry with full glass storm All this AND much more
734-455-6000 52/SU-24010703 \$135,000

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CANTON
IMMACULATE CANTON QUAD Pack your bags and move right in! Immaculate condition inside and out. 4brms with many updates and custom features. All this on a newly landscaped yard (P82WED) \$239,500



NORTHVILLE
GORGEOUS NORTHVILLE CAPE COD. One year new home featuring premium woodlot cherry cabinets & vaulted ceilings. Must see - priced to sell at \$419,890 (P02CYP)



PLYMOUTH
PRESTIGIOUS BEACON ESTATES Simply gorgeous on nearly an acre! Some features incl skylit screened in porch deep 3-car side entry garage newer roof windows A/C furnace hwdwd flrs The 3 baths have just been re-done (P25BEA) \$397,950



PLYMOUTH
PLYMOUTH POINTE Over 1700 sq ft of living space Living room with gas fireplace and mirrored wall opens to dining area Master bdrm & bath w/vanity area 2nd bdrm has full bath & lg closets FR and 1st flr linen add to the list of treasures \$175,500 (P73DON)



PLYMOUTH
UPDATED PLYMOUTH HOME BACKS TO WOODS Beautiful 4 BR 1.5 BA co onia features Pella patio door to sunroom Andersen windows oak kt FR w/gas tpic ceramic foyer hwdwd flrs Neely landscaped w/sprinklers Prem lot backing to county park (P28PAR) \$226,900



PLYMOUTH
JUST LISTED! LAKE POINTE 3 BR 1.5 BA w/ sharp updates Natural maple kitchen updated bath n maple too Hwdwd in LR & FR Gas fireplace F n rec room n bsmt 2 car att gar Noe yard w/deck! Call today! (P39WIL) \$252,500



CANTON
LOOK AND SEE! A 4 bedroom colonial New kitchen and bath Oak floor's A super bargain (P94HLL) \$199,900



DEARBORN HIGHTS.
EXCEPTIONAL BUNGALOW Mint condition & ready for new owners Full 3 brm 2 full baths brick bungalow w/possible 4th brm Hwdwd under most of carpets lots of upgrades Att 2.5 car gar all on a double lot (P27VER) \$167,900



PLYMOUTH
RIDGWOOD WEST Exceptional home! 4 BR 3.5 BA colonia Meticulous lot Spacious floor plan Formal LR & DR FR w/tpic Fabulous mstr ste Prof fin bsmt W/wet bar and 3rd bath Picturesque setting w/orcle drive Call today! (P12QUA) \$409,900



NORTHVILLE
NORTHVILLE CONDO IN HIGHLAND LAKES Canterbury model w/2 BR 1.5 BA 1200 sq ft Great locat on within community Walks de replacement w/m warranty Newer cabs counter tops and sinks n kit and baths Very clean neat Decor Deck w/privacy fence Access to 3 lakes pool tennis cts & clubhouse (P80QUE) \$159,900



PLYMOUTH
HEART OF DOWNTOWN PLYMOUTH! Well maintained bungalow with finished basement Florida room and garage (P85MAP) \$209,900



WESTLAND
END UNIT CONDO! Sharp affordable 2 BR with all appliances Neutral decor large master w/walk n closet Laundry w/wadded cabinets Close to shopping Immediate occupancy (P90MAN) \$91,900

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Real Estate Briefs features news and notes on professional associations, office activities, upcoming meetings and seminars, new services/products and consumer publications. Write: Real estate briefs, Attn: Keely Kaleski, Observer and Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. Our fax number is (248) 644-1314. Our e-mail address is kkaleski@oehomecomm.net


Home financing
Standard Federal Bank is hosting a free homebuying/financing seminar 10 a.m. to noon Saturday Feb. 14 at the Northstar Development Corporation, 3800 Puritan, Detroit. Upon completion of the seminars, participants will receive certificates entitling them to apply for a mortgage loan under Standard Federal's Community Home Buyer's Program. The program is designed to make home ownership more affordable for people with low to moderate incomes. For more information or to register, call (800) 643-9600 Ext. 22532 or (313) 832-4600 Ext. 128.

Leasing
The Apartment Association of Michigan's Property Management Council hosts The ABCs of Leasing 8:30 p.m. to noon Friday Feb. 13 at the Building Industry Association headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100 in Farmington Hills. Kathleen Mabie, president of Success On Site Inc., will present information to assist property managers in training on site personnel registration, including continental breakfast \$69 for PMC members, \$79 for AAM and BIA members, \$99 for nonmembers and guests. Call (248) 862-1004 to register.




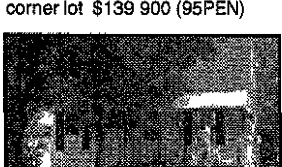

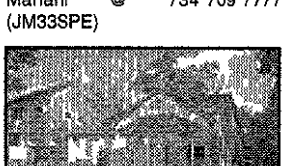


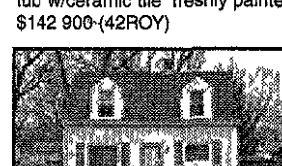
Home Buyer Seminar
Learn what price house you can afford and how your credit history will influence your purchase decisions. 7:30 p.m. Wednesday Feb. 25. Seminar sponsored by Chase Manhattan Mortgage Co. at the Baldwin Public Library, 300 W. Merrill, Birmingham. One block south of Maple west of Old Woodward. No charge. Call (248) 649-1062 Ext. 246 for information.

Real estate careers
Learn how to get a real estate license and what to expect after you complete your education and exam. 6:30 p.m. Tuesday Feb. 17 or Feb. 24 at Real Estate One, 18570 Grand River. Experts share tips and advice on how to build your business and recommend additional education to accelerate your success. No charge. Registration required. Call (313) 273-0800.

Selecting/financing a home
Standard Federal Bank will hold a free home buying seminar on how to select and finance a home 10 a.m. to noon Saturday Feb. 21 at the Detroit Catholic Pastoral Alliance, 5807 McClellan in Detroit. A lending officer will provide tips on the entire home buying process from how to set a housing budget, understanding credit reports, defining home and neighborhood checklist and the mortgage application process. Upon completion, participants will receive certificates entitling them to apply for a mortgage loan under Standard Federal's Community Home Buyer's Program. The program is designed to make home ownership more affordable for people with low to moderate incomes. For more information or to register, call (800) 643-9600 Ext. 22532 or (313) 341-9088.



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 Ann Arbor - Gorgeous 4 bed Colonial backs to wooded nature preserve. Open vaulted ceilings in foyer & F/R. Gas F/P. Sprinklers sound system. 2.5 baths. Bsm't. 2 car garage. Upgraded Trex deck. \$369,900 (91HAR)	 Plymouth - Spectacular 4 bed 2.5 bath Colonial. New carpeting, hot tub on deck, F/P, bsm't. 3 car garage. 3,200 sq ft. Sprinklers. \$489,777. Call Jim Mariani @ 734-709-7777 (JM67HIL)
 Dearborn Hgts - Beautiful 3 bed ranch with almost 1,400 sq ft. Bsm't. 2.5 car garage. Huge L/R with a natural F/P. Newer carpeting, freshly painted, covered ceilings, hwdwd flrs. C/A large corner lot. \$139,900 (95PEN)	 Redford - 3 bed ranch located on a low traffic dead end street. Finished bsm't with a gas fireplace and wet bar. Newer roof and concrete. Shed. 1.5 baths. Home warranty. C/A appliances are negotiable. \$124,900 (92SAL)
 Ferndale - Fabulous 3 bed bungalow. Completely updated! Bsm't. oak kitchen, fenced yard, newer furnace, roof, windows & carpeting. \$139,777. Call Jim Mariani @ 734-709-7777 (JM33SPE)	 Livonia - Charming 3 bed 1.5 bath brick ranch. Bsm't. 2 car garage, newer roof, windows, doors, C/A home warranty. 1,100 sq ft. \$184,800. Call Barb Martin @ 734-525-4200 (BM20HUB)
 Genoa - Sandy beach lakefront ranch. 2 car garage. 2 baths. Vaulted oak ceilings, marble flrs, jetted tub. 20 ft bow window over looking lake. Private lot, walk to golf course, newer seawall, sprinklers. \$339,900 (60BLA)	 Northville - Prestigious Stone water offers this 4 bed home with a finished walkout on Teal Lake w/ boat dock. 3 F/P's, sunroom off nook w/doorwall leading to deck, crown moldings & much more! \$1,025,000 (54PAP)
 Redford - Remodeled 3 bed 2 bath brick bungalow. Bsm't. fenced yard, brick C/A, newer kitchen, cabinets & counters, neutral carpet, windows, garage door, bathroom tub w/ceramic tile, freshly painted. \$142,900 (42ROY)	 Redford - Charming 3 bed bungalow. Deck with a 6 person hot tub. 2.5 car garage, fenced yard, appliances stay, cute front porch. Newer roof, siding, windows, electrical services, bathroom carpeting. \$94,900 (56INK)

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 LIVONIA SCHOOLS Westland ranch with 3 bedrooms and 1.5 baths in the Livonia school district. Mostly hardwood floors, full basement, 2.5 car garage and a maintenance free brick and stone exterior. Great opportunity at a nice price. \$140,000 (846AN)	 CURB APPEAL PLUS fantastic location in South Lyon within walking distance to the downtown area. 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, first class brick ranch. Formal living & dining finished basement with wet bar and fireplace. Situated on a country sized lot. \$234,500 (580CH)	 LOOKING FOR A BARGAIN? 4BR/2.5BA Colonial in popular Livonia sub needs a new owner. 2200 square feet with formal living and dining rooms, large family room w/fireplace, hardwood floors, sprinkler system, basement and garage. \$264,900 (423KN)	 EASY LIVING Ranch condo in popular Lilley Pointe with 2 beds & 2 baths. Upgraded newer carpet, T/O Italian ceramic tile, new fireplace and doorwall to deck, appliances & open floor plan. Private entry. Pets welcomed. N of Cherry Hill S of Ford Rd E of Morton Taylor W of Lilley.	 NEW CANTON RANCH Sharp 3 bedroom ranch on a premium court location. Great room w/ fireplace and doorwall to deck. Country kitchen with appliances, central air, basement attached. 2 car garage, new vinyl windows and more. \$199,900 (375SA)	 PRETTY CHARMER Canton 4 bedroom, 2.5 baths. Flex room adjoining foyer could be an office. Master suite with vaulted ceiling & WIC. Modern kitchen with hardwood flooring & nook. C/A, sprinkler system, paver patio, satellite dish. Super find at this price! \$279,900 (640SH)	 NORTHVILLE END UNIT Great room w/fireplace, private study, 2 large bedrooms with baths, kitchen w/extra cabinets, pantry & ceramic floor. Dining w/new Andersen doorwall to deck. Professionally finished daylight LL. Attached 2 car garage. All perfectly located in a golf course community. \$284,900 (329BR)
 IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY Sharp 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1st floor condo in Canton. Only 1 year old with an open floor plan, many upgrades and lots of storage space. 1,400 square feet with a garage and the appliances will stay. \$178,900 (192BE)	 STUNNING PULTE ASPEN Like new brick colonial with 4 bedrooms and 3.5 baths. Beautifully finished lower level, 3 season sun room, oak kitchen and neutral decor throughout this 2,530 square foot home. Impeccable! \$329,900 (148PA)	 OPEN THE DOOR To comfort plus value in this sparkling 4BR/2.5BA colonial. Formal living/dining open and elegant floor plan with striking cathedral ceilings, family room w/fireplace plus a master suite fit for royalty. Act quickly on this one! \$344,900 (495NI)	 MICHIGAN'S SMALLEST TOWNSHIP Sprawling ranch on over an acre w/4 BDRMS, 3 BA in an area known for its towering pines, winding roads & abundant wildlife. Gigantic FR with fireplace opens to a renovated kitchen & breakfast bar. 1st floor laundry, neutral t/o, new septic field, circular drive. \$379,000 (040WY)	 BEAUTIFUL END UNIT Great Northville location short walk to downtown. 3 beds, 2.5 baths and 2,132 sq ft. Living room w/cathedral ceiling & fireplace. Kitchen w/doorwall to private deck. Master bath w/jetted tub. Partially fin LL w/bar & separate workshop. A must see. \$314,900 (224ST)	 CLEAN AND READY TO MOVE INTO Priced under \$160K in Northville. Featuring 2 large bedrooms, 1.5 baths, a natural fireplace in the living room, partly fin basement, all appls stay ready for immediate occupancy. Close to the clubhouse, pool, beach and lake. Great Opportunity. \$149,900 (290NO)	 LEXINGTON CONDOS OF NORTHVILLE Beautifully maintained and updated! 3 level condo with 3BR/2BA and 2 half baths! Updated granite island kitchen, great room with fireplace, finished walkout basement, 1st floor laundry, attached 2-car garage and many extras! \$219,900 (948NE)
 A MUST SEE You'll appreciate this custom ranch built in 92 with 3 bedrooms and 2 full baths. Spacious open floor plan, nice master suite. Beautiful landscaping features 2 ponds. A show piece. \$234,999 (454BO)	 BRAND NEW INSIDE! Wonderful open floor plan and totally updated 3 bedroom Cape Cod. Remodeled kitchen and bath, new carpet, freshly painted, newer furnace, plumbing electrical and the list goes on and on! Lake privileges on Williams Lake. \$135,900 (326HA)	 LEASE IN LIVONIA Super clean 3 bedroom ranch in a great neighborhood with much sought after Livonia Schools! White kitchen, A/C, hardwood floors, newer Berber carpet and fresh neutral paint. Lots of storage space with a fenced yard and carport. \$1050 per month.	 CHARMING COLONIAL Situated on a premium lot with a nice view. Livonia Schools. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths with 1,700 square feet. Newer carpet, T/O 1st floor laundry and an open floor plan. Nicely landscaped with a sprinkler system. \$239,900 (102TI)	 NORTHVILLE S HIGHLAND LAKES! Spacious condo backs to a commons & close to elementary. 2 huge bedrooms w/Jack & Jill bath. Formal LR & family room w/frp/c fin bsm't, updated windows & baths, freshly painted kit w/appl's & Pergo floor. Private fenced patio area. \$160,900 (955SC)	 NORTHVILLE CONDO Long time owner has maintained this end unit. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, condo meticulously. Kitchen with oak cabinetry, hardwood floors, master bath with private bath and walk in closet. Close to the beach, clubhouse and pool. \$174,900 (500LA)	 TRUE COMFORT AWAIT! Spotless 3 bedroom colonial with a large family room w/fireplace, expansive country style kitchen, generous sized bedrooms, ceramic bath, updated carpeting, windows and roof. Maintenance free exterior make this a joy to own! \$219,900 (096LE)



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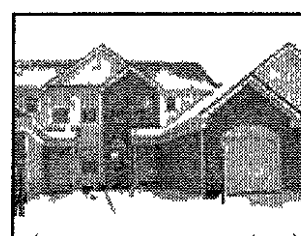
PLYMOUTH
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LIVONIA
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ANN ARBOR \$399,000
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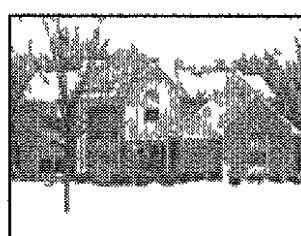
BELLEVILLE \$154,900
Beautiful Condo! Hickory Wood is where you will fall in love w/this well priced perfectly located 2BR 1 5BA condo backing to picturesque pond Fabulous kit w/appl incl Ful bsmt Hurry! BGP 451ro 888 870 9127



BERKLEY \$159,900
3 bdrm 1 bath Ranch Updates Inc Kitch Newer Carpet Copper Plumbing Windows covered Ceilings In LR Newer Stove & Refr Inc Lrg 1st Flr Laund/uti Built In Cabinetry Cov Frnt Porch 2+ Car Gar W/alum Sdg OEL73WIL 888 870 9105



BRIGHTON \$820,000
Luxury Abounds In Builders Own Custom Built Colonial 4 Bdrms 5 1/2 Baths Prof fin W/O Bsmt Custom Paneling & Moldings T/O All Season Sunroom 3 Fp 33x15 Country Kit W/hearth Rm Inground Pool 3+car Garage OEL35URB 888 870 9105



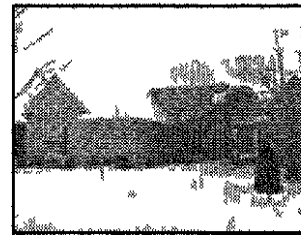
CANTON \$469,900
5 acres of treed property Ranch with finished W/O Stream pond pole barn workshop Abundance of wildlife surrounds this truly delightful setting! A must see property! (OEP 00CAN) 888 870 9127



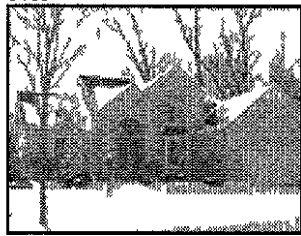
CANTON \$433,000
Truly special home Gorgeous private wooded setting Gourmet kit & nook Two story fam rm which is open & airy Lux master w/fash bath Formal din rm Great views Must see! (OEP 53MUJ) 888 870 9127



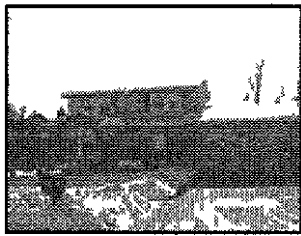
CANTON \$379,900
Fabulous Home on Awesome Lot! Backing to wooded commons 3 Season room w/skylights to enjoy the seasons Open floor plan 1st flr den & laundry Huge master suite w/dual fireplace (BGN54W00) 888 870 9123



CANTON \$369,900
Summit & Parks! Augusta style cape cod on semi private int setting Spac kit & nook First floor study Great rm w/gas FP Lux 1st flr mast ste w/true fashion bath 3 car gar Must see! BGP 55Gie 888 870 9127



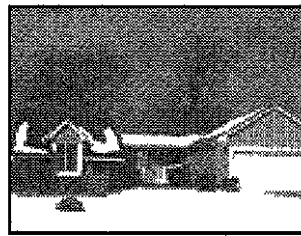
CANTON \$329,900
This One is Turn Key 3BR 2 1BA Cape Cod Lux 1st flr mast ste w/vaulted cigs fash bath w/skylight Dramatic GR w/2 skylights Spac kit w/under cbrt lighting & w/pantry 20x14 cedar deck BGP 73Con 888 870 9127



CANTON \$249,900
Immaculate Brick Colonial! 4 BR 2 1/2 Ba w/HW entry & oak staircase w/view of formal LR & DR Kit has new cabinets counter sink & flooring & is open to breakfast area Newer win furnace & CA BGP 15Gre 888 870 9127



CANTON \$244,900
2 Bedroom 2 5 Bath Brick Condo In Golf Course Community W/pool Doorwalks To Lg Deck Overlooking Woods & Natural Pond Master Ste W/cathedral Ceiling W/Cc & Jetted Tub Full Basement 2 Car Double Door Garage OEL76HOG 888 870 9105



CANTON \$219,900
Enjoy one level living w/open floor plan No maintenance exterior Freshly painted interior New laminate floor in kit & foyer New carpet & new oak kitchen Mst bath Full bsmt (OEP 34HAN) 888 870 9127



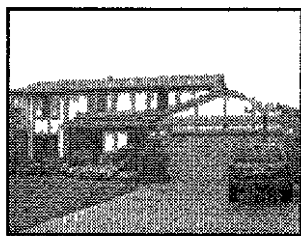
DETROIT \$77,900
A Spacious Home 5 Bedrooms! Being Offered At A Steal! 9 Ceilings Hardwood Floors! New Furnace! Built In Cabinets! Updated Bathrooms! Freshly Painted! New Windows! New Blinds! OEL40ELM 888 870 9105



Photo #5151110
DETROIT \$68,000
Darling 3 br bungalow! Partially finished bsmt Kitchen has been updated and has ceramic tile newer roof electrical circuits 3 ceiling fans Freshly paint Great landscaping (BGSly14BUR) 888 870 9131



FARMINGTON \$250,000
It's all about Lifestyle! Walk to downtown Farmington school & library in cub! Updated ranch w/add bdrm & full bath in bsmt Private 1/3 acre lot w/oversized deck (BGN170AK) 888 870-9123



FARMINGTON HILLS \$300,000
Well Maintained Updated Colonial! 4br 2 5 bath sharp! W/a cul de sac location on a lg private lot Many updates all neutral decor finished basement 1st floor office (BGN15CHE) 888 870 9123



FARMINGTON HILLS \$271,900
Great 4br Family Colonial! in popular Lincolnshire! Backs to school play area large family room rec room w/wet bar lots of storage everywhere! Patio w/awning! Great value! (BGN27LYN) 888 870 9123



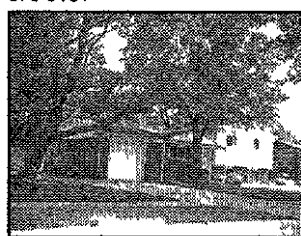
FARMINGTON HILLS \$179,800
Welcome Home! This 4br brick home has everything you want in a home Family rm w/rpl finished bsmt 2 5 car garage fenced yard w/deck & brick patio (BGN46ONT) 888-870 9123



FERNDALE \$199,900
Need Space? Over 2000 sq ft & 3 full baths Hdwd floors huge mbr w/jet tub AC 2 fireplaces & full basement 2 car garage New roof furnace & hwh (BGN30PIN) 888 870 9123



GREGORY \$235,000
10 3 acres pole barn w/cement floor and elec! Over 3000 sq ft home plus large garage/workshop! This home is 3 bedrooms 2 baths walkout Come take a look Great price! Motivated seller! (BGSly75GRE) 888 870 9131



LIVONIA \$193,000
Tidy Neutral Updated Home! W/275 ft frontage w/v view of city golf club Updates include roof windows carpet a/c on private rear yard w/no neighboring property there Home Warranty (BGN30COU) 888 870 9123



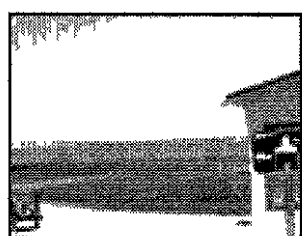
LIVONIA \$184,999
Brick Ranch w/Great Value! This buyers choice has newer roof & vny wndws Copper plumbing fu basement & spacous 2 car garage Easy access to highways (BGN65HIX) 888 870 9123



LIVONIA \$169,500
The Word Awesome fits this Home 3b 1 5 bath finished basement w/wetba & so much more waits for you Professionaly landscaped yard w/deck A must see Many updates (BGN10HAT) 888 870 9123



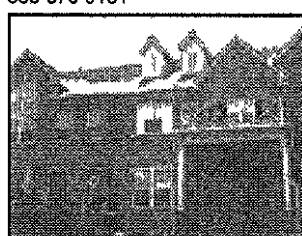
LIVONIA \$165,000
Great Investment Opportunity in N W Livonia Man house offers 3 bedrooms & 2 baths Apartment ove garage offers 1 bedroom & 1 bath Both cty cer fed (BGN35WES) 888 870 9123



MACKINAW \$990,000
Motel and resort 365 ft on Huron 11+ acres 50% developed Bldge & s and vews 24 units 4RV app oved for 25 many etu n customers Land con ract 15 years for present owners (BGSly46US2) 888 870 9131



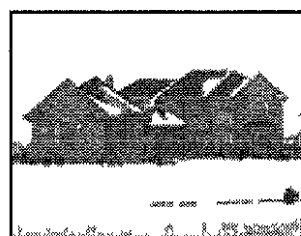
NORTHVILLE TWP \$599,900
4 bdrm 2 5 bath located on a private 2 15 acre settng Gourmet kt & rook w/hdvd frs & str m Lux 1st flr mas ste w/fash bath 3 car sde entry ga Northv le ma address 888 870 9127



NORTHVILLE TWP \$233,900
Beautifully decorated 2 BR condo has first floor master gas FP w/remote Corair counter custom w/ndow treatments many upgrades A appliances stay (OEP 67SPR) 888 870 9127



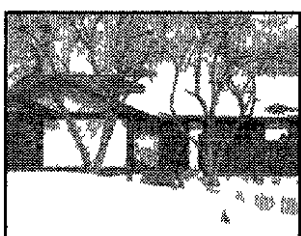
OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4
PLYMOUTH \$497,500
New const on small lake w/stonecast FP cherry cbnt granite cnts Custom mlds & trim Brazilian hdwd frs Ceramic BA & laundry 4BR 2 5BA daylight bsmt Available in Nov (BGP 76I0R) 888 870 9127



PLYMOUTH \$459,900
Stunning! 4 bdrm 3 1/2 bath colonial in Plymouth's Rolling Oaks 3 1/2 Car Gar 1st Flr Lib Ktchn W/ctr Islnd hdwd Frs In Kit foyer & Powder Mstr Ste w/sep Dress Area Lg WIC Closet Mstr Bath W/jtd Tub Sep Shwr Prof Fin Bsmt OEL65HIL 888 870 9105



PLYMOUTH \$419,900
Be one with Nature on 2 6 Wooded Acres! Huge kitchen & informal dining room Lrg great room w/cozy fireplace Andresen windows new siding many upgrades Hurry on this beauty (BGN64MAR) 888 870 9123



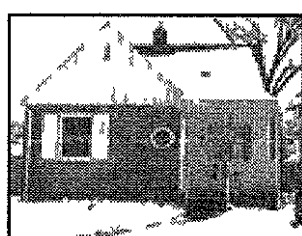
PLYMOUTH \$124,900
2 bdrm 1 bath condo in Bradbury Updates Inc Windows "89" Hwh 89 Dishwasher 03 Glass Doorwall Newer Roof Large Master Bedroom Private Brick Patio & Finished Bsmnt \$1000 Carpet Allowance Home Warranty OEL02NEW 888 870 9105



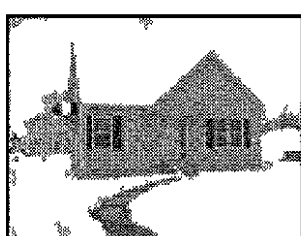
PLYMOUTH \$99,900
Private setting & spacious oversized 3 BR 1 1 BA ranch Built in pool LR & DR FR w/natural fireplace Updated kitchen Gigantic BR's Wallside windows Fabulous park across street (OEP 64BRE) 888 870 9127



REDFORD \$99,900
Many Updates 3 Bdrm Vinyl Sided Bung Kit W/all App Formal DR Newer Cop Plumb Hieff Furn & C/A & Roof Bsmnt W/Glass Blk Wind One Year Home Warranty OEL31KEE 888 870 9105



ROYAL OAK \$184,900
Move right in! Great 3 br bungalow Loads of updates including roof kitchen windows furnace & central air Freshly painted and newly finished hardwood floors (BGSly13ALE) 888 870 9131



SALEM \$164,900
Adorable new construction in small town atmosphere yet close to everything! Bungalow w/open floor plan 3 brms 1 5 bath Estimated completion March (BGSly59MCF) 888 870 9131



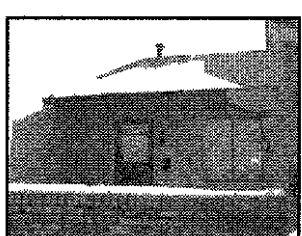
SALEM \$159,900
Unbelievable but true! New construction at this price 3 brs 1 1/2 bath 1st floor laundry Located in small town that's growing fast (BGSly71MCF) 888 870 9131



SALEM \$130,000
Excellent opportunity! Own your own home Handy man special located in small town that's growing fast Great location in area of new homes (BGSly84EUC) 888 870 9131



SOUTH LYON \$149,000
Prime Location 2 50 acres Recent perk Ready to build Improvement Gas & electric zoned residential Just bring your plans (BGSlyVLNIN) 888 870 9131



SOUTH LYON \$102,900
55+ adult coop End unit with gated crtyrd entry freshly painted cathedral ceilings lots of windows finished basement Florida room nice community with pool clubhouse & more! (BGSly89PT) 888 870 9131



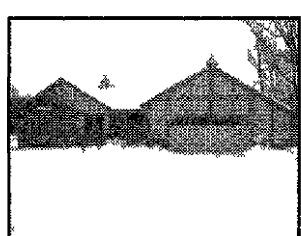
SOUTH LYON \$79,900
Clean and well maintained updated Co op 55+! Nice open floor plan! Newer kitchen newer carpet freshly painted Basement offers 3rd bedroom and family room! (BGSly26FRA) 888 870 9131



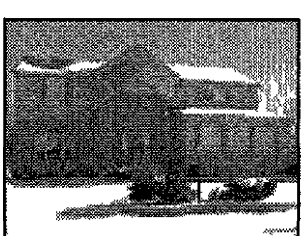
TROY \$179,900
2 bdrms 1 1/2 bath condo New kitchen w/maple cabs granite counter & stainless steel appliances Updated baths w/all fixtures granite counter & ceramic fir Ceramic flooring in foyer ktchn & powder rm new neutral carpet New wndws OEL13BRE 888 870 9105



TYRONETWP \$389,900
3 Bdrm 2 1/2 Bath Brck Ranch GR W/rpl & Doorwall Island Ktchn W/rplc Hickory cabs & Ceramic flooring Formal Dr W/12 Ceiling Lg full bsmt 3 car att gar & A 3 Car Det Heated Gar W/office & work area 30 X 14 Conc Pad For RV (OEL00LIN) 888 870 9105



WATERFORD \$410,000
Spectacular all sports lakefront on 11 acres! Over 3 000 sq ft including walk/out level Over \$35 000 in updates Maple kitchen w/conan counters cherry wood floors 6 br 3 5 ba (BGSly45VAL) 888-870 9131



WAYNE \$309,900
Absolutely Gorgeous! Better than new this home has it all huge kitchen w/oak cabinets & center island dining rm w/cathedral ceilings family rm w/rpl Truly a must see (BGN23TAN) 888 870 9123



WESTLAND \$184,900
Updated 4 Bdrm 2 Ba Colonial W/ Livonia Schools Updates Furn C/A Windows Carpeting Landscaping Entry Doors And Glass Block Windows Lg Bdrms W/WVIC Year Round Enclosed Porch Oak Kitchen W/Hdwd Frs OEL13JOU 888 870 9105



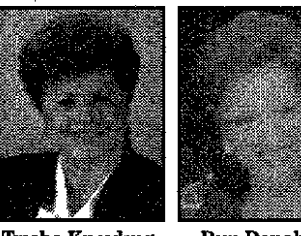
WESTLAND \$161,200
End Unit Condo! 2bdrm 1 5 bath berber carpeting new entry leaded glass dr 4 yr old kitchen counters Impeccable! Fin bsmt new doorwall to 15x12 deck All appl stay 1 car gar (BGN01RVV) 888 870 9123



WESTLAND \$144,900
3 Bdrm Ranch W/ New Vinyl Siding Perfectly Located On A Low Traffic Cul de sac! FR C/A Oak Cabinets In Kitchen 1st flr laund New Entry Doors & Two Car Detached Garage All Appliances Stay OEL48HUN 888 870 9105



WEST BLOOMFIELD \$315,000
Located At The End Of The Ct Updates Roof Siding Windows & Doorwalls Mstr Bath W/Garden Tub Separate Shwr & Double Sinks All Bdrms & Kitchen W/Ceiling Fans Pergo Floor In Lr Dr Foyer Kitchen Huge Deck A/C OEL00POP 888 870 9105



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Deadline: THURSDAY PAPER.....5:30PM Tuesday



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If you missed our regular Tuesday deadline for Thursday's publication, you can now call us 'til Wednesday at 11am and place your ad in our 'Too Late To Classified' Section.
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3000's Real Estate. List of properties with addresses and prices.

Van Buren Twp OPEN SUN Feb 15 2 4pm. 47114 Ruthan! S/Huron River Dr. 5/Elwell Built in 2000! 2400 sq ft 4 beds 2.5 baths bsmt attached garage plus a 25 acre lot. Van Buren taxes! Only \$274,900!

BEVERLY HILLS PRICED TO SELL! 4 Bedroom 3.5 bath immaculate on a w/ th MANY UPDATES & EXTRAS. 3000 sq ft \$495,000. 248 342 3190.

OPEN SUN 1 5 1088 S Bates St. BEAUTIFUL 3 bedroom 2 1/2 bath french colonial with contemporary flair. Suited for the professional or executive who desires a heart of Birmingham location. Special apps incl 3 fireplaces french doors/windows front veranda porch. Remodeled kitchen \$669,500. 248 647 4880.

\$2000 Move in Bonus! to Purchaser. Better than new Huron Model in Cherry Hill Village offering over \$2000 in upgrades! 4 bed 2.5 bath brick colonial immediate occupancy. CENTURY 21 PREMIER (734) 453-4300. 44958 Ford Rd Canton.

GREAT HOME SUPER PRICE on this 2100 sq ft 4 bed 2 1/2 bath colonial situated on a spectacular commons lot w new windows furnace roof gas obo 40 acres of walking trails fishing ponds & commons. bck w/1 rep ace & mc e. CALL KEN GENTLE. Quality GMAC (734) 542-2538 or CELL (734) 968-7213.

HOT! HOT! HOT! HOMES IN THE HILLS. 2 ACRES. Gorgeous 2 acre parcel w/river frontage & terraced gardens surrounding on quiet 3.19 acre lot. 3 bed 3 1/2 bath hilltop ranch living room w/ fireplace formal dining room & family room w/replace kitchen w/pantry & appliances. Master suite w/private deck. Finished walk out lower level w/2nd kitchen. C/A 2 car garage. Many updates. (H1260).

AFFORDABLE. Lovely 4 bed 1.5 bath Colonial Living room family room w/door wall to patio. Kitchen w/ nook & all appliances. Finished bsmt w/rec room. Hardwood floors under carpet. C/A 2 car side entry garage. Fenced yard w/many perennials. (P2130).

STARTER HOME! IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY. On nearly an acre 2 bed 2 bath. Most appliances stay. Bsmt. Many updates. (DA280).

JUST LISTED! Spacious 3 bedroom 1.5 bath home sitting on 2 pretty acres. Features nice living room with new carpet, convenient kitchen has the countertops breakfast bar and pantry. Large family room with vaulted ceiling and doorwall to deck and private backyard. Newer windows 2 car garage central air and more. Oakland County Fenton Schools \$192,900. ENGLAND REAL ESTATE 888 211 9560 810 632 7427.

FANTASTIC. 3 bed home with a full bsmt remodeled kitchen Florida room newer windows & roof on a large lot \$134,900.

UPDATES GALORE. In this totally remodeled 3 bed home with a beautiful kitchen 1 1/2 baths dining room on a deep lot \$124,900.

CENTURY 21 CASTELLI (734) 525 7900. Serving the area for 28 yrs.

FHA/VA Terms! 3 bed brick ranch on cul de sac 2 baths finished bsmt C/A fenced yard & garage \$139,900. CENTURY 21 PREMIER (734) 453 4300. 44958 Ford Rd Canton.

INSIDE & OUT! Simply lovely! Comfortable well built home on peaceful 10 acre county setting with stocked pond! Home includes 4 bedrooms 3 1/2 baths great room w/replace convenient kitchen large deck off din g area finished walkout basement with doorwall to covered patio 3 car attached garage and Hartland Schools \$435,000. ENGLAND REAL ESTATE 888 211 9560 810 632 7427.

BRICK BEAUTY 3 bed ranch new Marlette kitchen bath & carpeting 17 lam y oom fu bsmt 2 car garage E Z terms thru Dave on y \$154,900. RE/MAX Cass c 334 417 7879 734 432 1010.

BRICK RANCH 6/LEVAN 1300 Sq ft recently remodeled Family room w/gas fireplace Kitchen includes a appliances 3 bed room 1.5 bath 2 car attached garage professional landscaped bck driveway & walk Peia w n downs \$239,000. Call for appt (734) 464 4074.

BRICK BEAUTY 3 bed ranch w/vaulted ceilings, fireplace, master suite, two-tier deck finished bsmt \$189,900.

Livonia-28505 Clarita. Newer coast. Built in 2002, 3 bedrooms, basement, 1 bath large lot. Livonia schools \$144,900.

Livonia-9804 E. Clement Circle. Fabulous 3 bdrms brick ranch loaded w/appliances, Mechanics 2.5 car garage, huge lot \$174,900.

Livonia-8662 Fremont. Absolute doll house! Completely re-modeled 2 bdrms 1.5 bath. Must see to believe! \$129,900.

INVESTMENT STARTER. OPEN SUN 1 4 19759 Inkster Road 3 bedroom ranch freshly painted new carpet utility room fenced yard \$114,500. 248 626 9093.

LARGE 3 bed 2.5 bath brick ranch 2 car attached garage Large 1 1/2 story shed Huge finished bsmt w/2nd family room & bar + 2 additional bedrooms. Updates furnace a/c water heater roof vinyl trim gutters carpet & paint. Parking for 9 cars Stevenson area Absolute move in cond Immediate Occupancy \$299,000. (810) 794 9156.

SELL IT ALL WITH Observer & Eccentric 1-800-579-SELL

Century 21 Chalet. SAHAR OAOISII. FARMINGTON HILLS 5 BR 2.5 bath home on 1/2 acre w/ steam HW floors newer roof & paint. Kit has w/ pantry formal LR & DR. Huge 5th BR cou be home office or playroom. Northville Home Warranty provided \$320,000.

REDFORD 3 BR bungalow w/bsmt & one car gar. Newer windows furn. HW floor. copper plumbing HW floor under carpet. Close to elem school. New front steel entry door & storm. One year home warranty \$115,900.

DETROIT 2 k bdrms 2 full baths could be used as two fam ly. All updated w/ European custom cabinets & countertops. Beautiful marble top skylight n upper bedroom. All freshly painted. Everything is done \$83,000.

LIVONIA Well cared for Livonia brick ranch. Great ne ghborhood. Close to park and schools. Updated w/ windows and roof (tear off) 3 BR s 1.5 bath full bsmt and 2 car garage all for only \$177,500.

DETROIT Excu s tely remodeled inside and out. New kitchen w/ceramic tile new carpet windows roof fur HWH and C/A. Spacious master suite. Absolutely breathtaking \$86,000.

WESTLAND Livon a school! Spacious 3 BR 1.5 bath cond. Newer oak kitchen with appliances. Attached garage. Nice size deck w/private fence. Semi finished basement \$154,900.

REDFORD 3 BR bungalow w/bsmt & one car gar. Newer windows furn. HW floor. copper plumbing HW floor under carpet. Close to elem school. New front steel entry door & storm. One year home warranty \$115,900.

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3900-3980 Commercial/Industrial. List of properties with addresses and prices.

3000-3890 Real Estate For Sale. List of properties with addresses and prices.

3000-3890 Real Estate For Sale. List of properties with addresses and prices.

West Bloomfield OPEN SUNDAY 1 4 PM 3552 Bloomfield Shore Walkout Ranch on Bloomfield Lake. *REDUCED \$38,000 TO \$549,000* Dynamite 4 bed 3 1/2 bath brick ranch living room and dining room w/lake views kitchen w/high end appliances family room w/fireplace & doorwall to deck. Master w/walk in closet plus newer marble bath finished walkout LL has 5th BR BA GR exercise room & 2nd kitchen Bloomfield Hills schools. ASK FOR SANDY NORMAN 248 283 2227. Century 21 Today 6755 Telegraph Blvd Hills.

BRIGHTON/HOWELL 1800 sq ft homes on 1/2 acre lots. Great location paved streets sidewalks sewers golf & boating. Builders closeout hurry only 6 lots left \$180,000 \$220,000 Liberty Homes 810 225 8944.

THE PERFECT SPOT! 1 acre paved road easy expressway access! Wonderful 2130 sq ft 1 1/2 story home offers 3 bedrooms 3.5 baths main floor master suite main floor living and family room formal dining room finished walkout basement with kitchenette area bonus room over garage! Don't miss this house! Brighton Schools \$279,900! ENGLAND REAL ESTATE 888 211 9560 810 632 7427.

For the best auto classifications check out the Observer & Eccentric Newspaper. It's all about RESULTS!

Century 21 Today (248) 955-2000 www.century21today.com

3 BEDROOM 2 Car Garage Many Updates Land Contract SUPPORTING REALTY 734 459 8400

Garden City 3170

Garden City-1146 Harrison 3 bdrms brick ranch w/finished bsmt, 2 car attached garage. A must see! \$154,900.

Garden City-3221 Alvin 3 bdrms brick beauty Very clean! huge deck & above ground Pool. Seller motivated. \$129,900.

Garden City-3271 Barton 3 bdrms, 1.5 ba fireplace in fam rm. Priced below mkt \$2,000.00 paint & carpet allowance. \$145,900.

Help-U-Sell REAL ESTATE (734) 454-9535. COME VISIT US AT OUR NEW REAL ESTATE & MORTGAGE OFFICE COMPLEX IN CANTON LOCATED AT 7120 N HAGGERTY ROAD. EMAIL: HOMES@HUSHOMES.COM & VISIT US AT WWW.HUSHOMES.COM

AVAILABLE HOMES. Westland-38436 Palmer. Sprawling 3 bdrms ranch w/huge LR & FR w/riat fireplace 1+ acre, 3 car gar. \$209,900.

Westland-1290 Shoemaker (condo). Stunning 2 bdrms, 2 ba Condo skylights & deck for entertaining. Backs to woods \$114,900.

Westland-33511 Hively. 1 1/2 acre lot, 2 bdrms, huge great room w/vaulted ceiling round kitchen & ba, w/updated tub \$144,000.

Westland 37668 Butler. 2 bdrms ranch w/vaulted ceilings, fireplace, master suite, two-tier deck finished bsmt \$189,900.

Livonia-28505 Clarita. Newer coast. Built in 2002, 3 bedrooms, basement, 1 bath large lot. Livonia schools \$144,900.

Livonia-9804 E. Clement Circle. Fabulous 3 bdrms brick ranch loaded w/appliances, Mechanics 2.5 car garage, huge lot \$174,900.

Livonia-8662 Fremont. Absolute doll house! Completely re-modeled 2 bdrms 1.5 bath. Must see to believe! \$129,900.

New Boston 36346 N Jean Drive. Eagle Estates built in 1997 3 bedrooms, pool, deck, 3 car garage, 3,200 SQFT \$369,900.

Detroit-5758 Ogden. Solid 3 bedroom bungalow basement, garage newer furnace & roof. \$70,000.

Westland-1290 Shoemaker (condo). Stunning 2 bdrms, 2 ba Condo skylights & deck for entertaining. Backs to woods \$114,900.

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Detroit-5758 Ogden. Solid 3 bedroom bungalow basement, garage newer furnace & roof. \$70,000.

Detroit-15032 Maddalena. Great rental potential. Land contract terms available \$64,900.

Detroit-19389 Woodford. 2 bdrms brick home Land contract terms available \$75,000.

Detroit-6422 Auburn St. Beautiful 3 bdrms bungalow, fin basement, deti upstairs garage, updated throughout \$114,900.

Detroit-6332 Woodmont. 3 bdrms brick ranch, basement, garage, new wip downs refinished oak floors C/A. \$94,900.

Detroit-8614 Northlawn. 2 bdrms brick home Basement 1 car det garage Land contract terms available. \$65,900.

Detroit-15032 Maddalena. Great rental potential. Land contract terms available \$64,900.

Detroit-19389 Woodford. 2 bdrms brick home Land contract terms available \$75,000.

Detroit-6422 Auburn St. Beautiful 3 bdrms bungalow, fin basement, deti upstairs garage, updated throughout \$114,900.

Detroit-6332 Woodmont. 3 bdrms brick ranch, basement, garage, new wip downs refinished oak floors C/A. \$94,900.

Detroit-8614 Northlawn. 2 bdrms brick home Basement 1 car det garage Land contract terms available. \$65,900.

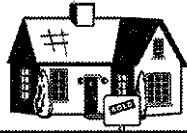
REAL ESTATE CAREER INTERVIEWS WEDNESDAYS 6:30 PM

REDFORD Sparkling clean & well maintained 3 BR brick ranch w/ 5 baths HW 1 1/2 story bsmt & much more. Nice neighborhood and ready to move into \$150,000.

LIVONIA This one has it all! Major updates incl fur c/a HWH roof drive Kitchen & DR & GR all open Kitchen prof. redone. Huge mstr BR w/walk in closet & bath. Much more \$299,000.

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Livonia 3250
IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY on this 2628 sq. ft. colonial w/ walk out basement 3 car side entry garage heavy wooded lot w/ creek new roof fieldstone fireplace circular drive 3.5 baths den & tons more
WHAT A HOME on this 2198 sq. ft. 4 bed 3 bath vinyl sided cape cod situated on a 65 x 300 lot completely rebuilt in 1991 2 1/2 car garage plus a 12 x 10 cedar fence around rear yard & much more CALL KEN GENTILE Quality GMAC (734) 542 2538 or CELL (734) 968 7213

LIVONIA 3250
4 bed 3.5 bath colonial offers great room w/ fireplace 1 bryary dining room laundry room master bath w/ jacuzzi & separate shower bed 2 w/ full bath & bed 3 & 4 w/ Jack & Jill bath + finished basement & 2 car garage \$424 900
Charlotte Jacunski (734) 377-3282
CENTURY 21 ROW (734) 464 7111
Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL(7355)

LIVONIA 3250
Custom built 4 bedroom 2.5 bath great room ranch w/ dining room family room master bath w/ garden tub & separate shower plus finished basement w/ office \$389 900
Charlotte Jacunski (734) 377 3282
CENTURY 21 ROW (734) 464 7111

Milford 3260
WONDERFUL 4 bedroom 3.5 bath colonial built in 2000 w/ th 5708 sq. ft. on private Lake Milford Hardwood floors in kitchen with cherry cabinets and granite Many many extras \$675 000 (31EX)
MAJESTIC & SERENE Hilltop estate in Mystic Hills Estates finest quality in the 7900 sq. ft. of living space Spectacular 25' tall entrance w/ marble floor A luxurious home! \$1 950 000 (29FO)
Century 21 Hartford South 734 464 6400 www.cent21.biz

Plymouth 3347
COLONIAL 4 bed 3.5 bath Master suite w/ gas fireplace 2 story great room w/ 2 way fireplace and lots of windows for natural lighting \$539 000
CALL JOHANNA WOODARD
REMERICA HOMETOWN 44523 Ann Arbor Rd Plymouth
CONTEMPORARY 4 bed 4 full bath 2 half bath Soft gray interior soaring windows white ash wood floors and railings \$2 395 000
CALL JOHANNA WOODARD
REMERICA HOMETOWN 44523 Ann Arbor Rd Plymouth

Redford 3350
REDFORD \$169 900
On lg treed country lot 4 bed brick bungalow w/ finished bsmt Livng room w/ fireplace Dining room Many ceiling fans Storage++ 2 Porches Oversized 2 car garage Fenced yard (FA120)
\$149 900
South Redford 3 bed 1.5 bath brick ranch w/ extended front porch Living room & dining room have hardwood floors Finished bsmt w/ dry bar C/A Garage lg backyard w/ built in BBQ Satellite dish Newer roof & windows (C0332)
\$115 000
Lovely 3 bed ranch has living room dining room & kitchen w/ all appliances Part finished bsmt has rec room Deck overlooks new privacy fenced yard Updates newer roof shingles windows hot water heater & new electr c box (GR113)
Century 21 Today (734) 462 9800 www.century21today.com

Royal Oak 3370
ROYAL OAK \$223,900
Completely updated 3 bed colonial within walking distance of downtown Foyer w/ French doors adjoins living room w/ brick fireplace Formal dining room Updated kitchen Hardwood floors thru out Doorwall opens to wood deck that overlooks lg backyard (FA515)
\$172,750
Tastefully decorated 3 bed 1.5 bath bungalow Formal dining room w/ bay window Updated kitchen w/ newer granite floor Refinished hardwood floors Finish ed bsmt Updates include newer roof windows copper plumbing furn ace & more! (ED201)
Century 21 Today (248) 647-8888 www.century21today.com

Southfield 3390
BRIGHT AIRY FLOOR PLAN! 4 bed 1.5 bath ranch Nice family neighborhood Central air, eat-in kitchen & separate dining All appliances & fixtures included Fenced yard w/ shed Priced to sell Home warranty included \$149,900
CHARMING 3 BED RANCH on 1.5 acres Hardwood floors & ceramic tile fireplace in living room Master room w/ hardwood floors & finished basement 2 car garage Home warranty included \$179,900
INVESTORS SPECIAL must sell & close in 30 days Large home in desirable location New GIVE CENTER Wooded lot 4 bed 2.5 bath Great location \$200,000 Century 21 M.L. Corporate Transferee Service 248-851-6700

Westland 3445
BRAND NEW \$139,900
3 bed brick ranch bsmt Ross Realty 734 326 8300
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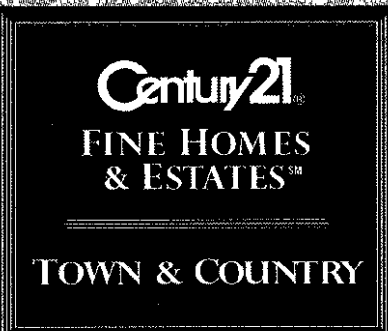
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Investment Property 3970
BAR / GRILL & ENTERTAINMENT
 Port Austin area Call Tony 989 550 1045

Office Space For Lease/Rent 3950
FARMINGTON HILLS
 Middlebelt/14 Mile Rd Suite of 5 offices approximately 1 200 sq ft Terms negotiable gross Ely or Kris @ 248 626 3800 Email etama@tamabudaj.com
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 Office Space Available 860 sq ft & up Several Locations Great Rates **CERTIFIED REALTY INC (248) 471 7100**
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PLYMOUTH DOWNTOWN
 525 sq ft suite & 1 430 sq ft suite Ample parking Call 734 455 7373 for info
PLYMOUTH TWP looking for space to hold your yoga class es empowerment workshops massage or energy work sessions? We have you covered! Professional clean sacred environment Reasonable rates Be your own boss! 734 716 2266 or 248 756 4072
REDFORD TWP
 Office Space 400 500 sq ft Beautifully redecorated Private entry & bathroom Includes all utilities **CERTIFIED REALTY INC (248) 471 7100**
Comm./Industrial Vacant Property 3960
BERKLEY STOREFRONT
 1650 sq ft w/parking Rent nego NNN for retail business 248 398 1155
Investment Property 3970
BAR / GRILL & ENTERTAINMENT
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 <p>WESTLAND Brick Ranch 3 bedroom 1.5 bath home with family room partially finished basement central air 2 car garage newer windows big master bedroom eat in kitchen sprinklers and more (E54FRA) 734-455-5600 \$164,900</p>	 <p>LIVONIA Rosedale Meadows Ranch offers partially finished basement garage beautiful updated kitchen & DR w/cabs of oak cabinets Pergo flooring & recessed lighting Also hardwood floors under carpet ceramic bath vinyl windows & updated elec (E36HEE) 734-455-5600 \$164,900</p>	 <p>CANTON Cute Country Home in the City Approx 1 acre home in Canton won't last long 3 BR 1 1/2 BA extensive use of ceramic tile Formal DR w/boone Updated kit w/oak cabinetry Newer windows & furnace Mini barn mechanics gar Doorwall to deck (E60GRA) 734-455-5600 \$219,900</p>	 <p>SOUTH LYON Ranch Condo 55+ ranch end unit w/2 BR & 2 full ceramic baths Extra sink in dressing area Great view from dining room window Newer dishwasher Large patio Single car garage Enjoy clubhouse & beach on Crooked Lake (E52CAM) 248-349-5600 \$138,500</p>	 <p>WALLED LAKE Great Condo 2nd floor end unit condo w/private entry 2 BR MBR w/WIC 1.5 car attached garage laundry room in unit Doorwall to balcony kitchen w/snack bar and central air All appliances included (E26HAR) 248-349-5600 \$117,900</p>
 <p>PLYMOUTH Exquisite Entertaining Home Boasts 4 bedrooms 2.5 baths cathedral ceilings hardwood foyer oak slant 2 way fireplace basement and 3 car attached garage A wonderful find You must see! (E84DEE) 734-455-5600 \$499,900</p>	 <p>CANTON Beautiful & Neutral 2 bedroom 2.5 bath condo with additional 19x11 loft area Kitchen offers updated cabinets Newer carpet throughout recessed lighting custom wood blinds and gas fireplace in living room (E89HOR) 734-455-5600 \$184,900</p>	 <p>WARREN Located on Large Lot Custom built 3 bedroom 1.5 bath brick ranch with heated Florida room updated windows and roof breezeway and oversized 2 car garage Partially finished basement (E68BER) 734-455-5600 \$139,900</p>	 <p>SOUTH LYON 55+ Ranch Condo Enjoy the clubhouse & beach in this quiet community 2 BR 1 ceramic bath neutral covered porch single car garage large brick patio with immediate occupancy Best buy (E24CAM) 248-349-5600 \$110,000</p>	 <p>PLYMOUTH No Expense Spared Cape cod on prime lot w/4 BR & 3.5 BA 3 car gar Every upgrade including doors fire trm windows elec & plumbing too 2 tier Trex deck & brick paver patio 12 zone sprinkler system & custom landscaping (E75HIL) 248-349-5600 \$609,900</p>
 <p>LIVONIA Excellent Move-in Condition Great location with sunken living room with doorwall to screened balcony dining room and large master suite Updated furnace central air and hot water heater Semi private basement and carport (E63MID) 734-455-5600 \$86,900</p>	 <p>TAYLOR Fabulous Colonial 3 bedroom 2.5 bath basement finished with possible 2 more bedrooms large kitchen with oak cabinets 2 car attached garage master suite w/walk in closet 1st floor laundry Close to freeway shopping & schools (E86SYR) 734-455-5600 \$179,900</p>	 <p>PLYMOUTH A Real Masterpiece From top to bottom 3 bedroom suites 2 car attached garage 2 gas fireplaces marble foyer maple cabinets den w/water impressive great room stunning walkout over level Beautiful view of wooded area (E41BEA) 734-455-5600 \$439,000</p>	 <p>NORTHVILLE Awesome Condo Better than 2 BR 2.5 BA end unit w/granite counters & oak cabinets walk in closets FFL finished lower level 2 car garage & deck All appliances included Pets are allowed (E18CHA) 248-349-5600 \$184,900</p>	 <p>LIVONIA Seller Hates To Leave 3 BR brick colonia in ever popular sub FR w/frplc & newer carpet & doorwall Lots of other updates like windows roof siding garage front door & electric Nce flowing floor plan Nice neighbors (E42JAM) 248-349-5600 \$223,900</p>
 <p>LIVONIA Great Investment 2 bedroom 2 bath 2 car attached garage full basement 1st floor laundry fireplace in living room central air Must see as this 1996 construction (E88HAL) 734-455-5600 \$185,000</p>	 <p>PLYMOUTH A Cut Above the Rest Large 4 bed room 3 full & 2 half bath Colonial built in 2000 p essant basement 3 car attached garage dual staircase gourmet kitchen with island master bedroom w/fit ng area & master bath 2 way FP & deck & patio (E75PLY) 734-455-5600 \$579,900</p>	 <p>WESTLAND A Special Colonial 3 bedroom 1.5 bath home with bright kitchen with appliances family room with gas fireplace leading to private yard with pool and hot tub Finished lower level and 2 car attached garage (E39BRY) 734-455-5600 \$199,900</p>	 <p>NORTHVILLE Beautiful Lot This 3 BR 1.5 BA home has been recently updated w/carpeting fresh paint crown moldings & ceramic bath Kitchen has light oak cabinets & ceramic floor On approx 1/2 acre Walk to elem sch! Access to xway (E47CHI) 248-349-5600 \$259,900</p>	 <p>MILFORD Former Builders Dream 4 BR 2.5 BA colon located in Orchard Estates on approx 1.6 acres High quality w/3 BR 2 BA MBR suite w/garden tub & triple sun room leads to secluded deck State of art kit & appls W/O LL Newer roof & furnace (E25LER) 248-349-5600 \$499,900</p>
 <p>GARDEN CITY A Place to Call Home 3 BR bungalow offers LR w/covered cc ngs plaster walls & bay window eat in kitchen & DR heated floors under carpet Newer vinyl windows roof & CA fenced yard & deck F n bsmt w/wood burning stove & 2 car gar (E46JOH) 734-455-5600 \$143,500</p>	 <p>CANTON Looks Like New 3 bedroom 2.5 bath Co on a w/ 2 car attached garage Finished basement to main dining room family room with fireplace 2 tier deck & ext a deep lot (E99COR) 734-455-5600 \$249,900</p>	 <p>NORTHVILLE Golf Community Condo! Five to 1st floor master open floor plan 2 story foyer curved staircase ceramic tile in foyer kit + granite tops 42 c eam cabinets & SS appls cath cell in FR w/gas frplc & deck full bsmt & 2 car att gar (E73LYO) 248-455-5600 \$379,900</p>	 <p>NOVI Great Condo WOW Come see for yourself 2 BR 1.5 BA 2 story townhouse in Lakewood Park homes Full basement garage w/extra parking Neutral decor w/custom chandeliers Novi Schools (E17CRA) 248-349-5600 \$149,900</p>	 <p>FARMINGTON HILLS Stylish Private Townhome Own a home for less than a rent Very clean and neat a decor oaks brand new 2 BR 2.5 BA (no ud ng master bath) All appliances stay Access to pool clubhouse and exercise room (E59NAN) 248-349-5600 \$133,900</p>
 <p>WESTLAND Nature Lovers Lot Brick ranch with 3 bedroom 1.5 bath 2 car attached garage large lot 2 way natural fireplace hardwood floors vinyl windows and appliances included (E15COW) 734-455-5600 \$174,899</p>	 <p>CANTON Great Townhouse Condo 2 bedroom with 1.5 baths Crisp & clean freshly painted quiet location updated kitchen & half bath Nice bay window in DR w/wndow seat 2 skylights brick paver patio full bsmt appl stay A must see (E79ABP) 734-455-5600 \$139,900</p>	 <p>PLYMOUTH Beautiful Colonial 3 BR 1.5 BA home that is totally updated Natural tripic in FR Beautiful hardwood floors in kitchen & hallway Newer kitchen cabinets & countertops Florida room screened/stormed w/doorwall from FR 2 car att ga (E80ASP) 248-349-5600 \$244,900</p>	 <p>NOVI Everything You Value 4 BR 3.6 BA colonial on quiet cul de sac on approx 1 acre Open floor plan w/hwdwd frs granite counters & butler's pantry Formal LR w/bay w/cws & trpic Extraord nary MS DR & study Nrvie Schis (E81DEE) 248-349-5600 \$549,900</p>	 <p>DEARBORN Beautiful Brick Colonial This spacious home features 3 bedrooms 1.5 baths Updated kitchen electrical custom window treatments hardwood floors and a warm fireplace to welcome you home (E25ORC) 248-349-5600 \$194,800</p>
 <p>LIVONIA Great Investment 2 bedrooms 2 baths 2 car attached garage first floor fireplace in living room central air Must see inside this 1996 construction (E86HAL) 734-455-5600 \$165,000</p>	 <p>WESTLAND Great House, Livonia Schools Spacious family room with fireplace sunny eat in kitchen w/dining area Deck C/A lots of fresh paint hardwood floors all in this 3 bedroom brick ranch Friendly quiet neighborhood Good home value! (E54FRU) 734-455-5600 \$159,900</p>	 <p>FARMINGTON HILLS Say Hello To A Good Buy Fantastic custom built 3 BR ranch in Farmington Square Excellent quality materials used throughout Gourmet kitchen formal DR French doors wood floors Huge basement & GR w/fireplace Many updates (E43BAY) 248-349-5600 \$350,000</p>	 <p>ROMULUS Gorgeous 3 Bedroom First time buyers this house is completely refinished see it for yourself Beautiful kitchen with ceramic tile Home sets way back on approx .85 acres of land w/mature trees Seller will assist in closing costs (E67EUR) 248-349-5600 \$124,900</p>	 <p>NORTHVILLE Large Family Home Spacious 4 BR 2 BA on large treed lot Roomy family room w/fireplace Dining room eat in kitchen and library (E42RIP) 248-349-5600 \$286,900</p>
 <p>LIVONIA Just a Few Years Old Charming 3 bedroom 2 bath brick/vinyl ranch with 2 car attached garage partially finished basement (plumbed for 3rd bath) fireplace in great room and central air (E60PIC) 734-455-5600 \$205,000</p>	 <p>WARREN Don't Miss This One! Lovey 3 bedroom 2 bath brick ranch with finished basement Living room with fireplace 2 car garage and updated kitchen furnace windows shingles and much more (E00MAS) 734-455-5600 \$139,500</p>	 <p>NORTHVILLE One Of A Kind Sprawling 4 BR 2.5 BA ranch Have your own resort right in your own backyard in ground pool and Jacuzzi Too many updates to mention Bring your fustiest buyers Home warranty included (E64BEA) 248-349-5600 \$390,000</p>	 <p>NORTHVILLE Walk To Town From this 2 bedroom prem end unit with many updates They include newer kitchen bath carpet lighting 6 panel doors & vertical blinds (E25FAI) 248-349-5600 \$128,900</p>	 <p>WATERFORD Welcome Home Awesome best decor best home on a wooded lot 2 story GR w/marble fireplace FF master bedroom First floor laundry Incredibly finished LL w/marble floors full bath 4th BR FR & daylight windows (E83SAL) 248-349-5600 \$347,900</p>
 <p>LIVONIA Rosedale Garden Brick Ranch Maintenance free 3 BR LR w/hot FP remod kit w/oak cabinets Corian edged counter vinyl floor newer roof AC gutters landscaping vinyl fence copper plumb part fin bsmt + 2.5 car gar Close to park & elem school (E78KEN) 734-455-5600 \$179,900</p>	 <p>CANTON Feed the Deer in Canton Approx 2.2 acre offers this 3 BR 2 BA brick bungalow w/many major updates 6 panel doors 170 2.5 car gar w/storage FP w/marble mantle lg mstr suite w/mstr bath & Jacuzzi + part fin bsmt Backs to woods (E00LIL) 734-455-5600 \$299,900</p>	 <p>NORTHVILLE Mint Colonial Move in perfection Custom built home w/4 BR 3.5 BA 3 car gar fin LL Prof decorated inside & out Extensive crown molding Gourmet kit w/ island FR w/gas trpic bath & Jacuzzi Impressivo (E43BRV) 248-349-5600 \$582,900</p>	 <p>SOUTHFIELD Great Opportunity Brick ranch on approx 1 beautiful acre w/2 BR 1.5 BA FR DR large eat in kitchen Knotty pine interior for up north feel Partially finished basement w/1 bar MBR w/WIC & built ins Newer roof furn HWH CA & att 2 car gar (E14FOR) 248-349-5600 \$159,900</p>	 <p>FARMINGTON HILLS The Lot is Outstanding Bring your builder or contractor! Renovat on opportunity in Woodcreek Farms on a large treed ravine lot w/stream 4 BR ranch w/2.5 BA Excellent floor plan includ ng a walkout basement Don't miss this one (E56WES) 248-349-5600 \$298,000</p>
 <p>DEARBORN Spectacular & Tranquil best describes the view of the 9th fairway from the soaring 2 story window spacious LR open floor plan hardwood floors in foyer kitchen and FR with fireplace 2 car attached garage basement & appliances (E98TUR) 734-455-5600 \$499,000</p>	 <p>INKSTER Great Starter Home Nice 3 bedroom ranch w/newer roof water heater disposal hardwood flrs freshly painted enclosed front porch fenced yard 1.5 car garage 2/att workshop Move in condit on city certs done A must see! (E60GRA) 734-455-5600 \$74,500</p>	 <p>WESTLAND For The Finicky Buyer Beautiful spotless & updated 3 BR ranch Newer carpeting and painting throughout Central air and water heater included in 02 Large lot allows for room to grow and replaces a storage shed (E00CAD) 248-349-5600 \$139,900</p>	 <p>PLYMOUTH Charming Saltbox 4 BR 2.5 BA saltbox colonial in Beacon Estates 3 season sunroom off updated kit 2 fireplaces Gracious LR & DR Handsome FR Detail molding inside and out Exceptional home has Home Sweet Home Appeal (E85GLE) 248-349-5600 \$379,800</p>	 <p>SOUTH LYON 55+ Ranch Condo 2 BR 2 BA with finished LL & loads of closets Cathedral ceilings & appliances Enjoy the clubhouse and pool Close enough to walk to town (E81YOR) 248-349-5600 \$119,000</p>

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BEVERLY HILLS \$445,000
HANDSOME GEORGETOWN COLONIAL Spacious traditional Beverly Hills residence with a court location and an excellent floorplan. Finished basement, large private yard and immediate occupancy. (80SHA2)

248 349 8200



HOWELL \$419,900
STUNNING CONTEMPERARY! Elegantly appointed cherry cabinetry 1st floor master over \$20,000 in upgrades. Lake access, gorgeous views, premium lot! (23L3354)

734 455 7000



PLYMOUTH \$349,900
COLONIAL ON WOODED LOT! 4 Bedrooms, 2.5 bath, expensively upgraded. Newer kitchen & baths, beautiful flooring & neutral decor. 66 acre lot, wooded, immediate occupancy. (23B47248)

734-455 7000



LIVONIA \$319,900
NEW CONSTRUCTION BROOKSHIRE Premium elevation, now being constructed. 4 BR, 2.5 BA, oak hardwood floors thru out, ceramic in BAS & laundry mstr w/ Jacuzzi & sep shower, oak kit, 2144 SF & more. (C29959)

734 591 9200



NOVI \$279,900
BEAUTIFUL COLONIAL IN WHISPERING MEADOWS Spacious 4 BR home w/ large master suite & bath. Wooded yard and front sidewalk, a real plus. Newer roof, furnace & windows. Home warranty provided. (09SUN2)

248-348 6430



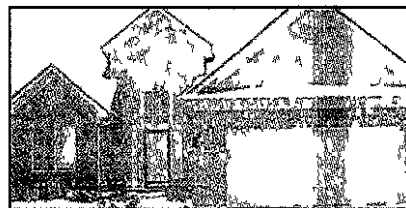
MANISTEE \$259,000
BEAUTIFUL LAKEFRONT VIEWS! Lg 4 bdrm ranch on Canfield Lk. Enjoy sunsets & camp fires by your own firepit. 1/2 Hr from Manistee Golf & Country Club. MI beaches, snow skiing, state parks. (23C739)

734 455 7000



DEARBORN \$249,900
2000 SQUARE FOOT DEARBORN COLONIAL Remodeled in 2002. 4 bdrm, 3 baths, custom kitchen, garage, fin bsmt w/ bar office. Hardwood floors, newer carpet. C/A. Near Levagood Pk. Land Contract terms. (D172)

734 326-2000



ROMULUS \$249,900
SCORE LOW LIVE HIGH w/ th's 3 bdrm Cape on the 13th green. GR, DR, 1st flr mstr w/ 2 showers. 2nd bdrm has a 17' WIC. Lg bsmt w/ rough plumbing for 3rd bath. Located on a court. (23M5949)

734-455 7000



LIVONIA \$239,900
HERE'S THAT NEWER RANCH you've been looking for. 3 BR, 2 BA, GR w/ wath, cel, FP & wet br mstr w/ full ba, cath, cel, formal DR, lg kit, hge part fin bsmt, 2 car attd gar & more. (C28277)

734-591-9200



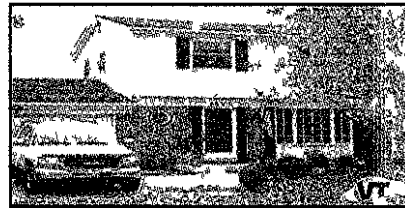
CANTON \$219,900
SHARP NEWER COLONIAL W/ ALL THE EXTRAS Private lot, open floor plan, master bath, 1st floor laundry, 2 car attached garage & beautifully finished lower level. (M1796)

734-591 9200



LIVONIA \$217,900
UPDATED & MAINTAINED TO PERFECTION! 5 & Newburgh ranch offers open flr plan w/ 2 car attached garage, fin bsmt, custom updated kitchen, baths, fire fun & more. (J38751)

734 591 9200



PLYMOUTH \$214,900
YOU WILL RECOGNIZE FINE CRAFTSMANSHIP 3 BR, 1.5 BA, brk colonial, tastefully decorated w/ extra special touches. Lg eat n kit w/ oak cab, netry, FR w/ gas log FP, remodeled bath, hrdwd flrs & much more! (C9343)

734 591 9200



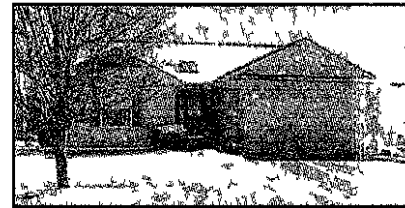
PLYMOUTH \$199,900
MAINTENANCE FREE! Custom ranch w/ cathedral ceilings, newer carpeting and windows, wood/terram c kitchen, screened porch. Great access to Hines Park and downtown Plymouth. (66LAK2)

248 348 6430



LIVONIA \$199,900
SHARP LIVONIA RANCH! Updates galore in this wonderful 3 bdr m, 2.5 bath home! Newer oak kit & baths, light carpet over h/w flrs, Full fin bsmt w/ rec m & full bath 3+ car garage! Super! (23CH12)

248 348 6430



YPSILANTI \$199,900
BEAUTIFUL CONTEMPORARY RANCH Great 3 bdrm, 3 bath home built in 94. HWD floor in foyer, GR w/ cozy fp, 1st flr laun, Fin bsmt w/ FR den and 3rd bath, 2 car attd gar, Lg deck off great room. (13IND2)

248 348 6430



NOVI \$197,900
A WELL CARED FOR HOME! A perfect blend of comfortable living in this nice 3 BR ranch. Formal LR & DR, cozy kit w/ all appl, nice patio and fenced yard. (82LEB2)

248-348 6430



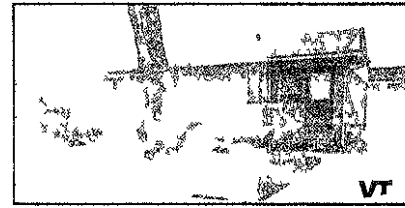
LIVONIA \$179,900
MOVE IN AT CLOSING! Full brk ranch, cathedral ceilings thru out, 3 BR, 1.5 baths on main flr, newer wndws, elec & plumb c/a, bsmt has wet bar, 2+ car garage. Hurry, won't last! (O19184)

734 591-9200



NOVI \$179,900
OUTSTANDING NOVI OPPORTUNITY! Great potential, here's a 3 Bedroom home on nearly 3/4 acre lot. 2 Ga ages great for cars, boats, etc. Screened porch, Newer roof, Novr Schools. War any? F rep ace. (50STA2)

248 348 6430



WESTLAND \$164,900
TASTEFULLY DECORATED WELL MAINTAINED 3 BR ranch. Beautiful new brk cabinets, new f app, stay patio, full bsmt, oversized 2 car garage, tea off n 10.03 newer furn a/c w/n dow. A great home. (M304)

734 591 9200



WESTLAND \$159,500
BEAUTIFUL BRICK RANCH Updated brick ranch. Updated kitchen, custom cabinets & counters. Awesome bath with his/her sinks w/ new ceramic tile. Hardwoods finished. Finished basement. (F744)

734 326 2000



LIVONIA \$155,000
WONDERFUL HOME READY NOW! 3 Bed room, 1.5 bath, a1 br ck ranch, full finished bas t, 2 car garage. Cute, clean, many updates. Great neighborhood & Livon a Schools too! (A9646)

734-591 9200



ROMULUS \$149,900
LARGE, BEAUTIFUL RANCH Come see this huge ranch with four bedrooms. Home features two bay windows, eat in kitchen, full partially finished basement. Nicely landscaped yard. (B320)

734-326-2000



REDFORD \$149,900
OPEN CONTEMPORARY DESIGN! Great open floor plan w/ th 3 bdr ms, 1.5 baths, vinyl room w/ f rep ace, large FR, hardwood flrs & more. 2.5 car garage & covered patio. Super starter home. (31WOR2)

248-348 6430



WESTLAND \$147,900
BEAUTIFUL BILEVEL IN WESTLAND 3 bedroom bath and a half, well maintained home with new carpet, Anderson windows, updated kitchen, bath and laundry. Many more features to see. (C653)

734-326-2000



REDFORD \$139,900
YOU'VE BEEN WAITING AND HERE IT IS! This updated & inviting home sides to park and elementary school. Situated in one of Redford's finest areas. New furn air, gutters, pump, wndws & more! (D15651)

734 591 9200



CANTON \$135,000
BEAUTIFUL BEDFORD VILLAS TOWNHOUSE! Nice 2 BR unit w/ beautiful remodeled kit w/ oak cabinets. Some HDWD flrs. Newer windows. Fin bsmt w/ fam rm/ computer area. End unit w/ att'd gar & nice sideyard. (66BED2)

248-348 6430



WESTLAND \$134,900
LIVONIA SCHOOLS 3 bedroom br ck Ranch w/ major updates. Newer windows, roof, siding, 2+ garage, hardwood floors. Part fin shed basement w/ full bath, dry bar. Appliances stay. (F827)

734-326-2000



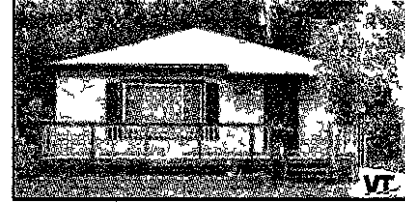
REDFORD \$132,500
WELL MAINTAINED BROADFRONT BUNGALOW 3 BR, fin bsmt w/ bar, new kitchen, countertop, new glass blk wndws, newer carpet thru out, bay window, fenced yd, 1.5 car attd garage. Lg p e shaped lot & more. (L19507)

734 591 9200



GARDEN CITY \$129,900
IMMACULATE RANCH Home features many updates, inside and out, including newer roof, vinyl siding, windows, carpet and paint. Oversized lot, deck. Must see. (E285)

734 326 2000



REDFORD \$129,900
TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT THIS Sharp oak kitchen, w/ ceramic floor, windows, copper plumbing, cement storm doors, 4 ceiling fans, roof shingles, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, part fin bsmt, 2 car garage. (I184)

734-326 2000



LIVONIA \$129,900
COZY CLEAN CONDO Ground floor ranch appliances, doorwall to patio. Lots of storage. Updated kit & bath w/ shower, separate tub, C/A, newer carpet, master bdrm w/ walk in closet. (A360)

734 326-2000



ROMULUS \$124,900
TIME TO MAKE YOUR MOVE! Nice size home with 4 bedrooms, LR, FR, all appliances. Newer windows, attached garage. Large yard & in a popular subd. (23C16252)

734 455 7000



REDFORD \$124,444
WOW! 3 Bdr m, br ck ranch, newly painted, bsmt too. Bleached oak cabinets, new wndws, bsmt g ass block. New crptng, HWH, hrdwd flrs, copper plmbng, c ut breakers, gar. (23F20372)

734 455 7000



INKSTER \$117,900
WELL KEPT BUNGALOW AWAITS NEW OWNERS Desirable bungalow located in Cherry Hill Manor, 4 bdrm, 2 ba, 2 car gar w/ shelving garage. Open flr plan, bright bsmt w/ glass block wndws, manicured lawn, many updates! (22ARL2)

248 348 6430



REDFORD \$117,500
STYLISH & CHARMING HOME has been a fully decorated with many updates including both baths, kit, vinyl siding, newer fr. You won't believe how cute this is inside & out! (S20091)

734-591 9200



REDFORD \$114,900
SWEET SWEET SWEET 3 BR bungalow loaded w/ updates. A pleasure to see. Very clean and well maintained. Maintenance free exterior. Lovely landscaping. Call to see. (K20470)

734 591 9200



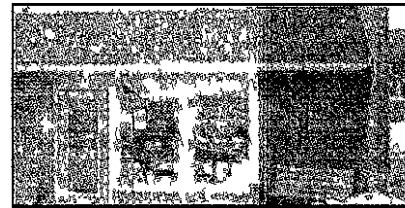
DETROIT \$91,900
ATTRACTIVE BUNGALOW freshly painted, newer furnace, 99 central air, 99 roof, 99 master bdr, has walk in closet, 2 1/2 car garage close to schools, immediate occupancy. (17GRA2)

248-348 6430



WESTLAND \$75,000
WHY RENT WHEN YOU CAN OWN! Affordable 1 BR, 1 bath condo w/ fresh paint, nice tier or New carpet, kit, fr, dishwasher & blinds. Newer roof, huge walk in closet. Patio faces beautiful pond! (95WCO2)

248 348 6430



PLYMOUTH \$69,900
GREAT BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY! Full service hair salon, repeat clients, fully staffed. 5 salon stations, 2 nail stations, private facial pedicure & hair protheses rooms. Appointment only. (23M198)

734 455 7000



INKSTER \$55,000
A GREAT HOME FOR ONLY 55,000! With all tile TLC, this could be your amazing new home. 3 Bedrooms & separate dining area. Full basement for all your storage needs. New roof, hardwood floors. (M325)

734 326 2000

CANTON PRIVATE BACK & SIDE YARD WITH TREES. 4 BR, 4.5 BA, elaborate deck, 2 tier oak paver patio, lg grmt kit w/ FP, grnte cntrips, study/5th BR, mstr ste w/ FP & whirpoo tub, 2 WICs, dual strcs & more! S48832 \$629 900 734 591 9200

NOVI QUIET LAKE LIVING! This waterfront 4 BR, 3.5 BA, 2 stry incl private beach, dock, C/A, updated kit, hrdwd flrs, att gar w/ guest qtrs above w/ kit, BA, LR, sep entry & more! 40WES2 \$349 900 248 348 6430

CANTON QUALITY NEW CONSTRUCTION IN CANTON. 3 bdrm, 2.5 bath, cape Hdwd in foyer, kit & nook, Granite cntns, n k1, Mstr st w/ WIC, garden tub & enclosed shower, 9ft ceilings, Full bsmt, Anderson wndws, 29HOL2 \$349 000 248-348 6430

DEARBORN WHAT A BEAUTY! Imagine a home you can move into w/o doing a thing! Updates include wndws, steel doors, kit cabinets, roof, elec, front porch, drive. The list goes on. Must see! 23P4970 \$141 900 734 455 7000

REDFORD GREAT STARTER HOME! New kitchen w/ brand new stove and refrigerator. Nice backyard, hardwood floors. Move right in and make it your home! P19775 \$110 000 734 591 9200

Call Toll Free at 888-REO-LIST

Information

Apartments

All Ads Run Online FREE! A Value Of Up To \$87.00 www.hometownlife.com

This Classification continues from Section F

Apartment - Unfurnished 4000 FARMINGTON HILLS MAPLE RIDGE APTS CALL FOR SPECIALS! 23078 Middlebelt Spacious 1 bedroom Central air carpet available \$660 248 473 5180

Apartment - Unfurnished 4000 Farmington Hills SUPER LOCATION Grand River/Orchard Lake STONERIDGE MANOR APARTMENTS Enter off Freedom Road W of Orchard Lake Road South of Grand River Deluxe 1 Bedroom sub-level From \$550/Mo Includes Carpeting vertical blinds deluxe appliances Mon-Fri 9-4 Sat/Sun by appointment Rental Office 248/478 1437 Home Office 986/776 8206

Apartment - Unfurnished 4000 FARMINGTON HILLS FREEDOM VILLAGE APTS 1/2 off 1st month's rent! (Select units only) Spacious 1 bedrooms Washer/dryer in unit Water & carpet included New carpet C/A no pets \$565 \$585 (586) 254 9511

Apartment - Unfurnished 4000 Farmington Hills WALNUT CREEK Large 1 Bedroom 0 Security Deposit w/credit approval STARTING AT \$495/Mo MUST SEE! Call (248) 961-2753

Apartment - Unfurnished 4000 FARMINGTON HILLS Heat Included! 1 bedroom \$505 Appliances carpeting 9 Mile/Middlebelt 248-478 7489

Apartment - Unfurnished 4000 FARMINGTON HILLS Minutes from I 275 1 96 & I 696 Plus w/rent up to \$3245 001 1 & 2 Bedroom Apts Rents from \$720 Pets Welcome Fitness Center Pool Covered Parking in Home Washer/Dryer Call today for details Toll Free 877 282 7949 or visit www.diamondforest.com

Apartment - Unfurnished 4000 FARMINGTON MANOR APTS Deluxe studio & 1 bedroom carpet 1ST 3 MONTHS RENT 50% OFF! (With approved credit) 248 888 0866

Apartment - Unfurnished 4000 FIVE FIVE FIVE ONE MONTH FREE To Qualified Applicants Studios 1 & 2 bedrooms available in town Birmingham 555 S Old Woodward Call Mari (248) 945 1191

Apartment - Unfurnished 4000 GARDEN CITY 1 bed newly decorated appliances heat & water \$535 + deposit / 734 261 8863 734 464 3847

Apartment - Unfurnished 4000 LIVONIA 5 Mile/Middlebelt 2 bedroom 1050 sq ft private entry Washer/dryer hook up balcony/patio central air/heat \$715/mo 248 521 1976

Apartment - Unfurnished 4000 LIVONIA CURTIS CREEK APTS Farmington Rd 6 1/2 Mile Private entrance, washer/dryer Pets Lease special! From \$715 248-473 0365

Apartment - Unfurnished 4000 NOVI \$99 Moves You In Pay NO Rent Until March! FREE CARPETS! CITY WATER! Amazing Closet Space! 24 Hour Maintenance! WESTGATE IV APARTMENTS (866) 232-4373 On Pontiac Trail East of Beck Road SHORT TERM LEASES AVAILABLE! EHO

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Apartment - Unfurnished 4000 Livonia One of Livonia's finest apartments at competitive prices CANTERBURY PARK APTS. 19400 Mayfield off Seven Mile Rd between Farmington & Merriman behind Joe's Produce) LIMITED WINTER SPECIAL 1 BEDROOM \$800/mo 2 BEDROOM \$900/mo Includes full washer & dryer in each apartment Community room patio or balcony deluxe appliances optional carpet 248 473 9883 586 775 8206

Apartment - Unfurnished 4000 NORTHVILLE TREE TOP APARTMENTS Charming small community nestled in a wooded stream side setting. We have a variety of unique 1 bedroom apartments and stunning lots from only \$675. All feature neutral decor blinds appliances covered parking. MOVE IN FREE UNTIL APRIL 1 2004 EHO Call (248) 347-1690 Novi Rd., north of 8 Mile

Apartment - Unfurnished 4000 NORTHVILLE Downtown 1 block N of Main St. in quiet neighborhood setting. Large 1 bedroom w/ AC walk in closet heat & water included. Only \$675/mo (734) 420 1027

Apartment - Unfurnished 4000 NORTHVILLE CONDO Rent to Own Will help 1st Time Buyers 1 bedroom just refurbished new appliances Several Available \$625 \$695/mo 24hr message (866) 237 2647 x21

Apartment - Unfurnished 4000 Livonia's Finest Location MERRIMAN WOODS APTS Merriman Rd corner of 7 Mile Near Livonia Mall ASK ABOUT OUR LIMITED TIME SPECIAL One Bedroom Immediate Occupancy From \$600 includes Patio or balcony carpeting vertical blinds deluxe appliances pool 248-477 9377 586 775 8206

Apartment - Unfurnished 4000 Madison Heights QUIET Almost soundproof 1 & 2 bedroom apts Across from Oakland Mall at I 75 and 14 Mile 248-477 9377 586 775 8206

Apartment - Unfurnished 4000 CONCORD TOWERS 32600 Concord Dr (next to the Micro Center Store) 1 bedroom from \$565 2 bedroom from \$625 Carpets • Dishwasher Disposal • Central air 248-589-3355

Apartment - Unfurnished 4000 MADISON HGTS 13 Mile/ Campbell FREE 1 month rent & security deposit waived with approved 13 month lease Clean 1 bedroom \$665 2 bedroom \$665 Heat water blinds carpet stove ref generator included Pool on site (248) 879 2140

Apartment - Unfurnished 4000 N ROYAL OAK MI 1 Bed bath No pets Basement mediate Occupancy Un furnished large w/ clean quiet w/ updated kitchen reserved parking heat & water laundry facilities short/long term leases \$550/mo 248 740 9836

Apartment - Unfurnished 4000 WESTLAND *ROCK BOTTOM RENTS! Hawthorne Club Apts. 1 Bedroom - \$510 2 Bedrooms - \$695 FREE HEAT! Free Application Fee (Cut out and bring in this ad) REDUCED SECURITY DEPOSIT CALL NOW! 866-241-5111 www.cmproperties.net On Merriman Between Ann Arbor Trail and Warren Road *Limited Time on Select Units

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Automotive

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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday February 12, 2004

The Sporty 2004 Mazda RX-8

Advertising Feature

Thursday DriveTime



BY DALE BUSS

RX-8 review by Dale Buss

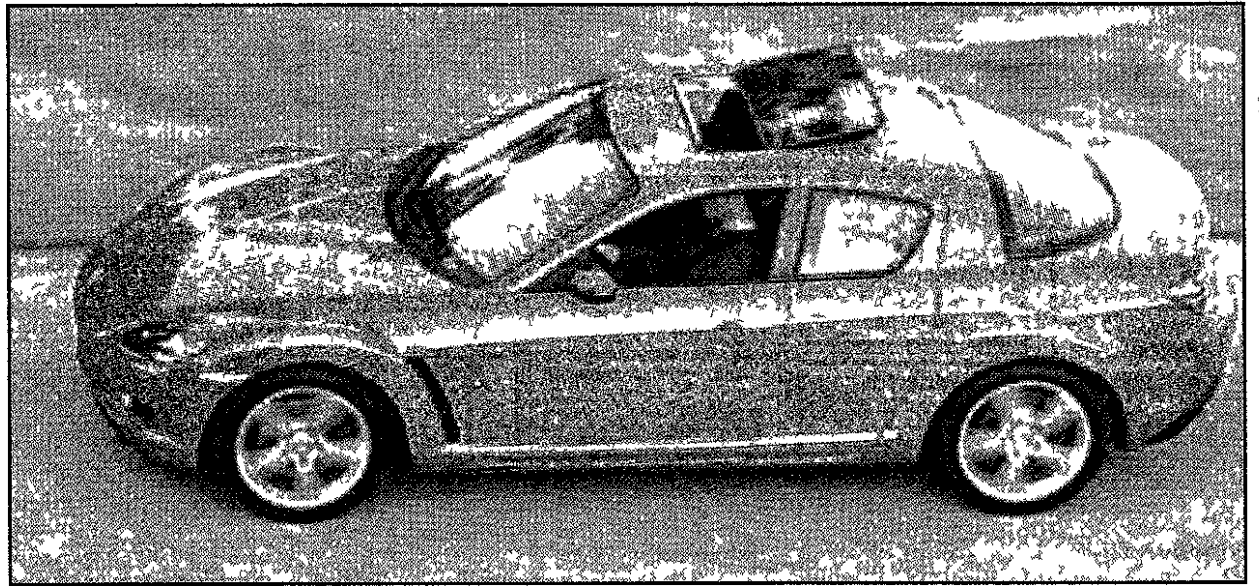
All right, maybe it wasn't such a good idea to agree to drive a Mazda RX-8 in the middle of winter, given that it's about as heavy as a paper bag and that Michigan is having one of our snowiest winters in memory. And sure enough, the snow was so deep and our municipal plowing crews so tardy a few weeks ago that the RX-8 literally had to be towed into my driveway.

But a few days later, after digging out the little waterbug and finally easing it onto dry pavement, the 2004 RX-8 came through as advertised—a thrill to drive and a worthy heir to the long-defunct RX-7. The only problem is for the rear passengers.

The competition in the sports-car segment is much stiffer this time around than when Mazda last fielded the RX-7, in 1995. Honda and Audi have jumped into the genre with the S2000 and TT Roadster, respectively. Nissan is reviving its own sports-car heritage with a new Z model, the Z350. And that's not even to mention the usual German competition.

But Mazda has revived the rotary engine in an RX-8 that stands out in an important way. Instead of a two-seat, two-door model like the last RX— and like most of its current competition— the RX-8 is a four-seat, four-door model. The back doors are two rear-hinged panels that don't open or close independently of the front doors. Because the engine is 30 percent lighter and 20 percent smaller than RX-7's, Mazda engineers were able to free up enough interior space for four seats and enough trunk room to carry two medium suitcases or two sets of golf clubs.

So Mazda is promoting RX-8 as a zesty sports car that the whole family can enjoy. That's where the subjectivity of "enjoyment" comes into play, however. It's truly a joy for the driver to be able to share the experience of zipping around in RX-



The 2004 Mazda RX-8 is a thrill to drive.

8 with more people. But there's not much enjoyment in the back seat. Things are very tight in the rear, in every dimension: legs and head room, certainly, but even room from side-to-side because of how the console of the rear-wheel-drive RX-8 runs through the rear passenger compartment like a backbone. Even a pair of average-sized teenagers was too uncomfortable to suffer much more than a short jaunt in the vehicle.

Add in the fact that RX-8's sports-car suspension magnifies every bump and swerve, and the unusually whiny rotary engine echoes throughout the car, and the experience in the back of RX-8 could reasonably be classified as miserable.

None of that, however, is to denigrate the entire vehicle. In the first place, the return of the rotary engine is an exciting dimension of this \$27,200 vehicle. With 238 horsepower, the engine provides plenty of oomph. Even the four-speed automatic version, which puts out only 207 horsepower and sells for \$1,500 less than the six-speed manual version, is said to be plenty responsive. And the fact that it is lighter and cleaner than its predecessors means that Mazda's new rotary fetches a creditable 25 miles a gallon on the highway.

You also get sports-car handling that is for the most part very capable, resulting in part

from the 50-50 weight distribution for balanced handling. Yet the vehicle I drove sometimes demonstrated a tendency to pull to the right, and sometimes a tendency to pull to the left at low speeds. It's possible that it was related to the weather, but this happened on dry pavement.

Stylishness pervades RX-8, starting with the distinctive exterior design. It's less perfectly rounded and more organic than the old RX-7, but the long front hood and snug back end leave no doubt that it's the design signature of RX.

Inside, nifty design cues begin with two-tone leather seats that combine black and the exterior color. There are three big rings on the design panel dominated by a 10,000-rpm tachometer in the center, with a digital speedometer on the face of the tachometer. Some sports-car enthusiasts would rather watch a needle pushing 100 mph than a digital readout.

Also, of course, don't take this car out in the snow! The combination of little left in the rear, and a traction-control system that automatically prohibits the car from wasting too much time spinning its wheels, mean that RX-8 is basically useless on even a thin covering of snow. Of course, sports cars are meant to be driven when the ground is green.

Write Dale at dalebuss@aol.com

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Mission Point Resort has fun & challenging positions available in their Farmington Hills Sales Office RESERVATION AGENT Full and Part Time Positions available now through October flexible hours (days & weekends) Heavy incoming calls computer keyboard skills required outgoing personality to make reservations for our beautiful Machnac Island Resort No hotel experience required \$8 25/hr Please call 248 488 3200

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Full Time -Mon thru Fri -No nights holidays wkends -\$10/hr while cleaning -Paid Mileage -Paid Weekly -Work in teams of 2 Apply in person SWEEPING BEAUTIES 3528 Canton Center Rd Canton Just S of Joy Rd

Help Wanted General. 6000. HOUSEKEEPING

Full time days with benefits Apply in person Independence Village of Plymouth 14707 Northville Rd

Help Wanted General. 6000. HVAC TECH

Required experi ence to 100 tons Strong electrical exp CALL 9am 10am ONLY (248) 646 2160

Help Wanted General. 6000. JANITORIAL

Quiet easy flexible nights in the Wixom areas \$8 10/hr (313) 537 2451

Help Wanted General. 6000. E COAT FOREMAN

Full time afternoon shift knowledge hang ng produc tion/ proto type work good pop e skils Great benefits Apply Box 531117 Livonia 48152

Help Wanted General. 6000. EARN \$1 000 \$3 500 WEEK LY

Answering Surveys/ FREE registration/ Guaranteed pay checks/ Mystery shoppers needed \$57 00/hour shopping! FREE Government grants! \$12 000 \$500 000! Everyone qualified! www.RealCash Programs.com

Help Wanted General. 6000. EXP HI LD DRIVER

For shipping & receiving good people skills great benefits Apply PO Box 531117 Livonia 48152

Help Wanted General. 6000. FIELD SERVICE TECHNICIAN

A high enrg kitchen and bath company has an immediate opening for a full time position to process cabinetry orders Familiarity with European cabinetry helpful We are looking for a qualified candidate who can keep up with the fast pace of our award winning sales team This position offer a competitive salary with outstanding benefits including medical 401k and profit sharing Please forward cover letter and resume with qualifications to Franco Nohalsh 353 S Old Woodward Ave Birmingham MI 48009 Fax 248 645 0705

Help Wanted General. 6000. LABORERS & CONCRETE FINISHERS

Immediate positions available (734) 459 0894

Help Wanted General. 6000. LANDSCAPE COMPANY

Serving the Oakland Wayne and Livingston county areas looking for the following positions EXPERIENCED LANDSCAPE SALESPERSON Capable of \$750K sales + Must have a solid track record w/ both commercial and residential sales

Help Wanted General. 6000. CREW FOREMAN

requires a min of 5 yrs exp in Plant ings and Hardscape strong leadership abilities and CDL or ability to achieve same Please fax resume to 248 685 1730 2350 East Buno Milford MI 48391

Help Wanted General. 6000. LATHE OPERATOR

Must have min 5 yrs exp on large prototype parts Full time benefits Apply by mail or in person to 33100 Capitol Livonia MI 48150 734 427 8550

Help Wanted General. 6000. LEASING CONSULTANT Part-Time

For Now Apartment Community Weekends required 20+ hours \$8/hr plus com m ss on P act to college student Must be energetic & happy and ke sales Please call 248 349 6612 o fax resume (248) 349 5425

Help Wanted General. 6000. LEASING CONSULTANT

full time for Dearborn Heights area apartment community Experience required Great opportunity for right person (313) 562 9368

Help Wanted General. 6000. LEASING CONSULTANT

part time for Canton apart ment community Experience required Great opportunity for right person Please call 734 397 1080

Help Wanted General. 6000. LOAN OFFICERS & PROCESSORS

experienced Leads applied Fax resume to 734 402 2522 Attn John

Help Wanted General. 6000. LOAN OFFICERS & PROCESSORS

Full time W 2 experienced only Healthcare benefits 60% commission (Loan Officers) Salary (Processors) Call 248 478 5952 or fax resume 248 539 4854

Help Wanted General. 6000. LOAN OFFICERS & PROCESSORS

Is your conforming busi ness drying up? We will teach you sub prime busi ness 313 387 4306

Help Wanted General. 6000. MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

Experienced maintenance supervisor for mid size apt community Knowledge in all aspects of maintenance including HVAC Competitive salary and benefits Live on site a must Call (734) 729 5090 Fax (734) 729 8258

Help Wanted General. 6000. MAINTENANCE PERSON

Large senior apartment community currently seeking applicants with experience in electrical plumbing general carpentry Salary commensurate with experience Excellent benefit package including health and dental insurance 401k and paid vacations Send resume or apply in person at 25075 Meadowbrook Road Novi 10am 4pm Monday Friday or call 248 305 8646 EOE

Help Wanted General. 6000. MAINTENANCE TECH

Experienced for large apt complex in Farmington Hills Must be experienced in Heating & AC Hours Mon Fri plus on call every 3rd week Please fax resume 248 478 6802

Help Wanted General. 6000. MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN

Seeking a professional team player w/own tools Transportation and apartment Maintenance experience to start immediately Full time w/benefits & paid vacation Fax resume to 734 261 1318

Help Wanted General. 6000. MANAGER TRAINEE

Full time for local company in business for 15 yrs Good communication computer skils and teller exp required Must have own transportat on bene fits available Fax resume 248 357 5309

Help Wanted General. 6000. MECHANIC

Experience needed in Diesel truck trailers tires and king pins Afternoons Call Tom 734 947 1405

Help Wanted General. 6000. MECHANIC (TRUCK)

Licensed mechanic wanted for private fleet to work w/other mechanics 3 5 years experience working on class 2 8 trucks Must have a r brake and wd exp experience CDL A is a plus Wages negotiable excellent benefits Please call Keith for a telephone interview 734 957 0109

Help Wanted General. 6000. MECHANIC WANTED

For growing andscap g & snow emova Exp o edu caton requ ed Ca Ha ve y to interview (248) 676 0700

Help Wanted General. 6000. MECHANIC WANTED

Growing mail facility in Nov is looking for an indiv dual to fill a full time mechanical pos t on for afternoon shift Mechanical background required Pitney Bowes & mail pre sort knowl edge helpful Excellent benefit package & wages Fax resume to 248 929 9001

Help Wanted General. 6000. Mortgage Telemarketers

needed full & part time in Livonia Call Chrs at 734 462 4200

Help Wanted General. 6000. Personal Lines Customer Service Rep

For insurance agency in Redford Experienced only Call 734 416 9773

Help Wanted General. 6000. PLUMBER

Must have exp in rough/finish new installation/vacuum 248 547 6490

Help Wanted General. 6000. PLUMBER

With experience needed for commercial and new construction Call (248) 932 5185

Help Wanted General. 6000. Plumber Apprentice

Minimum 2 years experience 248 547 6490

Help Wanted General. 6000. PORTERS

Immediate opening Benefits bonus & retirement packages included Apply at 30250 Grand River Farmington Hills 248 474 0500

Help Wanted General. 6000. Production Control Coordinator

SE MI automotive supplier is seeking an experienced Production Control Coordinator We are a successful approved Tier 1 & Tier 2 supplier & a leader in the global automotive marketplace in the fast growing field of pressure sensitive adhesives and components The successful candidate will have knowledge of Automotive releasing systems & inventory practices exp with ERP/MRP systems proficiency in MS Office Suite familiarity of DDL EDI Kanban and QS 9000 and OAD experience is a plus Salary is commensurate with experience We offer an excellent benefits package including 401(k) and a pleasant non smoking work environment Please send your resume (including salary history) to Human Resources 41016 Concept Drive Plymouth MI 48170

Help Wanted General. 6000. QUALITY TECH

Local corrugated sheet plant seeks a Quality Tech experience on ISO & QS systems Must be dependable flexible hardworking and team orient ed Recent college graduate with a degree in quality or 12 years experience required Interested candidates mail resumes to Pratt Industries Attn Quality 350 S Mill Street Plymouth MI 48170

Help Wanted General. 6000. REAL ESTATES SALES

Farrington Hills develop ment company seeks exp erience and highly motivated real estate sale person for new development in Oakland County Great location Great opportunity! Fax resume to 248 865 7486

Help Wanted General. 6000. RECEPTIONIST

For a development company in Southfield Answer phones run errands light typing and computer Up to 30 hours/wk Start March 1st Fax resume to 248 571 0407

Help Wanted General. 6000. RECEPTIONIST

Needed for 10 line phone computer experience a must data entry outgoing Health benefits & 401k Full time Call 734 422 7110

Help Wanted General. 6000. RECEPTIONIST/MULTI TASKER & PORTERS

for part time could become full time No exp will train Only people personalities need apply Ask for Karen 734 421 7467

Help Wanted General. 6000. REDFORD UNION SCHOOLS - BUS AIDE PART-TIME

Ashcroft & Johnson Centers Vary btwn 6am-4 30pm

Help Wanted General. 6000. Must possess the ability to handle emotionally impaired students

Must be physically able to assist evacuating students from bus in an emergency Able to perform all duties associated with Bus Aide position Able to work morning & afternoon runs \$9 50 \$15 depending on exp &/or qualifications All letters of interest should be sent to Brian Goby Director of Transportation/Bus/Grounds 15111 Garfield Redford MI 48239 EOE

Help Wanted General. 6000. RET

Observer & Eccentric

Jobs and Careers

All Ads Run Online FREE! A Value Of Up To \$87.00 www.hometownlife.com

Help Wanted General 5000

SUPPLIER QUALITY ASSURANCE/SUPPLIER QUALITY ENGINEER General Fasteners Company based in Livonia Michigan has a full time position in the Quality Control Department Requirements Degree in Technical Field experience in Quality Management Systems (TS 16949 QS 9000 or ISO 9000) APQP PPAP Control Plan FMEA SPC R&R Six Sigma experience and Statistics experience Ability to effectively interact with customer supplier and all levels of company personnel Computer Skills Microsoft Word Excel Power Point and Access fastener background a plus Please send all resumes to resumes@genfast.com NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE!!

TAX PREPARER Part time or full time position Personal & corporate tax returns Livonia CPA firm Fax resume Attn Tax Preparer 734 462 1406 Or mail to Swad & Company 38701 Seven Mile Rd Suite 245 Livonia MI 48152

TEACHER PRESCHOOL Full/part time Experience necessary Please call Livonia Little Tots 734 591 6440

TELEMARKETERS \$7/hr plus bonus Part time Call Marco 734 402 2515

SWIFT TRANSPORTATION Now Hiring For A FLEET MANAGER Swift Offices Competitive Compensation Package Including Benefits after 90 Days 401K & Stock Purchase Plan Apply In Person or Fax Resume Swift Transportation 24200 Bell Road New Boston MI 48164 Fax 734 753 5803 Attn Alan Tyson (No Phone Calls Please)

TRAVEL AGENT Must have mgr exp or capa bility Strong Sabre corp & leisure exp Good pay pkg & working cond Westland 734 729 1400

TRAVEL CONSULTANTS Friendly outgoing confident sales people needed to sell vacations and cruises to qualified leads us proven telephone sales techs Technicians Paid training \$8 per hr + \$600 \$1300 average monthly commission on w/lt ove \$2500 potential Dearborn 313 278 4100 goymt.com

TRUCK DRIVER Asphalt coking applications for drivers for axle dumps CDL Class A req req w/in 2 yrs asphalt or grave experience mandatory Top pay w/benefits & bonus Applications being accepted at S & J Asphalt 39571 Michigan Ave Mon Fri 9am 4pm

WAREHOUSE SUPERVISOR Midnight warehouse supervisor with experience in union setting (3 to 5 years a must) job requires strong leadership skills problem solving ability self motivated and aggressive Experience with shipping & receiving of material inventory control experience strong math skills basic accounting skills strong computer skills in word and excel Minimum of an associates degree Full time position excellent benefits with salary in the mid 30's based on experience Please email resume to hr@codob.com

WINDOW CLEANER Crew leader must have 5 yrs exp Dependable must have own transportation (313) 965 7755

Accounting Manager Full time for growing Western Wayne County business Daily bookkeeping with cost analysis cash flow accounts receivable general ledger management Quickbooks experience and Accounting degree preferred Computer skills essential Reply to Box 0800 O&E 36251 Schoolcraft Livonia MI 48150

Office Clerical 5020

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE Experienced individual to handle all of the responsibilities of accounts payable for a medium sized printing company located in a near western suburb The successful candidate will be required to handle all traditional AP duties including matching an entering vendor invoices rplying to vendor questions cutting AP checks and reconciling vendor statements The job requires a degreed individual or a person with comparable experience Excellent salary and benefits to the right individual Robot Printing and Communications 12085 Dixie Redford MI 48239 (313) 255 0470 FAX humanresources@robotprinting.com

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE PERSON For busy commercial property management firm Full or part time Will be responsible for accounts payable data entry creating excel spreadsheets and general administration Experience with MRI a plus 1 2 years work experience required Send resume and salary requirements to PO Box 70 Southfield MI 48037 0070

ADMINISTRATIVE Plymouth law firm looking for full time position Fax resume to 734 254 1025

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Local organization is seeking a multi talented customer service oriented individual with 3 year exp to provide administrative support for a Westland location Ideal candidate will be a self starter with good communication computer and general office support skills 40 hour workweek w/ some degree of flexibility in daily scheduling Email OEResume@homeconnect.net Ref code 0796

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Livonia dental specialty office is interviewing for a detailed and organized perfectionist Recent experience w/ Micro soft Word & Excel AP/Excel excellent communication skills Call for telephone interview 734 251 7800

BASIC BOOKKEEPING Individual familiar with basic bookkeeping (accounts payable) Commerce Tech Fax resume to 248 360 9978

Bookkeeper/Part time General contact cabinet manufacturer seeks experienced assistance with bookkeeping Fax resume to part time Fax resume to 248 347 4095 or mail PO Box 930347 Womom MI 48393

Canton Apt comp exp needs Clerical & Leasing Person Thur 10 5 Sun 11 3 \$8 50/hr (734) 455 7440

Word to the wise when looking for a great deal check the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds!

CAR BILLER/TITLE CLERK Excellent pay & benefits Experience is required Send resume to Varsity Lincoln Mercury Inc PO Box 633 Novi MI 48276 0633 Or phone Kevin at 248 485 8223

CLERICAL Farmington Hills facility seeking a dependable full time Receptionist/Office Assistant Pleasant professional phone manner a must Computer knowledge essential Duties include answering phones quotes shipping orders shop tools and supplies manual job cost posting filing Minimum 2 yrs office experience Good benefits Please mail or fax resume to Line Precision Inc 31666 W 8 Mile Rd Farmington Hills MI 48336 Fax 248 474 9270 Attn Lorrae

DATA ENTRY Great pay Flexible hours! Computer required 1 800 382 4282 ext #63

Data Entry COULD Earn \$15/hour and up! Medical Billing Training Provided PC Required! Call 7 days 1 800 935 1311 ext 308

HAPPY AND ENERGETIC PERSON NEEDED For busy fast paced fun Farmington Hills Real Estate Office Full time position Must have excellent phone and people skills able to multi task and work in a team setting Contact Karen Irvine at 248 851 6900

Office Clerical 5020

LEGAL SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST Experienced full time for Farmington Hills personal injury/workers compensation firm Non smoking Fax resume to Amy 248 932 4009

LEGAL SECRETARY Farmington Hills law firm seeks experienced litigation/appellate secretary Minimum 3 years Defense litigation experience required as well as knowledge in Word/Perfect Salary commensurate with experience Fax your resume with salary requirements to Cindy at 248 489 1726

LEGAL SECRETARY Full time for Southfield law firm with 1 3 years litigation experience Fax resume Attn Carol 248 354 0644

LEGAL SECRETARY For Bloomfield Hills law firm Litigation and Word Perfect experience Dependable team player with strong organizational and communication skills Please send resume to Personnel 40950 Woodward Ste 350 Bloomfield Hills MI 48304

OFFICE MANAGER Professional energetic person to supervise day to day office operation and leasing/marketing of property mgmt office This candidate must have a proven track record in property mgmt marketing accounting & customer service Computer skills required Excellent salary & benefits Interested candidate please fax resume to 313 562 3086

OFFICE ASSISTANT ENTRY LEVEL Needed for busy property management co Some bookkeeping knowledge helpful Cand date must be detailed & experienced in customer service Plenty of room for growth for the right person 248 348 5100

PARALEGAL NEEDED Flexible hours Experience a plus Fax or email resume to 248 642 8875 lemonlaw@amortech.net

RECEPTIONIST Full time for Southfield law firm Fax resume Attn Carol 248 354 0644

RECEPTIONIST Busy Medical Office looking for experienced individual to supervise Front Desk operations Cand date must be a pleasant and smiling individual who has excellent people speaking communication and leadership skills Previous Physic an office experience and computer skills a must Knowledge with Health System computer software a plus Competitive wages and benefits Mail or fax resume to 4900 Mercury Dr Ste 100 Dearborn MI 48126 or fax 313 271 2965

RECEPTIONIST Looking for a full time receptionist Must have experience using multi line phone system Computer experience a must Hours are 8 00am 5 00pm Monday Fr day Robot Printing and Communications 12085 Dixie Redford MI 48239 (313) 255 0470 FAX humanresources@robotprinting.com

RECEPTIONIST Medical manufacturer in Wixom Call handling filling misc administrative support Experience desirable Fax resume to CSM (248) 960 9119

RECEPTIONIST Insurance agency seeking dependable person for full time receptionist position \$8 00 per hr to start Apply at 27676 Cherry Hill Ste 202 two blocks west of Inkster Rd or fax resume to (734) 425 9101

RECEPTIONIST Construction co has immediate PT opening for a self motivated person to handle general office duties Fax resume 248 446 3200

SECRETARY (Editorial) Tech society at 12/Hagerty in Farmington Hills has opening for highly organized self starter to perform a wide variety of duties including phones recordkeeping correspondence database maintenance etc Exc phone grammar & proofreading skills a must 2 yrs exp Must be proficient with computers (Word/Perfect/Word/Excel) Resume & salary requirements HR Director SEC Box 9060 Farmington Hills MI 48333 9060 FAX 248 848 3771

ENGINEER Canton CE firm needs BSCE to plan design supervise construction of large residential subs including sanitary & storm sewer parking roads sidewalks Analyze reports make drawings aerials soils hydraulic characteristics topo data Need 2 years experience in AutoCAD Send resume to PO Box 0758 Observer & Eccentric Newspapers 36251 Schoolcraft Livonia MI 48150

FIELD SERVICE ENGINEERING Plymouth Knowledge of gas/diesel engine technology preferred Fax to Pat Tech 248 364 0370 or email employment@partechss.com

Dental 5040

Attn Exp Dental Assistants Hygienist & Receptionists Now hiring for general offices Fax resume to 586 997 9210

DENTAL ASSISTANT Are you an experienced assistant looking for an opportunity to expand skills and advance professionally in a high quality specialty practice? If you are also bright personable motivated and sincerely caring about people and dental health call 248 357 3100

DENTAL ASSISTANT Experienced reliable enthusiastic for a progressive patient oriented dental office that appreciates great staff Call 248 626 8635 or 248 808 4318

DENTAL ASSISTANT Full time position Dental experience required Excellent compensation Send resume 734 464 4778

DENTAL ASSISTANT for Nov Office Full time DENTAL EXP REQUIRED good working environment Contact Mary at 248 347 3700

DENTAL ASSISTANT Modern practice in Dearborn Heights is looking for an experienced Dental Assistant to compliment our team If you are energetic and looking for a full time position with benefits and generous salary please call (313) 274 4042 for an interview or email cambridge@dentalgroup.com

DENTAL ASSISTANT Experienced chairside full or part time needed for progressive high tech dental practice Call DeLora 734 281 9690

DENTAL PATIENT / COORDINATOR Full time Dental & computer experience required Laurel Park Livonia Excellent environment Send Resume 734 464 4778

DENTAL RECEPTIONIST Full time friendly modern Livonia office Dental experience required Excellent pay & benefits Fax resume to 734 427 1233

FRONT OFFICE Friendly busy pediatric dental office in Novi seeking full time individual Self starter computer experience a must Dentech experience helpful 248 478 3232

ORAL SURGERY ASSISTANT NEEDED W Dearborn practice Approx 30 hrs/wk Are you enthusiastic a team player oral surgery experience required Call (313) 582 1515

SCHEDULING COORDINATOR Great opportunity in positive progressive dental office Mon Thru Exp req req 248 549 0950

X RAY TECH Part Time Needed in group practice Orthodontics exp helpful Dental Assisting exp plus Call Dela 734 222 5130

Assistant Administrator/Office Manager Livonia LPW/RN welcome Word Excel supervisory exp a must 248 802 8989

CHIROPRACTIC ASSISTANT Livonia area Must have exp billing w/ teach x rays Dependable accurate & a people person Good pay for the right hardworking person Resume accepted PO Box 48 Howell MI 48154 or ask for Jean 517 552 8531

DIRECT CARE STAFF Full/part Days & afternoons Benefits available for full time WCLS training only Livonia area Contact Debbie at 734 524 1361

EXPERIENCE MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONIST Part time work from home Need PC Microsoft Word cardiology a must Call 248 213 1343

INSURANCE BILLER/FOLLOW UP Full time for busy Farmington Health Care Facility Email resume to farmjobapp@aol.com

LPW/RN or MEDICAL ASSISTANT Pediatrics Full time Southfield Fax resume 248 539 1924

MEDICAL ASSISTANT Experienced Full time Busy doctors Farmington Hills area Please fax resume 734 251 0775

MEDICAL ASSISTANT 2 dr dermatology office in Livonia Afternoon & early evening 16 20 hours/wk Fax resume to 248 474 5714

MEDICAL ASSISTANT For Pediatrics practice full time benefits avail Call Valene 248 661 9100 or fax resume to 248 861 9158

MEDICAL ASSISTANT Full time fast paced Livonia practice specializing in weight loss 734 422 8040

MEDICAL BILLER Livonia home infusion company looking for experienced biller prefer DME or infusion experience for 24 40 hrs/week Competitive wages & benefits Very pleasant office Fax resume to Teresa 734 425 2620

MEDICAL BILLER Experience required Excellent benefits Competitive salary Friendly atmosphere Plymouth area Call Maria S 734 453 6970

Medical Receptionist Experienced for busy doctors office in Rochester/Troy area Excellent salary benefits & working environment Full or Part time Please send resumes to Observer & Eccentric Box 0806 36251 Schoolcraft Rd Livonia MI 48150 or email oerresum@cehomeconnect.net (0806)

Medical 5060

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST Experience preferred but not necessary Full time Farmington Hills area Fax resume to 734 261 0775

OPTICAL LAB Full and part time with benefits Experienced only Direct Optical Ray 248 553 8270

RN Full/part time for fast paced allergy practice Competitive wages Excellent benefits Call 734 434 3007 Fax 734 434 6317 Email jblackburn@aiaofa.com

RN S Home Health Agency has immediate positions for RNs in North Oakland County and weekend RNs all areas Sign on bonus offered to qualified candidates Please fax resume to 1 866 903 4000 or call 313 882 1594

Food/Beverage/Restaurant 5980

CASHIER For Mr Pita Part time days & evenings Flexib hours good pay (586) 634 7125

COOKS W/EXPERIENCE Apply in person Nikola S 25225 Telegraph (at 10 Mile) (248) 355 4695

COOKS WITH EXPERIENCE wanted full or part time Apply Mon Sat 1 6pm O Toole's 205 W Fifth Ave Royal Oak No phone calls please

DELIVERY BUTLER Mobile waiters needed to deliver food for Chili's & other restaurants to local business customers Lunch hrs available Cash paid daily Must use own vehicle Please call 248 842 1100 9am 11am or 3pm 5pm

DINING ROOM MANAGER Position available at the Island House Hotel Mackinac Island MI a beautiful summer resort Background in fine dining service wine sales and m cooks a must Salary mealism and housing provided Must be available from May through late October Call Ryan at (1 800) 626 6304 www.theislandhouse.com

DINING ROOM SUPERVISOR Fortune 500 co 20 25 hours weekly Position available immediate interested candidates Fax resume to 3 322 6441

LINE COOK Full or part time Waitstaff nights Apply with in Gatsbys 45701 Grand River Nov

SANDWICH MAKER Looking for reliable trustworthy & hardworking person for prep work sandwich & salad making & light clean up Downtown Plymouth ask for Tony or Vicky (734) 453 8870

SERVERS & COOK Needed for lunch and dinner Apply in Person Herc's Restaurant 36685 Plymouth Rd Livonia after 5 pm

SERVERS & GREETERS Must be over 21 Apply in person Monday Fr day 11 2 Bahama Breeze 539 East Big Beaver Road Troy (248) 528 1674

SHORT ORDER COOK Wanted nights Exp preferred Apply within Rusty N Lounge 43645 Ford Rd Canton 2 blks E of Sheldon

REAL-ESTATE at it's best! Observer & Eccentric

WAITSTAFF Full or Part time nights Days or nights Excellent pay & tips Apply within Jack Duneavys 340 N Main Plymouth

#1 and We Can Prove It CENTURY 21 Real Estate Corp was recently named the #1 Real Estate franchise by Entrepreneur magazines Franchise 500

CENTURY 21 Town & Country is the #1 franchise in the United States Why wouldn't you work here? After you're licensed we have extensive training for full time agents with a full time professional trainer a commission program second to none and an agent first program with many benefits to our agents Tuition reimbursement possible

Call Tim Reilly 705 S Main St Plymouth MI (734) 455 5600

ATTENTION new, experienced and DUAL CAREER AGENTS Transitioning from your current career to Real Estate does not have to be difficult! We have the answer! Join our Dual Career Transition Center Today Special Training Limited openings in our Northville/Novi/275 Center Call Victor Salerno at (248) 347 3050 ext 422

AUTO SALES Some sales experience necessary Very busy office We offer training a fun environment an excellent income potential! Call Bill Farmer at 734 427 1550 For an immediate interview

Sales 5120

Auto Sales New Salary plus commission prior auto sales experience is not required Join our team of auto sales professionals in order to attract top performers interested in a lucrative sales career Gordon Chevrolet's offering Salary plus commission BC/RS 401K 5 day work week and many other benefits Apply in person to James Schram at 31850 Ford Road in Garden City

LOOKING FOR A CAREER CHANGE? SPIRIT FORD located in growing Dundee Michigan is looking for 2 or 3 AUTO EXPERIENCE only sales persons in 2003 Dundee had 2 new subdivisions break ground also the location for the number 1 tourist attraction in Michigan Cabelas As we expand our building & property lines in 2004 you can become a part of the Spirit Ford Family Great management team competitive pay plan Great opportunity for the right individuals Don't wait! Call today for our discreet interview & find out for yourself what sets us apart from the rest Ask for Tim Bowman (734) 529 5521 EOE

AUTO SALES NEW & USED CRESTWOOD DODGE (734) 421-5700

CAREER SEMINAR 2/13 2pm 2/18 5 30pm 2/25 10am Real Estate Getting started Start up costs? Potential earnings? Training? Support? Mentoring? Commission Splits? GET ANSWERS 734 256 9000 KELLER WILLIAMS LIVONIA

RELOCATION SPECIALIST Some Real Estate and/or Interior Design a plus Fax resume to PO Box 930347 Wixom MI 48393 or fax to 248 347 4095

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Sales 5120

NEW TODAY MARKETING PROFESSIONALS Growing Physical Therapy Co seeks individual with knowledge of SE MI area medical community to establish new leads Req 2+ years direct health care related sales in selling to Physicians Case Managers Insurance Co's & with Workers Comp reps Associate's Degree & exc time mgmt skills a must Base salary + comm up to \$60K Exc benefits package Send resume w/salary req to HR@theramatrix.com Code mark/Oakland or Fax 248 333 0276 EOE

PART TIME SALES POSITION AVAILABLE Some Saturdays required Sales experience required office furniture knowledge a plus Please send resume to Fax 734 261 7024 Email offdzr12@scglobal.net

PARTS/CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSOCIATE Aftermarket parts salesperson wanted to sell construction parts and undercarriage for all makes of equipment Exp preferred Good benefits Send resume to PO Box 87157 Canton MI 48187 0157

Professional Sales Metro Detroit's Premier Real Estate Office is looking for a select number of team members Our 40% growth has created a need for more Realtors in our Plymouth and Canton locations Will train to be top producers Full time support Technology at its best Call Claire Williams

REAL ESTATE SALES THINKING OF CHANGING CAREERS? LOOKING FOR INDEPENDENCE AND CONTROL OVER YOUR FINANCIAL FUTURE? Real Estate just may be your answer Comprehensive sales training and support provided so you can reach your goals 734 455 6000 We'r Manuel Snyder & Ranke 500 S Main St Plymouth

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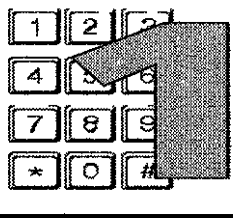
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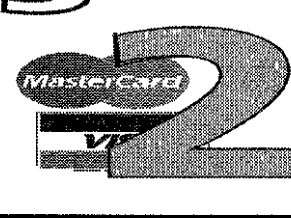
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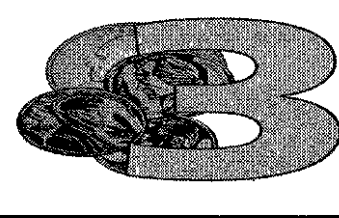
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RESPECTING EACH OTHER Full figured, energetic SWF 37 51 no children N/S N/D. Enjoys watching sports on TV, reading, bowling and the gym. Looking for an honest, mature SWM 37-50 who's employed and has his own transport. Ad# 644676

JUST THE GAL FOR YOU! Attractive SWF 61 56 b/w hair, large eyes. Enjoys theater, travel, dining out and family. Looking for an honest, good humored SWM 55-68 N/S. Ad# 653249

ARE YOU MY SOULMATE? SWF 44 N/S soccer drinker 56 140 lbs blue eyed blonde. Enjoys reading, bowling and dancing. She's looking for a sensitive, romantic N/S SWM 35-60 whose child is a good owner. Ad# 644647

FORMER MODEL SWF 49 56 with intel, graceful, creative and a passion for music and dancing. Seeking a man 39-49 to share these interests and more for a possible LTR. Ad# 638177

JUST MOVED BACK Adorable SWF 33 55 150 lb with brown hair and light green eyes. Seeking a SWM 35-47 who is affectionate and humorous. Ad# 644179

ENJOYS LIFE SWF 82 54 red hair brown eyes. Likes dining out, traveling, movies, reading, Harley's in the summer and more. Seeking a SWM 45-59 who enjoys life. Ad# 645875

SEEKS UNDERSTANDING MAN Caring, dependable SWF young looking 38 looking for a flexible SWM 30-50. Ad# 643379

FRIENDS TO START Very busy SWF 38 enjoys movies, traveling, theater, computers and quiet times. Looking for a sincere, educated, employed SWM 30-60 who can be flexible due to my busy schedule and is interested in friendship to start. May be more later. Ad# 643444

HEART OF A POET SWF 40 55 with brown eyes, height/weight proportionate. Enjoys fishing, camping, writing, photography and more. Looking for a SWM under 50 who has similar interests. Ad# 643372

THE COFFEE IS ON SWF 57 natural blonde blue eyes with grown up kids. Looking for a prompt N/S N/D male to get together and talk over a cup of coffee. Ad# 642834

SEARCHING SWF 40 who loves the loud pipes. Harley's also likes The Red Wings. Seeking SWM 45-55. Ad# 501093

LET'S LIVE SWF 51 WF independent 116 lbs. Enjoys traveling, dining out, boating. Looking for a SWM 50-60 with same interests. No couch potatoes. If interested, give me a call. Thank You. Ad# 616570

WHAT'S YOUR SIGN? Witty, faithful, outgoing SWF 41 blue eyed blonde 5'2. Loves roller coasters, computers, cars, racing, camping and fishing. Looking for a good humored, open minded, passionate SWM 35-55 who enjoys life. Ad# 536297

READY TO SETTLE DOWN SWF 47 52 attractive blonde, hazel eyes with a beautiful smile. Seeking a honest and caring SWM 40-52 who enjoys spending time with that special someone. Ad# 641159

ROMANCE Is just around the corner. I am 52 with dark eyes and hair. 6'3. Looking to meet a tall gentleman 59-70 who likes dancing, cards, travel and wants a long term relationship. Ad# 403303

LET'S SHARE LIFE TOGETHER DWV 37 weight proportionate 47 enjoys travel, weekend getaways, camping, movies, playing dining out, romantic days in search of a SCDM 45-85 family oriented with similar interests. Ad# 640890

SEEKING CHURCH GOING MAN SWF 22 enjoys going to church. Looking for a fun, respectable clean cut SB genteman 18-30 N/S N/D who's serious about a committed relationship. Ad# 640709

LOOKING TO BE SPOILED SWF 27 mother of 3 boys. Seeking SWM over 30 for a possible re-tossup. Ad# 640217

LET'S TRY IT OUT SWF 49 blonde who's romantic and sophisticated. Enjoys the bookstore, entertaining and cooking. Looking for a SWM to make her house a home. He should be intelligent, financially oriented, enjoy social occasions and be a good cook. Ad# 640050

SIMPLE LIFE SWF 47 54 110 lbs brown hair and green eyes. Enjoys sports, beach golf, cooking, dancing. Seeking SWM who is outgoing, friendly, loyal and good hearted. Let's have fun and good times together. Ad# 640037

LOVABLE SWEETIE SWF 42 Enjoy life, family, cooking and more. Seeking an SWM who is honest, sincere. You must enjoy life and good conversation. Ad# 639222

BEAUTIFUL INSIDE & OUT SWF 57 54 red curly hair, brown eyes. Enjoys movies, theater, boating, swimming, cooking and time with family. Seeking a SWM 55-79 who is ambitious, successful and fun. Ad# 473811

YOU WILL LIKE ME SWF 55 blonde medium build, fun loving, active. Seeking SWM 60 plus who wants to do things, is talkative, humorous and loves to cuddle. I'm interested in no smokers. Ad# 507287

SOFT SPOKEN LADIES SWF 51 53 with very blue eyes who enjoys quiet times, camping, reading, long walks. Seeking for a SWM 47-57 who likes doing things and likes to cuddle. Ad# 580885

COMPLETE HONESTY A MUST! I'm a sincere SWF 21 with one son, no smoking, no one else in the house. SWM who has a great sense of humor and is a good father. Ad# 636745

LIKE GOOD SURPRISES? SWF 52 51 110 lb blonde N/S N/D. Enjoys bowling, movies, cars, reading and time with friends. Looking for an honest, personable SWM 45-60. Ad# 618321

LET ME CARE FOR YOU Witty and funny SWF 52 52 Hobbes and interests include roller skating, bike riding, walks and other activities. Seeking a Christian SWM 18 to get to know better. Ad# 581578

CUTE BLONDE WIDOW I'm 5'05 lbs, 56 romantic, secure. SWF seeking a nice looking male 57 to 63, medium build, who enjoys dancing, golf, live theater and good conversation. Macomb County. Ad# 403962

MATCH THIS You tall, Lapeer/Genesee county SWM, honest, intelligent, no kids 30-35. Me thoughtful SWF 31 59 full figured, no kids smoker. Enjoys cooking, reading, theater, movies. Bonus points you are a Detroit Redwings fan and my cat I like you. Ad# 613687

QUIET BUT FUN SWF 50 53 with brown hair. Enjoys long walks, the outdoors, cooking, gardening, dining out and more. Seeking a SWM 45-60 who's a fun, fun, honest and caring with a good sense of humor. Ad# 420017

READY TO SETTLE DOWN SWF 21 52 160 lbs enjoys time with her children and much more. Looking for a SWM over 18 for a long term relationship. Ad# 611895

ENERGETIC LADY SWF 44 54 sporty blonde hair blue eyes. Enjoys muscle, basketball, swimming and much more. Looking for an honest and real SWM age unimportant. Ad# 611633

THIS IS LOVE This outgoing single black female 18 who enjoys her 2 children and enjoying life to the fullest. Seeking a single male under 36. Ad# 609514

PATIENTLY WAITING FOR YOU SWF 60 Auburn hair, green eyes, professional. Enjoys travel, week end getaways, camping, reading, and more. Seeking a SWM 57-70 who is outgoing, humorous, N/S N/D, fun and affectionate. Ad# 408309

TRAVEL COMPANION 59 attractive outgoing blonde 5'6. SWF seeking SM good conversation, active, romantic, intelligent. Wants companion to travel to Florida for 1 month this winter. Ad# 560413

SOMEONE TO CARE FOR WWVF 59 enjoys old cars, relaxing, quality time with that special someone and more. Looking for a SWM over 48 for a companion ship and a shoulder to lean on. Ad# 596014

TIME AT HOME SWF 27 59 with long black hair, blue eyes. Enjoys reading, drawing, crafts, fishing and more. Looking for a SCDM 24-38 who is honest with a one personality. Ad# 588934

SHARE HER DREAMS Fun loving SWF 40 57 175 lbs social drinker, smoker, with child. Searching for a smart SWM 35-50 who lives alone and would like to get to know each other. Ad# 633609

GET TO KNOW ME DWV 30 smoker with children. Likes to go out and have fun, try new things, simple and the simple things in life. Looking for a sincere, honest SWM 25-35 who likes children and quiet times at home. Ad# 633086

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MY HEART & YOURS SWF 50 who enjoys playing chess and bowing. Seeking a family oriented SWM 45-60 if you're into me, you may be interested. Ad# 649495

LOOKING FOR LTR SWF 59 easygoing, DW, mature, nice 53 with an average but looking for a loving car. You know what to do. Leave a message. Ad# 582934

NOT YOUR ORDINARY WOMAN Youthful, charming, energetic SWF 47 54 140 lbs. Seeking SM 38-55 for healthy, monogamous relationship. You should be financially oriented and spiritually stable. Race open. Serious replies only. Ad# 582670

CARING, DECENT & HONEST SWF 48 who enjoys reading, long walks, movies and quiet nights at home. In search of a caring, sincere SWM 45-58. Ad# 581955

COMPANIONSHIP Expecting mother with one child. Separated black female 26. Looking for an open minded, single male over 18 who enjoys children and companionship. Ad# 580709

LYING IS NOT AN OPTION SWF 41 56 130 lbs with blond hair and brown eyes. Interests are camping, the outdoors, Halesy and much more. In search of a height/weight proportionate SWM over 18 who's outgoing with similar interests. Ad# 577503

GET ALONG GREAT Outgoing and fun loving SW Mother 21 who enjoys dining, movies, walks and meeting new people especially a SWM 21-30. Ad# 577137

HONESTY ABOVE ALL Want to be spoiled? I'm a fun loving SWF 55 tall with green eyes and blond short brown hair who enjoys movies, camping, sewing, cooking and time at home. Looking for a sincere woman to go home with. Ad# 581955

BRIGHT & ACTIVE SWM 67 62 with silver hair in search of a fit SWF 35-55 with outgoing and generous. Ad# 644148

LET'S MEET SWM 52 with a one personality. Looking for a SWF over 18 for friendship and casual dating. To start. Ad# 643993

SOMEONE TO TALK TO SWF 19 short on hair, brown eyes, tattoos and piercings. Enjoys going to the movies, taking on the phone and hanging out with friends. Looking for a SM age unimportant. Just to talk. If interested, please call. Ad# 574234

CURVES IS A MUST SWM 47 61 200 lbs athletic build, back hair and mustache. Seeking a SWF 35-50 5'6 height/weight proportionate with a great smile and shining personality. Ad# 649016

TIRED OF BEING ALONE SWM 49 hardworking 5'8 175 lbs. Seeking a SWF 45-48 who is easygoing, intelligent and fit for a long term relationship. In the Redford area on No E-mails please! Ad# 406401

I'M WAITING SWM 49 seeks 38 knows how to treat a lady someone who has a nice build and a pleasant personality. I am looking for a woman that's looking for a good man. Hope to hear from you as soon as possible. Redford area. Ad# 411537

SO HOW ARE YOU? Hard working SWM 29 smoker, social drinker, enjoys relaxing at night. Looking for a nice looking SWF 21-40 who's honest and sincere. Ad# 633465

SHARE A GOOD LIFE He's a SWM 46 64 in search of a SWF 47 or older. She would be a fit with him. Call me before you jump into love with the great man who can't eat a woman with the respect she deserves. Ad# 639505

GREAT QUALITIES SWM 49 5'8 150 lbs. Haze eyes, brown hair, athletic sportsman. Looking for a SWF 19-39 who's fit, intelligent and fun. You know I will be called up in front of the fire and a good book after an active day outdoors. Ad# 639998

SEEKING ONE GOOD WOMAN Fun SWM 36 blonde hair, blue eyes, muscular build, no smoking. Enjoys dining out, movies and cars. Looking for an active SWF 25-40. Ad# 67 495

OPEN TO NEW IDEAS SWM 23 6 202 lbs. Enjoy doing body work, karate and open to new experiences. Looking for a SF 21-25 who would like to get together and see what develops. Ad# 638284

RESPONSIBLE Retired DWV 64 59 185 lbs. Home owner with grown children. Enjoys boating, cooking, travel, fishing, movies, fishing and more. Looking for a SM to meet me but SWF 25-54 to compare notes. Possibly long term relationship. Ad# 637091

LOOKING FOR LOVE SWM 45 125 lbs with blonde hair. Enjoys NASCAR, bowling, basketball, football, working out and much more. Looking for a SWF under 48 who has some similar interests. Ad# 636971

HIDDEN TREASURE Hardworking SWM 34 511 220 lbs. Enjoys tubing, dancing and movies. Looking for a young, caring, fun, outgoing, stable SWF 31-40 N/S. Ad# 636413

COUNTRY LIFE SWM 32 56 blue eyes, brown hair, stocky build, well-mannered and honest. Enjoys movies, country living, music and more. Seeking a SWF under 35 to a possible relationship. Ad# 638307

SMILE FROM EAR TO EAR This 40 year old single white male is looking for an upbeat, single who's fun for quality time and happiness. Ad# 636304

BACK IN THE AREA SWM 25 enjoys playing hockey and softball. Looking for a SWF under 50 for friendship and good conversation. Let's start where it goes! In the area. Ad# 635653

SLOW START SWM 25 59 160 lbs with brown hair, blue eyes and an athletic build. Enjoys playing softball and hockey. Looking for a SF under 36 who has similar interests to friendship. Ad# 635654

LOOKING FOR YOU 35 year old SWM stands 5'10 and weighs 155 lbs. He's seeking a SWF 35 or younger for good times. He's attracted, well spoken and looking for someone special. Are you the one? Ad# 635604

GET TO KNOW ME SWM 29 61 with brown eyes and a back hair. Looking for a SWF over 18 for friendship and good conversation to start. Ad# 635341

NEWLY SEPARATED SWF 52 Ad# 629155

LET'S START SOMETHING NEW SWM 27 58 190 lbs. Bald and mature with Ad# 634944

WILL YOU JOIN ME? SWM 50 6 brown hair, blue eyes. Enjoys dining, dancing, movies, good conversation and more. Seeking an honest and outgoing SWF 35-50 who is a good conversationalist, friendly and down to earth for a possible relationship. Ad# 634718

BRIGHT & BRILLIANT SWM 29 511 190 lbs with brown eyes. Interests are shopping, traveling, movies, reading and more. Looking for a SWF over 18 who has similar interests. Ad# 420420

Put your hearts together Get to the heart of the matter. Our Personals can help you find that special someone in the crowd. Place your FREE ad 1-800-487-2038 or online at http://www.observersingles.com

SEEKING KINDRED SPIRIT SWF 59 56 blonde hair, blue eyes, enjoys movies, dancing, dining out and spending time with her children. Looking for an honest, sincere SWM 25-35 to have some fun together. Ad# 639034

HOW ABOUT IT? SWM 49 enjoys football and hockey. Looking for a sports loving SWF. Let's get together and watch a game. Ad# 643629

A LITTLE FREAKY SWM 23 62 180 lbs. Brown skin, black hair, brown eyes. Looking for a SWF 18-41 for friendship, someone who can be a bit freaky like myself. Ad# 643499

UNIQUE & FASCINATING Self employed DWV 65 63 who enjoys the outdoors, hiking, front yard fireplace and traveling. Looking for a prudent SWCF 43-55 who's an active fit and looking for a possible long term relationship. Ad# 643411

LIFE IS BEING SHARED White male, 6'1, 175 lbs, 54 years successful and attractive. Seeking a white female 38 to 53 4 1/2 plus, a non smoker, very attractive and physically fit who loves fine dining, travel, cuddling and is seeking a best friend. Ad# 403960

ROMANTIC WARRIOR SWM 32 58 170 lbs. Professional, financially and emotionally stable. Enjoys movies, reading, travel and much more. Seeking SWF 20-36 who's down to earth, open minded and common sense. Ad# 428247

MOVIE STAR LOOK A LIKE SWM 50 spontaneous, seeking a SF 28-40 who is fun loving, attractive and trustworthy. Ad# 643059

STARTING OVER Fun loving WWVW 42 510 with four children, enjoys cooking, bowling, going out and spending time with that special someone. Looking for a SF 35 and race unimportant who's also fun loving and has similar interests. Ad# 642962

BE THERE FOR ME SWM 19 65 light brown eyes, black hair, 200 lbs. Seeking a SWF 20+ to care for him and share time together. Ad# 642601

LOVE THE OUTDOORS SWM 57 57 medium build. Loves the outdoors. Seeking a fit lady 45-57 for weekend activities and see where it goes and what develops. Ad# 641350

NOT YOUR AVERAGE JOE! Sexy SWM 33 180 lbs, 6 bald. Looking for a sexy SF 18-35 who wants to get together and have some fun with no strings attached. Ad# 643273

CLASSY SWF 43 tall with brown eyes, interests are reading, music and much more. In search of a SWM 38-50 who's very caring, loving and understanding. Ad# 578888

LEAVE A MESSAGE SWF 42 enjoys bowling, dining, movies, going drives and much more. In search of a SWM over 30 who's honest, caring and fun to be with. Ad# 578494

CARING & GIVING SWF 36 attractive, outgoing, energetic and fun to be around. Interests are water skiing, bowling, traveling, reading and more. Looking for a SWM 30-45 who's honest, caring and giving. Ad# 578195

SMILE WITH ME Late 40s and kind SWCF 40 full figured. Enjoys movies, dining out, church functions and quiet time with family. Seeking good natured, attractive and open minded SWM 40-49. Ad# 577548

EDUCATED PROFESSIONAL SWM 45 58 tall, light brown hair, blue eyes. Looking for a professional, compassionate, professional SWM 28-45 Oakland or Wayne County. Ad# 449863

LOOKING FOR LOVE This 28 year old SWM is looking for a SWF 20-32 who will love him and would like to be loved in return. Ad# 633337

NOT YOUR AVERAGE JOE! Sexy SWM 33 180 lbs, 6 bald. Looking for a sexy SF 18-35 who wants to get together and have some fun with no strings attached. Ad# 643273

SPORTS FANATIC SWM 44 short wavy hair 6'3 very educated and nice guy build. Seeking a fun and humorous SF age unimportant who likes sports and just having a good time. Ad# 641243

IN SEARCH OF LOVE SWM 52 with brown hair and a mustache. Enjoys dining out, the outdoors. Looking for a SWF 40-53 who is looking for a long term relationship. Ad# 420373

HARDWORKING Honest SWM 46 seeking a SWF 35-50 who speaks her mind and is willing to do her part in a serious relationship. Not looking for games. Ad# 552061

LOOKING FOR A SWF under 45 who's intelligent, active, fun, adventurous and willing to try new and different things. Ad# 637501

SEEKING A QUALITY LADY SWM 38 who enjoys pool, bowling, the outdoors and watching movies. 5'10 170 lbs. Stravinsky blonde hair. Seeking for a SWF to spend time together and who is honest, caring, spontaneous and adventurous. Ad# 640178

NOTHING TO LOSE SWM 62 humorously talented, peaceful. Looking for a SF over 18 to fun and travel. Ad# 635198

WALK WITH ME SWM 38 seeking a SWF who shares his interests in fishing, movies, sports, a bike ride in the park and more. She would enjoy life and be ready to jump into love with the great man who can't eat a woman with the respect she deserves. Ad# 639505

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White on the phone, Bob discovers 10 other women that match his search.

Hey Bob! Press 2 to CHAT LIVE or leave a voice message for any of them right now!

VERY HONEST SWM 34 56 with black hair and brown eyes. Interests are movies, martial arts, etc. Looking for a SWF 21-38 who enjoys the same things in life. Ad# 615794

COLOR MY WORLD This 23 year old SWM is 5'8 170 lbs with dark skin and a goatee. He's looking for a SWF age is not important who wants to get together for some fun and good times. Ad# 615652

CAN WE MEET? SWM 68 6 medium build N/S. Would like to meet an honest, attractive, single to meet a SWF 50-62 to share times with similar interests. Ad# 615250

ARE WE A MATCH? SWM 38 57 155 lbs. Hazel eyes, brown hair, honest, caring and respectful. Enjoys seeking a SWF 20-40 who's healthy, fit, confident and down to earth. Ad# 615081

DINNER & MORE SWM 40 brown hair and eyes. Enjoys dinner, movies and doing a seeking a SWF 37-45 with similar interests. Ad# 614533

ALWAYS SMILING SWM 29 55 160 lbs with brown hair. Interests are boxing, animals, relaxing, working on a SWF over 18 who knows how to be herself. Ad# 614533

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PUPPY for sale loveable 3 mo old Male Dachshund needs a home (248) 417 2588

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Dogs (7640)

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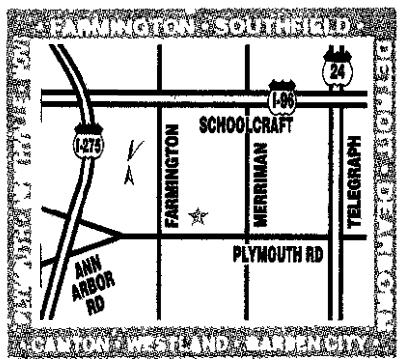
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Thursday February 12, 2004

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3

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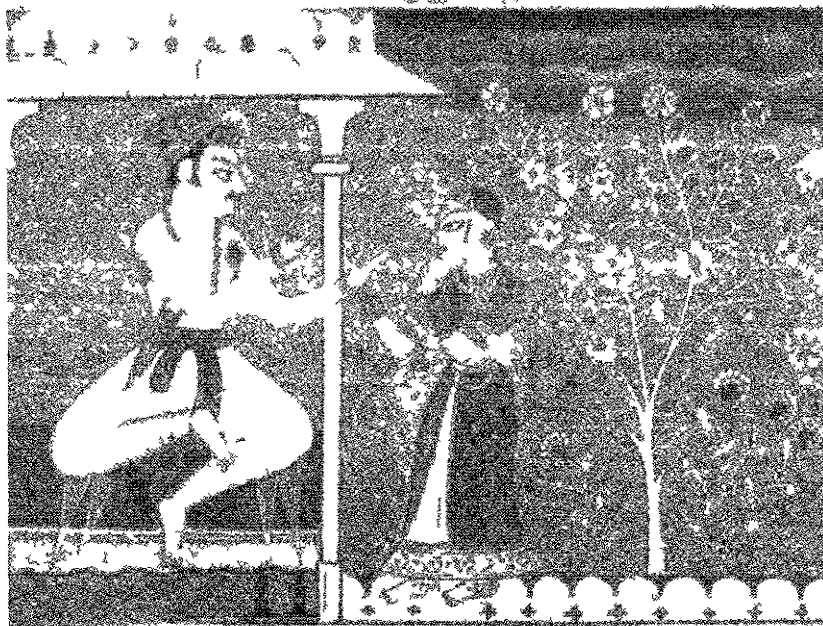
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Observed & Eccentric Thursday February 12, 2004 (***) E1

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Sunday February 15

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Dating scene

Overtures mingles music and singles

Let classical music make the introductions for you

Overtures, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's concert program for singles, runs October to June with events on Friday evenings at the Max M Fisher Music Center in Detroit

The thought is classical musical lovers might love each other as much as they love Mozart. Hey, don't giggle, Overtures has proved a masterful matchmaker

"We've had marriages, and then there are the relationships of course," said Chuck Dyer, coordinator of the program, which began as a young professionals organization in 1989 and gradually evolved into a singles group

Dyer himself has attended 10 weddings that grew out of Overtures first encounters

"Because there's a concert involved, there's a filter," he said "It's not like going to the bar around the corner" At the very least, attendees have one thing in common: an appreciation of classical music

Currently, the group has about 100 members, largely professionals. The age range is 25 to 50. A block of tickets is reserved for the group, so attendees are able to enjoy the concert together. Each concert is preceded by dinner and followed by an afterglow inside the Max, so there's plenty of opportunity to strike up conversation

But unlike most singles groups, Overtures isn't laser-focused on match-making

"The central focus really is the love of music," said Dyer "They're a lot of people who just love classical music, want to come down but don't want to come alone"

Tricia Lloyd of Shelby Township has been a member for four years but isn't necessarily looking for love "I love classical music. And this is a fun way to enjoy it"

Lloyd joined with a group of girlfriends and since then has developed many other friendships. Going to a concert alone just isn't the same, she said

It's a wonderful thing to do. You don't often get a chance to meet people and discuss classical music

And who knows where the discussion will go from there?

MAKE MUSIC TOGETHER

What: Overtures the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's singles-group concerts including dinner and afterglow

When: All events are scheduled on Fridays, 6 p.m. dinner, 8 p.m. concert. The next event is Friday, March 19

Where: Max M Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit

Tickets: \$53 per concert or \$240 for a five-concert series. Call program coordinator Chuck Dyer at (313) 576-5130 or visit

www.detroitssymphony.com

DSO plays cupid this week

Music makes the art of wooing easier

So the Detroit Symphony Orchestra has a program of starry-eyed Broadway and film music planned for its Valentine's Day week concerts at the Max M Fisher Music Center in Detroit

Titled "From the Heart," the concert features such romantic tunes as *I Could Have Danced All Night* from *My Fair Lady*, *Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered* from *Pal Joey*, *My Heart Will Go On* from the film *Titanic*, and *Isn't It Romantic?* from *Love Me Tonight*

The program is being presented at 8 p.m. today, 8:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 3 p.m. Sunday

Joining the DSO and pops music advisor Erich Kunzel as conductor is soprano Kathleen Brett and baritone Daniel Narducci

Tickets are \$15 to \$54, call (313) 576-5111 or visit the Web site, www.detroitssymphony.com

Index

- **BIG SCREEN** **E4**
Miracle may sound like a glorified made-for-TV movie, but it's hard not to get caught up in the excitement
- **SMALL SCREEN** **E5**
Spinal Tap: a film about a fictional English metal band seems as fresh and original today as it did when it was released 20 years ago
- **COVER STORY** **E9**
Want to meet someone? Look anywhere, anywhere at all. The best way to approach someone is with a simple "hello."
- **DINNER AND A DATE** **E10**
Don't eat alone. Pull up a chair. Table for Eight arranges group dinners for singles based on profile compatibility.
- **TABLE HOPPING** **E12**
A French influence permeates the menu at Zinc Brasserie & Wine Bar, but there are lots of surprises too.
- **DRINKOLOGY** **E14**
Taittinger Cuvee Prestige Rose is a superb, traditionally styled rosé champagne that your valentine will love to drink with you.
- **GET OUT!** **E18**
Check out our entertainment calendar to make plans to Get Out! and do something fun.
- **ARE YOU GAME?** **E20**
Love can blossom when you're sweating. Get in shape, and while you're working out, you might just meet someone special.
- **STAR STRUCK** **E22**
Find out what's in the stars for you this week. Read your horoscope.

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Hot Ticket



Speed dating: another tool for tackling singledom

Looking for love in a hurry? Apparently, there are plenty of busy young professionals short on time and patience when it comes to matters of the heart.

"Most are professionals, there are lots of attorneys and doctors," said Ron Molles, coordinator for Detroit Pre-Dating Events. "They like speed dating because you meet a lot of people at once. It's pretty efficient."

A typical Pre-Dating session entails 10 to 12 meetings — each lasting about six minutes — with men moving from one table to the next. After six minutes, we ring the bell and you get an opportunity to take notes.

Participants wear badges with a number and first name. If there's a spark, one only need circle the interested category and hope the electricity was mutual.

If both people at the table match, we have a computer program that identifies it and automatically sends out an e-mail to both people, said Molles. We're an old-fashioned matchmaker with a technology twist.

Molles holds about two double sessions of speed dating each month, usually at an Oakland County bar or restaurant with a private room. Favorite locations include the Blue Martini in downtown Birmingham and Bistro Bourdeau in Auburn Hills.

It is a first impression event, so I encourage people to dress well and think about the questions they're asking. You are marketing yourself almost

Love in the fast lane

SPEED DATING SOURCES

- **8 Minute Dating** - eight dates each eight minutes. www.8minutedating.com or e-mail the Detroit event organizer debbien@8minutedating.com
- **Detroit Pre-Dating** - 10-12 dates each six to seven minutes. (248) 456-0460. www.PreDating.com
- **Quick Spark** - 10 to 20 five-minute dates. www.quickspark.com
- **Couple Minutes Speed Dating** - about 20 three-minute dates. www.coupleminutes.com

ADVANTAGES

Call it cattle call dating if you want, but there are advantages.

"Women appreciate that it's a safe environment and the men who show up are genuinely interested in having a relation-

ship. They're not on the defense trying to figure out a guy's motivation," said Debbie Norris, 8 Minute Dating's event organizer for metro Detroit.

Likewise, men are relieved they don't have to come up with one-liners. "And, they don't have to take a risk. Most of the time, men are the ones who have to approach the women. It takes the rejection element away."

The protocol is much the same at 8 Minute Dating events, which are held one to two times per month at various venues including the Blue Martini. However, participants have only eight meetings and a little more time to talk and size up.

Typically, speed dating involves participants of the same age group, such as 25 to 38 or 45 to 55. Pre-registration online is the norm, and per-session fees are about \$35. Spots for women tend to fill up quickly, as speed dating is less popular with the guys.

Once they get over the initial fear or ego — that I don't need this to help me date — men find it's a very cool way to meet people, said Norris. Once they get here, they love it.

It's corny, but there's a lot of warmth in 'Miracles'



CHRIS LARGE

Olympic hockey coach Herb Brooks (Kurt Russell center) does the impossible as he unites a group of ragtag hockey players to take on the juggernaut from the Soviet Union at the 1980 Olympic Games in 'Miracle'

BY CHRISTY LEMIRE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nearly everyone already knows how *Miracle* ends, even though a generation has been born since the underdog U.S. hockey team upset the dominant Soviets during the 1980 Olympics in Lake Placid.

The fact that director Gavin O'Connor still manages to build palpable suspense is a testament to how entertaining the film is.

O'Connor may seem an unlikely choice for a feel-good sports movie. He previously directed, co-wrote and co-starred in 1999's *Tumbleweeds*, a wonderful, small film about a mother who moves from town to town with her 12-year-old daughter after a series of bad relationships.

With that film, though, he achieved an elusive balance. He created poignant moments without making them mawkish. And, for the vast majority of the time, he does the same with *Miracle*.

There's enough innate emotion and excitement in the *Miracle on Ice* story that O'Connor, working from a script by first-timer Eric Guggenheim, usually avoids amping it up.

Similarly, Kurt Russell doesn't overplay the role of Herb Brooks, the coach who handpicked a motley assortment of hockey players from Minnesota, Massachusetts and other cold places and taught them to play the game in a totally new way.

"I'll be your coach - I won't be your friend," Brooks tells his players on day one.

He growls at them and makes them skate sprints until they puke when he thinks they've slacked against the Norwegian team.

He toys with their minds in the locker room and lets them take the ice when even they think they're too hurt or tired to play.

It's a big, fiery role, but Russell finds enough nuance to avoid being a caricature. (The real Brooks, by the way, died in a car crash in Minnesota in August and never got to see the film.)

He and the movie are at their best, though, during the training scenes and the games themselves, which are shot and edited beautifully.

Early on, Brooks tells the players his plan for success: Flow and creativity - that is what this team is all about, gentlemen.

That seems to have been the same approach in shooting the thrilling hockey sequences. You feel as if you're being checked into the boards, as if the puck is

It helps enormously that the actors on the ice are actual hockey players, and not famous people pretending to play hockey. The only problem is that we get to know too few of them.

flying at your face through the back of the net.

REAL PLAYERS

It helps enormously that the actors on the ice are actual hockey players, and not famous people pretending to play hockey. The only problem is that we get to know too few of them.

Buzz Schneider (played by his son, Billy, in a neat bit of casting) scores some of the biggest clutch goals, but we don't spend as much time with him as we do with charismatic Jack O'Callahan (Michael Mantenuto) and team captain Mike Eruzione (Patrick O'Brien Demsey).

Eddie Cahill, a regular on *Friends*, gets the choice role of goalie Jim Craig, who was nearly impenetrable in front of the net.

In fairness, though, O'Connor has a lot to cram in, including historical perspective. The 1980 U.S. hockey team provided inspiration during gas shortages and the Iran hostage crisis, a time when the country was still locked in the Cold War.

He also finds time for Brooks' personal life, such as it was, with the marvelous casting of Patricia Clarkson as the coach's wife, Patti.

Clarkson could have merely played the sweet, supportive spouse, but - as has become her trademark in films including *Far From Heaven*, *The Station Agent* and *Pieces of April*, for which she's earned an Oscar nomination - she brings a warmth and a quirky wit that make the role complete.

Miracle may sound like a glorified made-for-TV movie.

And it may sound corny. But it's hard not to get caught up during Al Michaels' now-famous call - "Do you believe in miracles? Yes!" - and the deafening chants of "USA! USA!"

Miracle, a Walt Disney Pictures release, is rated PG for language and some rough sports action. Running time: 133 minutes. Three stars out of four.

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PG

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'Mockumentary' classic 'Spinal Tap' still rocks you

BY DAVID MACGREGOR
CORRESPONDENT

This is *Spinal Tap* (1984) is at once the "documentary," "rockumentary," and "mockumentary" about the fictional English heavy metal band called Spinal Tap, celebrated for being one of England's "loudest bands"

When the film was first released, reaction to it was split largely along two lines. There were the viewers who were deeply impressed at the way the film captured the essence of previous documentaries dealing with rock groups and who felt it was one of the funniest films they had ever seen. Then there were the viewers who didn't quite comprehend that the whole premise of the film was a joke and who began searching for Spinal Tap's albums.

Through a combination of interviews, concert scenes and "archival" footage, director Rob Reiner was able to create a fictional band that felt extremely real. He was aided and abetted in this by Christopher Guest, Michael McKean and Harry Shearer, who star as the members of Spinal Tap in addition to writing the script and all of Spinal Tap's songs.

The songs cover the long history of the group, from *Gimme Some Money*, shown in a grainy black and white reminiscent of the Beatles' appearance on *The Ed Sullivan Show*, to the psychedelic *Listen to the Flower People* to hard rock anthems

such as *Hell Hole* and *Tonight We're Gonna Rock Tonight*

DEJA VU

For fans of rock and roll, the saga of Spinal Tap involves nods to storied incidents in rock's past, from a band member choking to death on vomit (Jimmi Hendrix) to hussy fits about dressing room food (Van Halen) to getting lost on their way to the stage (Kiss).

But even if you aren't a rock historian, you will instantly recognize the general outlook on life that the members of Spinal Tap have. As longtime celebrities to one degree or another, they have perfected the kind of clueless earnestness that is the hallmark of a lifetime spent being out of touch with reality. They are so accustomed to being asked for their thoughts and opinions that the fact that those opinions are often completely illogical or barely lucid scarcely seems to occur to them or anyone else within their orbit.

However, what really sells the film is the handheld camera work and improvised dialogue that give viewers the sense that this is, indeed, a genuine documentary. This effect is strengthened by the ubiquitous groupies, the beleaguered manager of the band, and the cutthroat record executives who all add a sense of credibility and veracity to the film.

With only the slightest of nudges, this could very well be a film about The

Rolling Stones or Black Sabbath.

This was the first film Rob Reiner directed, and in its aftermath, it was Christopher Guest who took up the "mockumentary" baton and who has gone on to direct three films in the same genre: *Waiting for Guffman* (about community theater), *Best in Show* (about dog shows)

and *A Mighty Wind* (about folk music). But it all began here, with *This is Spinal Tap*, a film that seems as fresh and original today as it did when it was released 20 years ago.

David MacGregor is a film instructor at Wayne State University and screenwriter who lives in Livonia.



Harry Shearer (from left), Michael McKean and Christopher Guest star as Spinal Tap.

They're on a mission without permission

CATCH THAT KID

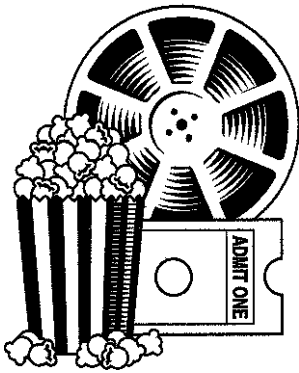
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More movies



When asked whether Keanu Reeves or Jack Nicholson was the better kisser Diane Keaton replied 'Jack, without a doubt'

Is Jack a better kisser than Keanu?

(AP) - Jack Nicholson said he had no qualms about displaying his "big fat" posterior in the romantic comedy *Something's Gotta Give*

I did suggest it for the poster of the picture, which I was told would be illegal, Nicholson said before the film's screening Friday at the Berlin Film Festival

Oscar-nominee Diane Keaton, who won a Golden Globe for her role in the film, was more modest about her nude appearance

It was my pleasure to be naked in Nancy's film, she said, with a nod to director Nancy Meyers

Hands down, you had to do the nude scene

Nicholson, who plays a bachelor notorious for only dating women under 30, accidentally walks in on a fully nude Keaton, setting off a slapstick sequence of

bumbling that Keaton said always gets great laughs

When asked whether Keanu Reeves who plays a young doctor vying for her affections - or Nicholson 66 was the better kisser Keaton replied Jack, with

out a doubt

Frances McDormand, who plays Keaton's sister in the film, heads the festival's international jury this year The top honor, the Golden Bear, will be awarded Feb 14

BLOCKBUSTER RECOMMENDATIONS

Wondering what movie to rent tonight? Here are some recommendations from Blockbuster Video, www.blockbuster.com
Open Range - Kevin Costner stars in and directs this western which features Robert Duvall

Once Upon a Time in Mexico - Director Robert Rodriguez returns to the characters of his breakthrough hits *El Mariachi* and *Desperado* in this grand scale south-of-the-border action adventure saga Sands (Johnny Depp) is a rogue CIA agent who is working in cahoots with Mexican officials
Out of Time - Director Carl Franklin and actor Denzel Washington team up again (following 1995's *Devil in a Blue Dress*) for this crime thriller

Uptown Girls - Brittany Murphy stars in this comedy as Molly Gunn the daughter of a dead rock star who lives off her inheritance and has never worked a day in her life until her father's estate is swindled away

Cabin Fever - Five college buddies retreat to the woods for a little R & R and end up getting a horrific lesson in infectious disease in this low budget shocker

American Wedding - Jesse Dylan's *American Wedding* rounds up the characters from the American Pie films for a trip to the altar

SWAT - Clark Johnson's big screen adaptation of the 1970s television series *SWAT* stars Colin Farrell as Jim Street a young special weapons and tactics team member

Freddy Vs Jason - Rumored and anticipated for years the two biggest icons of the slasher genre finally meet in the eighth entry in the *Nightmare on Elm Street* saga and the 11th film in the *Friday the 13th* series

Seabiscuit - For his sophomore effort director Gary Ross re teams with Tobey Maguire and William H Macy stars of his directorial debut *Pleasantville* for this depression-era sports drama about the legendary racehorse *Seabiscuit*

Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl - Following his surprise hit American remake of *The Ring* in 2002 director Gore Verbinski took on *Pirates* the second of recent films to be based upon Disney theme park rides

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On 'ER,' love affairs mostly all in the family

BY LYNN ELBER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Love is always the best medicine on *ER*.

After 10 years of the NBC drama, the staff at County General Hospital has created an impressive file of romances. Doctors have played doctor with each other, with nurses and with paramedics.

Forget six degrees of separation – the romantic entanglements of these healers are barely a tongue depressor apart.

Both Drs. John Carter and Luka Kovak, for example, were involved with nurse Abby Lockhart.

Dr. Peter Benton had a fling with Dr. Elizabeth Corday, who moved on to Dr. Mark Greene and, lately, Dr. Edward Dorset.

All this while curing the sick, making medical breakthroughs and fighting budget battles.

At the start, executive producer John

Wells (*The West Wing*) had maintained that the show's focus was not "young doctors in love."

"We tried very hard to cast the best actors in those roles," Wells said in an interview in 1994, the year *ER* debuted. "It was clear we needed extremely talented actors to carry off a combination of compassion and science."

But even in the midst of extreme trauma, love – or lust – finds a way.

The dedicated healers occasionally find romance outside the emergency room, such as Benton's relationship with Carla Reese or Carter's latest love, an AIDS worker he met in Africa. She's played by Thandie Newton of *Mission Impossible II* fame.

SCORECARD

But it's mostly all in the family on close-knit *ER*. Here's a romantic scorecard for many current and former characters based on *ER: The Unofficial Guide* by Mark Jones, *The Complete*

Directory to Prime Time Network and Cable TV Shows by Tim Brooks and Earle Marsh, and NBC.

■ Dr. John Carter (Noah Wyle) med student Harper Tracy (Christine Elise), Dr. Abby Keaton (Glenne Headly), Dr. Anna Del Amico (Maria Bello), nurse Abby Lockhart (Maura Tierney), Dr. Susan Lewis (Sherry Stringfield), Makemba "Kem" Likasu (Newton).

■ Dr. Jing-Mei "Deb" Chen (Ming-Na) Nurse Frank Bacon (Morris Chestnut), Dr. Gregory Pratt (Mekhi Phifer).

■ Dr. Elizabeth Corday (Alex Kingston) Dr. Peter Benton (Eriq LaSalle), Dr. Mark Greene (Anthony Edwards), Dr. Edward Dorset (Bruno Campos).

■ Dr. Luka Kovak (Goran Visnjic) Waitress Nicole (Julie Delpy), nurse Carol Hathaway (Juhanna Margulies), med student Erin Harkins (Leslie Bibb), nurse Lockhart.

■ Dr. Lewis Dr. Div Cvetic (John Terry), Dr. Carter.

■ Dr. Kerry Weaver (Laura Innes) Dr. Kim Legaspi (Elizabeth Mitchell), firefighter Sandy Lopez (Lisa Vidal).

■ Dr. Benton physician's assistant Jeanie Boulet (Gloria Reuben), Carla Reese (Lisa Nicole Carson), Dr. Elizabeth Corday, Dr. Cleo Finch (Michael Michele).

■ Dr. Greene nurse Chuny Marquez (Laura Ceron), Dr. Nina Pomerantz (Jami Gertz), receptionist Cynthia Hooper (Mariska Hargitay), fake doctor Amanda Lee (Mare Winningham), Dr. Corday.


■ Nurse Hathaway Dr. Doug Ross (George Clooney), Dr. John Taghern (Rick Rossovich), paramedic Ray "Shep" Shepard (Ron Eldard).

■ Dr. Ross Nurse Hathaway, med student Harper Tracy, assorted flings. ■ Physician's assistant Boulet. Dr. Benton, Dr. Greg Fischer (Harry J. Lennix).

Dr. Graham Baker (Carl Lumbly). ■ Dr. Anna Del Amico Dr. Carter, Dr. Max Rocher (James LeGros).




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Love map

There's no designated route, just follow your heart

Advice for singles Want to meet someone? Look anywhere - anywhere at all

Daniel Haberman owns the Bosco Lounge in Ferndale Pouring drinks at this funky lounge makes him an expert on single life

"One of the fun things about The Bosco is that pick-up lines generally don't work here," Haberman said

It's not a meat market, this crowd is educated, cool and friendly

Pick-up lines are best left for Larry from *Three's Company*," Haberman said "It seems the best way to approach someone is by a simple hello If you need a line to start a conversation, you likely don't have much to say beyond that"

Haberman sees friends setting up friends - and singles chatting up others - all through a simple "hello"

That word, said Mary Taylor, of the Learning Institute of Family Education in Detroit, is an underestimated ice-breaker

"It's the simplest way to approach someone," Taylor said Following it with the old adage, 'Did we go to high school together?' gives people a reason to talk and look at one another"

CUPID'S HELPERS

Taylor's nonprofit group is aimed at helping people build productive relationships and strong families She hosts dating clinics that teach singles how to go out in the world and "discover and be discovered" LIFE is hosting a dance for singles and couples at the YWCA in Redford on Valentine's Day Before the dressy dance, a free dating clinic will offer secrets on how to meet and choose a partner who's right for you

But where?

Supermarkets, libraries, movies, concerts, sporting events, restaurants, taking a walk down the street - you can meet someone anywhere

Taylor said people over 30 have a harder time finding dates not because of age, but because of their sedentary lives

'They don't go out as much,' Taylor said The UPS man and Avon lady who knock on your door are taken

You need to go out to find a mate

Her advice might be considered old fashioned She tells women to be feminine, wear perfume, look decent and let men seek them She tells men to gain a woman's attention with seemingly forgotten manners

Hold open the door hold out her chair for her

Taylor said "Men today have lost their manners and that's partially because women aren't letting them be chivalrous"

It's all about hunting and being hunted in a healthy, friendly way, Taylor said

"If you want to meet your mate, treat it almost like a job interview - meaning, go look"

TOO AFRAID TO APPROACH?

Organized singles groups and activities are emotionally safe places to meet, said Phyllis Perry of Ann Arbor

For four years Perry organized events for the now-defunct Jewish Singles Schmoozers Club, and that made her a love expert Her group was a social one, where singles were invited to monthly dinners at area restaurants

"I made three permanent matches," Perry said "And I saw a lot of relationships develop over dinner"

Perry has since dissolved the group, but many others have taken its place

"My group was popular and the reason is that people want a safe, friendly place to meet others. Not everyone wants to go to a bar"

DANCE & CLINIC

What: A singles workshop on how to improve your dating skills 7-8 30 p.m. followed by singles & couples dance 8 p.m. to midnight

Saturday

Where: YWCA-Northwest Branch 25940 Grand River Redford Township

Dress code: Dressy

Cost: Advance tickets are \$20 each or \$25 at the door Also available at the door until 8 p.m. are half off tickets for men - to encourage more single men to attend

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Dinner and a date



PHOTO COURTESY FOR TABLE OF EIGHT

The singles mingled at Table for Eight's New Year's Eve event at the Townsend Hotel in downtown Birmingham. In addition to arranged group dinners for members, the company hosts singles events that are open to non-members.

Love X4

Pull up a
seat at the
singles
table — it
takes the
guesswork
out of
dating

Some say finding love is a matter of luck.

Nonetheless, about 1,200 metro Detroit singles believe they've found a way to beat the odds.

They're members of Table for Eight. The Royal Oak-based corporation arranges group dinners for singles based on profile compatibility.

"I think the possibility is there that it could happen," member Mark Steinberg said of finding love through the service. "The odds of it happening are a lot higher than if you were at home watching television."

Steinberg, 43, a financial analyst who lives in Commerce Township, joined about two years ago. He has yet to meet that special someone — the truth is he's only attended a handful of dinner dates — but hopes the night will come soon. In the meantime, he's enjoying the process.

"It's a social club but with potential for a romantic connection," said Steinberg, who's never been married and signed up with Table for Eight upon his mother's advice.

So how does it work?

PLEASE SEE DINNER, E11

DINNER

FROM PAGE E10

Members in groups of eight – four women and four men – are brought together for dinner at an area restaurant. The group is selected based on a variety of factors, from age to hobbies to physical appearance. In arranging each date, Table for Eight staff pay particular attention to those factors deemed by each member as a key preference.

There's always a deal breaker, said Stephanie Puertas, co-owner of the business, which has a branch in Boston and plans to expand into other markets.

HOW IT WORKS

On the night of the date, a Table of Eight staff member greets members at the restaurant, seats the group and makes introductions. Then, dinner begins.

It was a little awkward at first, Steinberg said. But what tends to happen is if there's too much of a lull in the conversation, Table for Eight becomes the topic of conversation. That's what we all have in common.

After dinner, each member receives an individual tab. And while members are free to exchange phone numbers and business cards, they can also rely on Table for Eight to make the connection for them.

Post-date surveys allow members to indicate whether they're interested in another member. If there's a mutual interest, a computer program automatically e-mails contact information to the matched couple.

Then it's up to them. Puertas said, noting so far the company's service has resulted in 16 engagements. Membership statistics show the group has more female than male members. However, the fastest growing segment is comprised of men age 26 to 32, she said. The average age of members is 36, with 97

DO YOU HAVE A RESERVATION?

What: Table for Eight arranges dinner meetings at metropolitan Detroit restaurants for singles in groups of eight or two based on member profile compatibility.

When: Ongoing, but most members dine about once a month.

Where: 120 Catalpa, Royal Oak. Call (248) 543-1000 or visit www.tableforeight.com.

Membership: Starts at \$225, available for three, six or 12 months.

percent having a college degree and 72 percent possessing an advanced degree.

Puertas attributes the demographic of members with lifestyle. It's not the same going to the bar at age 35 as compared to age 25.

Singles in their 30s have tired of the bar scene, said Steinberg. Many just don't have the time or patience for the process. With Table for Eight, he said, "You know you're going to meet at least four women. And you know they're single and potentially interested. It takes a lot of the guesswork out of it."

MEMBERSHIP

Most members dine about once a month. Membership, which starts at \$225, is available in packages of three, six and 12 months.

Table for Eight offers several other services, including Reservation for Two, an arranged date for two based on profile compatibility and monthly singles events open to non-members.

Of course, like any gathering, there's no beating out fate. It's like going to a party, said Steinberg. Some are good, some don't meet your expectations.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TABLE FOR EIGHT

No sitting home alone on New Year's Eve for these singles who turned out for Table for Eight's party at the Townsend Hotel.

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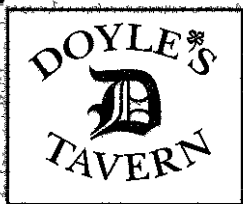
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Table hopping

Zinc may be a brasserie

just don't call it French

BY ELEANOR HEALD
CORRESPONDENT

From a zinc bar to chalkboards to angled antique mirrors, brothers Mark, 39, and 32-year-old Matt Brown, owners of the popular Red Coat Tavern in Royal Oak, have captured an upbeat New Age brasserie while retaining classical elements for authenticity. Their Zinc Brasserie & Wine Bar in West Bloomfield is unique.

From the time remodeling of the former Pizzeria Uno began, there have been misconceptions about Zinc.

"The most common among these," said Matt, "is that Zinc is a French restaurant. It's not. Neither is it accurate to call it a restaurant with a French twist or influence. At heart, it's a brasserie."

That distinction refers to a spirit, an approach to ambiance, food and service as core elements, transcending cuisine from a particular place.

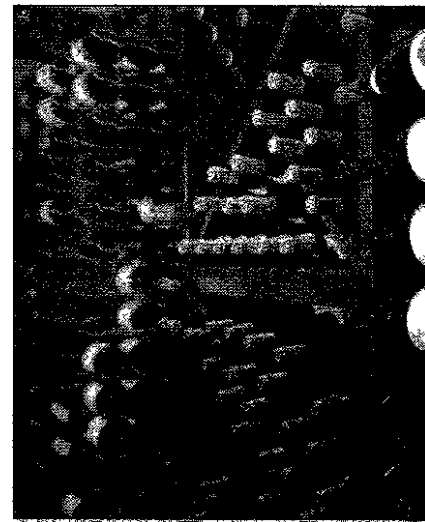
"While a discernible French influence permeates the menu," Mark noted, "we have intentionally avoided becoming a caricature of a traditional Paris brasserie."

By using complements of rich mahogany, zinc, slate, antique mirror, ochre-amber walls and an open ceiling, they've designed a modern, appealing aesthetic, where the food of Corporate Executive Chef Louai Sharkas and the service directed by Maitre d' Louie Weidemann and Maitre d' Zoran Smolicic are showcased.

Area foodies recognize these names. In common, they have tenures at The Townsend Hotel in Birmingham. Chef Louai went on to launch Oakland Grill and then opened his own catering operation Napoletana. Weidemann ushered in Got Rocks, the cigar-friendly second-floor bar at Birmingham's Big Rock Chop and Brew House.

STYLIZED MENU

"Zinc's menu makes you jump," Chef Louai said. "My food style is vibrant and pungent."



Zinc has a large selection of fine wines to choose from.



Louie Weidemann (from left), Louai Sharkas and Zoran Smolicic.

— flavors from olives, tomatoes, garlic and fresh seafood. I strive for maximum flavors with minimum heft. I've spent two years perfecting the recipes for the Zinc menu."

That, among other factors, leads to three components the Browns consider essential to the success of Zinc: quality, value and consistency. Based on the same principles, Mark and Matt's father, Pete, who died in 2000, founded Red Coat Tavern in 1973.

"We grew up in the restaurant culture," Matt noted. "We learned a lot from Red Coat that translates to Zinc, particularly the appeal of a casual setting with attention to every detail."

The lunch menu differs from dinner. Common to both, though, are Petits Plats (small dishes) for those tired of Fred Flintstone sizes. On either menu, look for selections such as micoise salad or a tuna sandwich that use Chef Louai's house-preserved tuna or his on-premise cold-smoked salmon.

serie ...



Roasted swordfish tenderloin in a bouillabaisse is one of the dishes Corporate Executive Chef Louai Sharkas developed for Zinc Brasserie & Wine Bar

ZINC BRASSERIE & WINE BAR

Where: 6745 Orchard Lake Road West Bloomfield (248) 865 0500

Open: Monday Wednesday 11 a.m. to midnight Thursday Saturday 11 a.m. to 2 a.m.

Food style: Fresh flavorful and comforting brasserie-style cuisine

Cost: Main plates at lunch under \$10 dinner under \$20

Reservations: Call ahead seating only

Bar in Paris Using two criteria, their palates and perceived value, the Browns searched for and tasted wines for more than 18 months

Although the list emphasizes wines from the Rhone Valley, Provence and southwest France, it includes significant New World interpretations

Our goal is to sell wine, Mark said And to encourage consumers to educate themselves by sampling We intend that no one in the area will offer better values in wine

LAST BITE

Tart citron, creme brulee, tart tatin, chocolate pot au creme, Grand Marnier soufflé with creme anglaise and Belgian chocolate soufflé with chocolate sauce are among tantalizing desserts

Eleanor Heald writes about restaurants food wine and spirits for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers Contact her by e-mail at focusonwine@aol.com



Roasted lobster with crushed garlic butter is a specialty at Zinc Brasserie & Wine Bar



ose from



mollic head up the new Zinc Brasserie & Wine Bar

The dinner menu includes nightly specials with Euro-comfort favorites such as coq au vin, beef Burgundy, cassoulet, bouillabaisse, or Dover sole a la muniere and American prime rib In general, the menu draws not only from classic Paris-style fare but from the warmer, southern regions of Provence, Catalunia in Spain, and the French and Spanish Basque areas

"I enjoy orchestrating the dining room," said Maitre d Loue Weidemann "I want Zinc's diners to feel like they're at a concert without being overpowered by violins or drums We have a well-trained, professional and knowledgeable staff who are attentive without being obtrusive

WINE BAR

Two wine principles prevail wines designed to complement Chef Louai's dishes and selections to explore as one might at Willi's Wine

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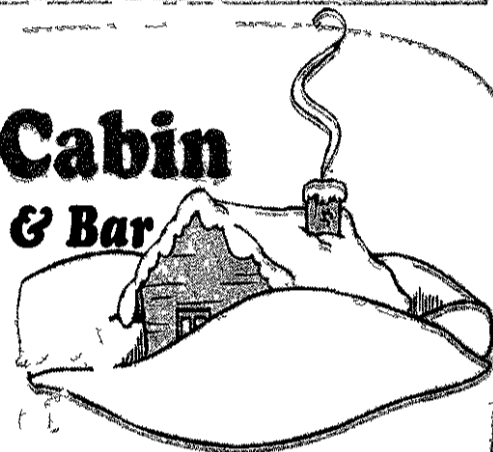
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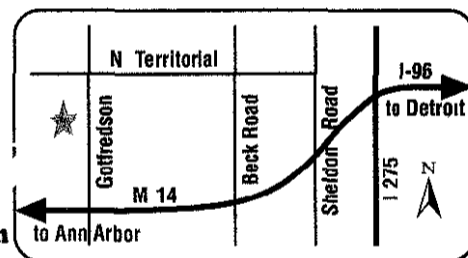
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City bites

City Bites lists special dinners/promotions menu changes restaurant renovations promotions and other news To get listed send fax or e mail information to Keely Kaleski Assistant Managing Editor Features Observer & Eccentric Newspapers 805 E Maple Birmingham MI 48009 fax (248) 644 1314 or e mail kkaleski@oe homecomm net

Big Boy

As a way of saying thank you to all current and veteran U.S. military personnel Big Boy Restaurants International LLC is offering \$1 off any dinner entree or sandwich through Feb. 29. The offer is good seven days a week from 4-9 p.m. at all Big Boy Restaurants in Michigan. The \$1 discount only applies to the military member and not to groups or families

accompanying the service member Any active veteran retired or reservist U.S. military member can simply show their ID or proof of service or discharge when paying for their meal to receive the discount

Majestic Cafe

An eclectic American bistro in the Majestic Theatre Center 4124 Woodward Ave. Detroit has a new menu. New offerings introduced by Chef Joe Zainea include saffron lobster ravioli with seafood medley Moroccan roasted half chicken seared ahi tuna gimelli pasta with feta. New appetizer offerings include pan roasted scallops Vietnamese shrimp wrap and baked brie with roasted garlic bulbs. For more information call (313) 833 9700 Ext. 207 www.majesticdetroit.com

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Drinkology

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BY ELEANOR & RAY HEALD
CORRESPONDENTS

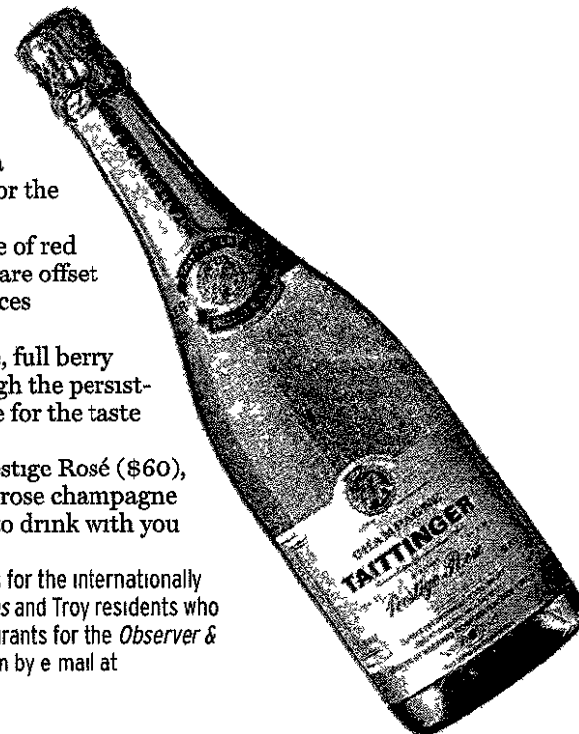
Intense cherry-pink color with fine, persistent bubbles rising in delicate strands up a champagne flute. Romance for the eyes.

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The Healds are contributing editors for the internationally respected *Quarterly Review of Wines* and Troy residents who write about wine, spirits and restaurants for the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*. Contact them by e-mail at focusonwine@aol.com.



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African jazz CD celebrates end of apartheid in funky style

South Africa's leading jazz musicians have come together in a new CD to celebrate the 10-year anniversary of the end of apartheid

The third CD in the *Heads Up Africa* compilation series, *Africa Straight Ahead*, to be released Tuesday, Feb. 24, also commemorates Black History Month

The cross-section of artists play and write in a range of jazz styles and are not well known except in South Africa. American artists pianist Darius Brubeck (son of jazz legend Dave Brubeck) and Andy Narell also contributed to the CD. Narell not only introduced steel pans into the jazz world, but has remained the most influential exponent of Trinidadian instruments. Other artists on the CD include South African greats Hotep Idris Galeta, Paul Hanmer, Moses Khumalo, McCoy Mrubata, Bheki Mseleku, Zim Ngqawana, the Sheer All Stars, Voice and Marcus Watt.

"My goal is to build the reputation of these performers so that they can come to America and perform for people here," said Dave Love, president of the *Heads Up* record label, which initiated the compilation.

Love went to South Africa in 1998 when keyboardist Joe McBride became the first American ever to perform at Cape Town's popular Jazzathon. Love was smitten with South Africa and its jazz music.

"There's a true magic in the country," Love said. "I simply fell in love with the place. Eventually the musicians in South Africa drew me under their spell. Their playing is so sincere and heartfelt, I felt it necessary to document their work and bring it to the world stage."



The cross-section of artists who play on 'Africa Straight Ahead' are not well known except in South Africa

The 12 selections on *Africa Straight Ahead* are as varied and exciting as the performers.

Trumpeter Marcus Wyatt opens with shimmering, hard bop-flavored sounds on *Owed to Bishop*, followed by pianist Paul Hanmer's driving *Nawasha*, which means *The Moon in a Bowl*. Tenor saxophonist Moses Khumalo, winner of the 2003 South African Music Award, delivers the rhythmic *Celebrate Mzansi*, while woodwind master Zim Ngqawana plays flute with unhurried eloquence in

AFRICA STRAIGHT UP

What: A compilation of works by South African jazz musicians will be released Feb. 24 to commemorate Black History Month and the 10-year end of apartheid.

Musicians: American artists Andy Narell and Darius Brubeck and South Africa's Moses Khumalo, McCoy Mrubata, Zim Ngqawana, Marcus Wyatt and others.

Buy it: Order online now at www.headsup.com or at most major record stores after Feb. 24.

Beautiful Love

Ngqawana is known as South Africa's "hardest-working younger man in jazz."

He made his mark at the historic inauguration of President Nelson Mandela in 1994, where he directed the 100-piece Drums for Peace Orchestra, and his popularity skyrocketed since.

Horn man Marcus Wyatt has played with the Cape Town Jazz Orchestra, Morris Goldberg, No ID, Gerry Bosman Orchestra, Jimmy Dhudlu and others.

Africa Straight Up is part of the successful *Heads Up Africa* CD compilation series. The first, released in 2000, was *Smooth Africa* followed by *Africa II: Exploring the Soul*.

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One of Passion Parties top selling products is a sensual body gel. What does it do? You'll have to attend a party to find out.



Girls' night out Sex toy parties for women as common as Tupperware gatherings

Think of it as the latest thing in women's continuing sexual liberation.

Or, think of it as silly. But "women's spa and toy" parties, as they are often called, are commonplace affairs of late. Raise the topic with anybody — male or female — and nine times out of 10, they know somebody who's thrown, attended or co-hosted one.

Apparently, there's no shortage of demand, either. "Women are becoming more inquisitive with their bodies," said Westland resident Patricia Pelto, who hosts about three parties a month as an independent consultant for Passion Parties. "This stuff just sells itself."

Passion Parties is a California-based

seller of sensual products. Founded in 1994, it projected earnings of \$20 million in 2003 and employs 3,200 independent consultants across the country.

While sensual toys carry a certain connotation, they not only promote women's sexual health and education but also enhance the physical relationships between monogamous couples, said Pelto. "It's about women taking responsibility for their own sexual satisfaction."

Passion Parties' products include lingerie, bath oils, edible lubricants, body lotions, sensitizing creams, educational books, games and sensual — OK, let's just say it — sex toys.

Pelto, who primarily hosts parties for women who contact her through the Internet, begins each presentation with a talk about how women are sexually stimulated and "how the toys will help women

discover what works for them."

Most of the gatherings are held as bachelorette parties or "girls' night out" celebrations, said Pelto.

Party sizes run from eight to 30 women, although other consultants hold large convention-style gatherings. Product orders are taken privately in a room separate from the crowd.

"At first, they're pretty giggly," Pelto said of her party attendees, which range in age from 20 to 55.

"It's a big joke. But then after the presentation, they're talking on a more serious level about sex."

To learn more about Passion Parties, visit www.passionparties.com. Pelto can be contacted via her Web site at www.patricia.yourpassionconsultant.com or call (734) 595-9111.

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Valentine's Day choice: 'making whoopee' or looking it up

BY RON BERTHEL
ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this book at least, 'date' definitely leads to 'mate.'

TAINTED LOVE

For those who won't be "making whoopee" on Valentine's Day, a new book offers the next best thing — the etymology of the phrase.

Sound romantic? Maybe not, but at least it's educational.

In *Makin' Whoopee! Words of Love for Lovers of Words* (Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill), Evan Morris offers a lexicon of love language, from "prude" to "lewd" and "kiss" to "bliss," "woo" to "coo" and "necking" to "nosegay."

Origins are explained for 150 romantic words and phrases, arranged alphabetically from "Adonis" to "yen." In addition, there are separate sections of terms about eyes, flowers and physical beauty, and for various sorts of Ms. Wrongs and Mr. Wrongs.

Readers learn that "heartbroken" has described disappointed lovers since the 16th century, and that "spoon" (to behave romantically) is related to the familiar eating utensil. What's more, "ogle" comes from "oog," the Dutch word for eye while "slut" meaning a promiscuous woman has its roots in "slutte," a Middle English word for a woman who is merely "untidy

The song *Makin' Whoopee* by Gus Kahn and Walter Donaldson appeared in 1928, so it is far too old to be included in *You Give Love a Bad Name* (Quirk).

This little volume of *Timeless Poems of Tainted Love From the Pop Hits of the '70s and '80s* offers consolation (you are not alone!) for the unrequited lover.

Editor Danny Cassidy, a Philadelphia disc jockey, has selected 30 breakup songs whose lyrics address one of the five stages of life for the suddenly single: denial, anger, bargaining, revenge and acceptance.

Bound into the book is a ribbon marker to help readers easily locate — again and again, if necessary — the lyrics that speak especially to their heartbreak.

Sentiments range from Joe Jackson's *Is She Really Going Out With Him?* to Scandal's *Goodbye to You*. Along the way, The Bee Gees ask *How Can You Mend a Broken Heart?*, Hall and Oates lament that *She's Gone* and J. Geils Band speaks for all of the above perhaps declaring *Love Stinks*.

Tank of gas

Pampered ● among pines

BY MIKE NORTON
CORRESPONDENT

Once upon a time, a trip "Up North" meant roughing it in a log cabin with cold water, hard beds and the persistent aroma of mothballs

But modern-day visitors to Traverse City are just as likely to be found soaking in a hot mineral bath, enjoying a cherry-scented paraffin manicure or having oils massaged into their winter-dry skins with oven-warmed Lake Michigan stones. This popular Michigan resort town now boasts a growing number of luxury spas and salons that give new meaning to the idea of a North Woods retreat.

The most recent entry is the Great Wolf Lodge, a 281-suite North Woods style resort that opened in 2003. Known primarily for its rustic decor and 38,000-square-foot indoor waterpark, the lodge is also home to Elements, an Aveda concept spa and hair salon where harried moms can relax with a massage and a facial while their youngsters are thrashing about in the pool.

"We planned this as a way to get away from the men and the kids," said Heather Tepfenhart of suburban Detroit, who checked in for an aromatherapy massage with her mother while their husbands kept an eye on the children. "It felt great!"

Great Wolf's spa offers five treatment rooms with more than a dozen massage selections, ranging from the classic Swedish massage to variants that include hot stones and aromatherapy. Like most Traverse City spas, it also offers a wide selection of facials, herbal body wraps, pedicures and manicures, and a full-service hair salon.

Another big player in the Traverse City spa business is the Grand Traverse Resort & Spa. With 660 rooms, suites and condos and three championship golf courses, the Resort already had established itself as the area's largest lodging property when its owners decided to add a 100,000-square-foot spa complex.

Capitalizing on Traverse City's reputation for natural beauty, relaxation and

Spa vacations offer different kind of Up North getaway

fresh fruit – especially cherries – the Grand Traverse Resort & Spa features a lot of familiar scents and essences in its spa treatments (There's a cherry honey glow skin polish, for instance, and a warm foaming cherries and cream hydrobath.)

Some winter visitors indulge themselves with a half-day at the spa as a way to finish off a weekend of skiing or snowmobiling. For others, a visit to their favorite Traverse City spa is itself the main attraction.

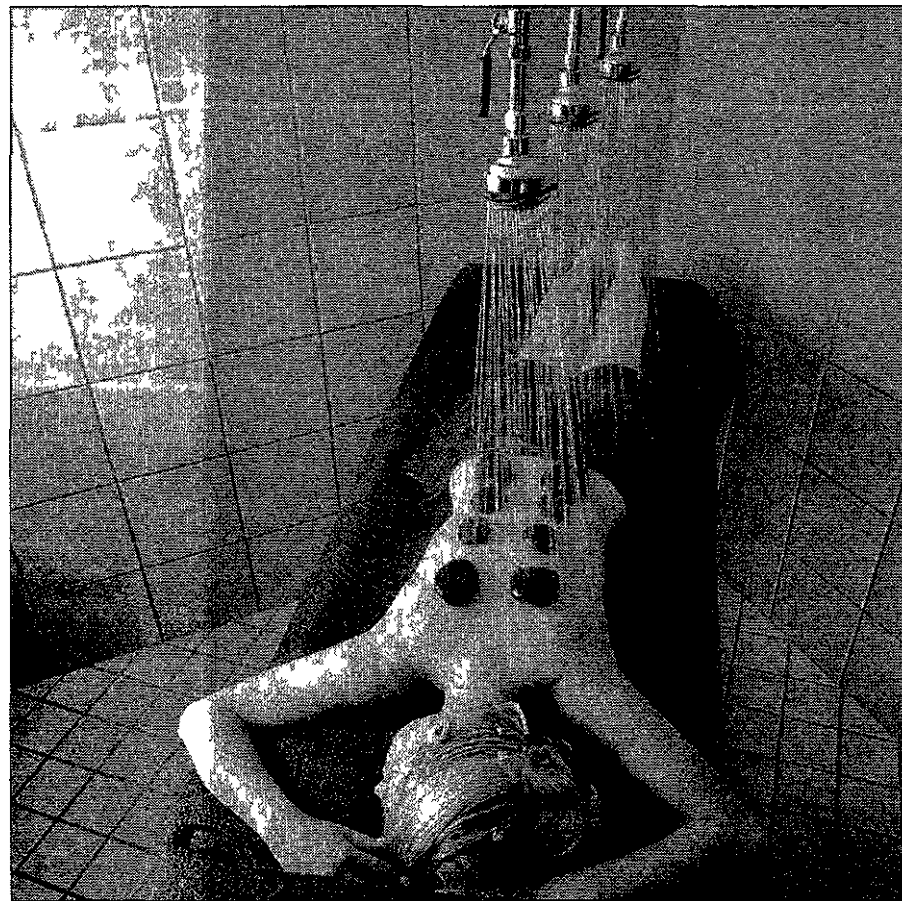
"It's really relaxing, and you feel really great when you come out of there," said Colleen Moose, who treated 16 wedding guests from as far as Georgia and California to a day at Traverse City's impres Salon and Spa. "There's something uplifting in being treated like a queen for a day."

Located in a former grocery store, impres is a palace of self-indulgence, the interior of which looks as though it was lifted from the Arabian Nights. Nearby is the sleeker, modernistic Pavlova, a European-style spa and salon. Like their larger counterparts, the two in-town spas specialize in a combination of fantasy, tranquility and physical pampering.

"A lot of our guests are people who are staying at one of the nicer hotels in the area," said Pavlova's Michelle Radtke. "Quite often, while the men are out snowmobiling, the women come in and spend the day with us getting a facial and a massage, having lunch and getting their hair done."

Although most of their clients are women, the spas of Traverse City also provide services to men and children. Pavlova has special sessions for teens, while impres includes a menu of male-only services like a five-hour "Fit for a King" session, and Great Wolf Lodge offers a special mother-daughter escape.

For more information about the spas and salons of the Traverse City area, as well as lodging and dining options, entertainment, activities and other attractions, contact the Traverse City Convention & Visitors Bureau at (800) TRAVERS or visit their Web site at www.mytraversecity.com.



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PROFESSIONAL THEATER

Meadow Brook Theatre

Of Mice and Men through March 7
Oakland University campus, Rochester Hills, call (248) 377-3300 for showtimes or www.mbtheatre.com

Purple Rose Theatre

Leaving Iowa by Tim Clue and Spike Manton through Saturday, March 13, performances 8 p.m. Friday, Saturday 2 p.m. Sunday 3 p.m. Wednesday & Saturday \$17.50 to \$25 (734) 433-PRTC www.purplerosetheatre.org

The Fisher

Movin' Out, the rock musical featuring music by Billy Joel and choreography by Twyla Tharp through Sunday, Feb. 15, 8 p.m. Tuesday, Saturday 2 p.m. Saturday, Sunday and 7:30 p.m. Sunday, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, \$35-\$75 (248) 645-6666, box office (313) 872-1000, www.nederlanderdetroit.com

Masonic Temple Theatre

Annie through Sunday, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Saturday 1 p.m. Thursday & Sunday 2 p.m. Saturday, 6:30 p.m. Sunday, \$19.50-\$59.50 (248) 645-6666 (313) 872-1000, www.nederlanderdetroit.com

Planet Ant

The Wizard of Oz, an alternative version of L. Frank Baum's classic, 8 p.m. Friday, Saturday 2 p.m. Sunday, through Feb. 22, 2357 Caniff, Hamtramck, \$10-\$15 (313) 365-4948, www.planetant.com

Blackbird Theatre

Sideman featuring Ken Woods of Canton, 8 p.m. Thursday, Saturday 2 p.m. Saturday, Sunday, to Feb. 29, 1600 Pauline Blvd., Ann Arbor, \$17-\$12 senior, \$7 student with ID (734) 332-3848

Detroit Repertory Theatre

Yellowman, drama by Dael Orlandersmith, through March 21, 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Friday 3 p.m. & 8:30 p.m. Saturday 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. Sunday, 13130 Woodward, Wilson, Detroit, (313) 868-1347, www.detro.treptheatre.com

Plowshares Theatre Company

Sarah, Ella & Pops, celebration of the lives of Ella Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughn and Louis Armstrong with guest appearances by Marcus Belgrave, through Feb. 29, 7:30 p.m. 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 15, 22 & 29, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 12, 19 & 26, 3 p.m. & 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14, 21 & 28, Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, 315 E. Warren, Detroit, \$25-\$15, \$10 students under 18 with ID (313) 872-0279, www.plowshares.org

Theatre Company

The Glory of Living by Rebecca Gilman, opens 8 p.m. Friday, continues to Feb. 22, 8 p.m. Thursday, Saturday 2 p.m. Sunday, McAuley Theatre, University of Detroit Mercy's Outer Drive Campus, 8200 W. Outer Dr., Detroit, \$12 adults, discounts students/seniors (313) 993-6461, www.udmtheatrecompany.com

Macomb Center for the Performing Arts

Maybe Baby It's You!, a love conquers all Broadway hit, through Feb. 22, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday 3 p.m. & 7 p.m. Sunday, except for Feb. 15, 8 p.m. Friday, Saturday, except for Feb. 13, \$25-\$29, *Here! Now! Ann Margret & Company*, 8 p.m. Friday, \$62-\$57-\$51 (586) 286-2222 (800) 585-3737, www.MacombCenter.com



Spend an evening with Sandra Bomar & The Legends of Jazz, 6-8 p.m. Sunday at First Baptist Church, 300 Willits, one block north of Maple Road, one block west of Old Woodward Avenue in downtown Birmingham. Part of B'Jazz Vespers. No charge, freewill offering for the musicians. Call (248) 644-0550 for information.

COMMUNITY/COLLEGE THEATER

Farmington Players

Noises Off through Saturday, Feb. 28, Performances 8 p.m. Friday, Saturday 2 p.m. Sunday and 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 19 & Feb. 26, 32332 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills, \$13 (248) 553-2955 or www.farmingtonplayers.org

Broadway Onstage

Cliffhanger, comic thriller by James Yaffe, 8 p.m. Friday, Saturday, 21517 Kelly Road at Toepfer (8 1/2 Mile Road), Eastpointe, \$15 (586) 771-6333

Performance Network

Spike Heels by Theresa Rebeck, through Feb. 29, contains adult language for mature audiences, \$22.50, Thursday/Sunday, \$27.50, Friday/Saturday, 120 E. Huron, Ann Arbor, (734) 663-0681, www.performance.net/work.org

Pontiac Theatre IV

The Petrified Forest by Robert E. Sherwood, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Saturday 2 p.m. Sunday, Barnes & Noble Theatre, 6800 Orchard Lake Road, south of Maple West, Bloomfield, \$10 (248) 737-9039

Rosedale Community Players

Butterflies are Free, comedy by Leonard Gershe, 8 p.m. Friday, Saturday, through Feb. 21, 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 15, \$12, Upstage Theater, 21728 Grand River, 1/4 block east of Lasher, Detroit, \$12 senior discount available, all seats reserved (313) 532-4010 (313) 537-7716

Flint Youth Theatre

The Boy Who Stole the Stars, opens 7:30 p.m. Thursday, shows 7:30 p.m. Friday, Saturday to Feb. 28, and 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14, Elgood Theatre, 1220 E. Kearsley St., Flint, \$8 children, \$10 adults (810) 760-1018 (810) 237-7333, ages 7 and up

University Productions

U-M Department of Theatre and Drama presents the backstage comedy *The Quick Change Room* by Nagle Jackson, 8 p.m. Thursday, Saturday 2 p.m. Sunday, Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 N. University, corner of Fletcher, Ann Arbor, \$20-\$15 students, \$8 with ID (734) 764-2538

EMU Theatre

Brighton Beach Memoirs, Feb. 13, 21, Ourk Theatre, EMU Ypsilanti campus, 8 p.m. Friday, Saturday and 8 p.m. Thursday



The Imagine Tour featuring Mercyme and Amy Grant with Bebo Norman stops at the Convocation Center, Eastern Michigan University campus, 799 N. Hewitt Road, Ypsilanti, 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 19, Tickets \$76 platinum, \$31 artist circle, \$26 advance, call (734) 487-1221 or (734) 487-2282

Feb. 19 & 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 15, \$8, Thursday, \$12 matinee, \$14 Friday, Saturday (734) 487-1221

DINNER THEATRE

14th Street Bar & Grille

Love Letters by A.R. Gurney, Friday, Saturday, through March 13, cocktails 6:30 p.m., dinner 7 p.m., curtain 8 p.m., except Valentine's Day, when there will be an early show at 6:30 p.m. and second show at 9:30 p.m., 350 E. 14 Mile Road, east of John R., Madison Heights, \$37.50 per person, including tax and tip (248) 589-9900

Spotlight Players

Formerly Plymouth Theatre Guild, presents *Steel Magnolias* by Robert Harling on Friday, Sunday, Feb. 13, 15, at the Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton (west of Canton Center Road, south of Cherry Hill), \$30, includes family style Southern cuisine and performance, Tickets must be purchased at least 48 hours in advance (734) 394-5460 for tickets or www.spotlightplayers.net

Genitti's

Wedding Bell Blues, Saturday, Feb. 14, 21, 28, \$45 per person, 108 E. Main, Northville, (248) 349-0522, www.genittis.com

The Club Monte Carlo

The Soprano's interactive comedy, 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20, The Sheraton Hotel, 21111 Haggerty, Novi, 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, Castello Di Bologna, 2325 Joslyn Ct., Lake Orion, \$49.95, includes show, dinner, dancing (800) 383-6080

AUDITIONS

Village Players of Birmingham

Rags, musical about immigration in the early 20th century, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 29 & Tuesday, March 2, 34660 Woodward Ave., Birmingham, Performance dates, May 7-23 (734) 844-1753

Greenfield Village

Singers and actors sought for a variety of productions including *Play Ball*, *The Village Trio*, *How I Got Over*, *The Wizard of Tuskegee*, *Home from Kitty Hawk*, 3-8 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Feb. 23-24

Anderson Theatre, inside Henry Ford Museum, 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn, To schedule an appointment or for more information, call (313) 982-6100, Ext. 2154 or visit www.TheHenryFord.org

Pure Tone Music

Newly formed production company/label, Pure Tone Music is holding a musical showcase to find undiscovered talent, March 2, at the Emerald Theatre, Submission deadline is Feb. 24, All unsigned artists interested in performing are invited to submit 2-3 songs, photo/brief bio/description to www.puretonemusic.com or by mail to Pure Tone Music, 700-76 Broadway, #348, Westwood, NJ 07675, Acts will be notified by phone or e-mail, All styles of music are welcome

Home Town Super-Star

Are you a person who sets the state aglow with your presence, lyrics & voice? Auditions, May 22-25, semi-finals, June 12, Baldwin Theatre, home of Stagecrafters, downtown Royal Oak, Applications available at the Mirror offices, 1523 N. Main St., Royal Oak, Stagecrafters, Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette or visit www.hometownlife.com or www.stagecrafters.org for details, Deadline to register is March 15

VALENTINE'S DAY/DINING EVENTS

The Johnny Trudell Orchestra

Big Band Valentine Dance, Macomb Sports & Expo Center, 8 p.m. Saturday, \$22 adults, \$18 student/senior citizen, Pre-performance dinner available at 5:30 p.m. (586) 286-2222 (800) 585-3737, www.MacombCenter.com or www.ticketplus.net

Vineyards Cafe & Catering

Gala Sweetheart Party to benefit Children's Hospital of Michigan, 2-4 p.m. Friday, Feb. 13, All ladies born on Feb. 14 with valid ID will receive a complimentary Maggie's Chocolate Strawberry Rose Bouquet, The Simone Vitale Band Trio will perform top 40s, Oldies and Motown, 2-3 p.m., 32418 Northwestern Highway, between 13 and 14 Mile Roads in Farmington Hills, (248) 855-9463

JAZZ/POPULAR

Detroit Dance Collective

Collage highlights the work of numerous dancers choreographers composers visua' and multi media artists 8 p m Saturday 3 p m Sunday Maggie Allessee Studio Theatre Old Main Building third floor Wayne State University campus Detroit \$15 door \$12 advance Concert & dinner combo 3 p m concert followed by 5 30 p m buffet dinner at Agave tick ets \$40 per person (\$25 tax deductible) for info/reservations (313) 737 2033 www.detroitdancecollective.org

Country Western Dance

Hosted by Wolverine Silverspur Dancers 7 p m doors open 7 30 p m lesson open dancing 8 11 30 p m Saturday Feb 14 Italian Cultural Center 2811 Imperial Dr south of 12 Mile Road east of Hoover Warren couples flow line dancing \$10 includes lesson/snacks (586) 573 4993

The Stilettoe's

Present the Fantastics annual 1950s Valentine's Day Dance 7 30 p m to 1 a m Saturday Feb 14 Karas Carriage Hall 23632 Plymouth Road 1 block east of Telegraph Redford food liquor set ups beer door prizes couples & singles welcome \$35 per person call (734) 229 0678 (734) 427 2169 (734) 425 2363 or (248) 542 5997

Erotic Poetry/Music Festival

Now in its 17th year 8 p m Saturday Alvin's 5756 Cass Ave Detroit 18 & over \$8 partial proceeds benefit Paws with a Cause (313) 831 4577 For event information (313) 886 7860 www.7332.com

OCC French Gourmet Dinner

Presented by the Students of Oakland Community College's Culinary Studies Institute 6 30 p m Thursday Feb 19 five course gourmet dinner featuring contemporary French cuisine A photographer will be on hand to take diners' photos in front of the Eiffel Tower \$50 per person Orchard Ridge Campus 27055 Orchard Lake Road (248) 522 3700

Academy Awards

Silver Screen Soiree to benefit the CF Care Center at Children's Hospital of Michigan 5 p m Sunday Feb 29 at the Historic Lafayette Grande www.lafayettegrande.com Mingle munch and drink while watching the 76th Academy Awards broadcasted live Star tickets \$150 includes 5 p m VIP Red Carpet Celebrity Entrance appetizer buffet open bar sit down dinner Fan Tickets \$50 includes 8 p m late entrance open bar munchies To order tickets www.ticketweb.com to RSVP for charity information call (248) 656 RSVP

Charity Screening

Against the Ropes starring Meg Ryan inspired by Detroit's own Jackie Kallen 6 30 p m doors open 7 30 p m movie Star Southfield 25333 W 12 Mile Road Southfield VIP afterglow at Sposita's 33210 W 14 Mile Road West Bloomfield \$20 screening \$100 movie plus VIP screening meet Kallen and other celebrities music by Jason George (248) 454 9599 Benefits Stars seeking techniques advancing research in Shunts www.stars.kids.com

The Manhattan Transfer

With the Count Basie Orchestra 8 p m Saturday Power Center for the Performing Arts 121 Fletcher downtown Ann Arbor \$40 to \$20 (734) 764 0594

Dixieland

Mardi Gras costume party with the Chuck Moss Dixie Paint Creek Jazz Band 3 6 p m Sunday Feb 22 Knights of Columbus Hall Farmington Road between Seven and Eight Mile Roads Livonia Prizes for the best three costumes Mardi Gras favors on every table dancing \$15 in advance call Bill Knowles (248) 476 2674 Pat Elliott (586) 573 9564

Newport Jazz Festival

Fiftieth anniversary tour 7 p m Sunday Macomb Center for the Performing Arts \$36 \$32 students/seniors \$29 (586) 286 2222 (800) 585 3737 www.MacombCenter.com or www.ticketplus.net

Hearts & Flowers

House concert 7 30 p m Friday 562 W Huron St Pontiac Singer Cynthia Feigel and Carl Visconti on guitar singer Violet Brooks sings works from the 20s 30s & 40s with Dave Wilson on piano \$10 at the door proceeds fund programs at the Art Experience (248) 975-9290

Ron's Fireside Inn

Matt Michaels Trio with Edward Gooch trombone/vocals 7 30 p m Wednesday Feb 18 28937 Warren Garden City \$5 cover with dinner \$10 without dinner and two drink minimum reservations recommended Barbara Ware vocals Feb 25 (734) 762 7756

Edison's

The Brothers Groove 9 30 p m to 1 30 a m Friday Saturday 220 Merrill St Birmingham (248) 645 2150

The Stained Glass Perspective

6 30 p m Thursday Emerald Theatre 31 N Walnut St Mt Clemens (586) 913 1920 www.emeraldtheatre.com Playing with the band Mingus All ages admission \$7



Been having problems navigating the mean streets of 'Singletown'? Laugh along with comedienne Tracy Smith, 8 p m today 8 p m & 10 30 p m Friday-Saturday at Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase 314 E Liberty downtown Ann Arbor Tickets \$11 Thursday \$14 Friday Saturday discount for tickets purchased in advance call (734) 996 9080



Ralston Bowles appears with Marvin Etzioni 8 p m Friday at Trinity House Theatre, 38840 W Six Mile Road, Livonia Tickets \$12, members \$9, call (734) 464-6302 or by E-mail at info@trinityhouse.org For information visit Trinityhousetheatre.org

10 p m Saturday Feb 14 Roseville Theatre 28325 Utica Road Roseville (586) 445 7810 www.rosevilletheatre.com All ages admission \$6

John Cowley & Sons

Who Cares? classic rock 10 p m Friday Saturday 33338 Grand River downtown Farmington (248) 474 5941 www.john.cowley.com

FESTIVAL/FAMILY FUN

The Ark

Storytelling festival 8 p m Friday Saturday (\$17.50) 1 p m Sunday family matinee (\$10) 316 S Main St Ann Arbor (734) 761 1451 www.a2ark.org

Animal Valentines

Join an interpreter at Kensington Nature Center in Milford 1 p m Saturday to explore how animals say you're mine through activities books and a craft then make a treat for the animals to show you care \$5 per person preregistration required (800) 477 3178 www.metroparks.com

Rodeo

Longhorn World Championship 8 p m Friday Saturday 2 p m Sunday The Palace of Auburn Hills First 1000 kids through door on Saturday receive a complimentary trick rope \$20 & \$14 (248) 645 6666 www.palacenet.com

DSO Young People's Concert

May I Have This Dance? An introduction to classical music features waltzes polkas ballet music and more from Brahms Tchaikovsky and Strauss 10 a m and 11 30 a m Saturday The Max 3711 Woodward Ave Detroit for kids ages 4 11 \$10 \$26 (313) 576 5111 www.detroitssymphony.com

CONCERTS

UMS

Violinist Hilary Hahn accompanied by pianist Natalie Zhu 8 p m today Hill

Auditorium 825 N University Ave Ann Arbor \$10 \$50 Canadian Brass Valentine's Day Concert 8 p m Saturday Hill Auditorium \$10 \$40 (734) 764 2538 (800) 221 1229 www.ums.org

Nightnotes

Oboist Aaron Hill 8 30 p m Friday Hagopian World of Rugs 850 S Woodward Ave Birmingham preceded by an hors d'oeuvres reception at 8 p m \$19 (\$10 children 12 and under) presented by Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings (248) 559 2095 www.detroitchamberwinds.org

Festival of Handbells

Part of the Birmingham-First Concert Series 7 30 p m Friday First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham 1669 W Maple between Cranbrook and Southfield meet the artists reception after program no charge

Plymouth Symphony Orchestra

Winter Dreams 7 15 p m preconcert chat with conductor 8 p m concert Saturday Our Lady of Good Counsel Church corner of North Territorial and Beck Plymouth features guest composer Anthony Iannaccone Elizabeth Schellhase French Horn the Plymouth Canton Middle School String Orchestra & Celebration Strings \$17 adults \$15 seniors no charge children K 12 with adult afterglow follows concert (734) 451 2112 www.plymouthsymphony.com

COMEDY

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle

Kevin Flynn with JChris Newberg 8 p m Thursday (\$6) 8 p m & 10 30 p m Friday (\$12) 8 p m & 10 30 p m Saturday (\$15) 269 E Fourth Royal Oak (248) 542 9900 www.comedycastle.com Jamie Lisso Feb 19 21

Joey's Comedy Club

Tim Gaitner 8 15 & 10 45 p m Friday Saturday (\$12) 7 p m Sunday (\$8) at Paisano's 5070 Schaefer Road Dearborn dinner/show option available

call (313) 584 8885 for reservations/information www.joeyscomey.com and www.paisano.com

Second City Detroit

Ten 8 p m Wednesday Thursday (\$15) 7 30 p m and 10 p m Friday Saturday (\$20) Best of the Second City Touring Company 7 p m Sunday (\$12) 2301 Woodward Ave Detroit (313) 965 2222 Dinner show packages available Call for information

FILM

Dinner and a Movie series

Wednesday nights in February at Meadow Brook Hall Oakland University campus Rochester Hills Admission \$25 per person includes dinner cash bar available (248) 370 3140 for reservations Doors open 7 p m movie starts at 7 30 p m *Mr Deeds Goes to Town* Feb 18 *Ninotchka* Feb 25 www.meadowbrookhall.org

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Detroit Film Theatre

Through May 24 Films are at 7 p m and 9 30 p m Friday Saturday 4 p m and 7 p m Sunday and 7 30 p m Monday except for special events Detroit Institute of Arts (theater in back of building) 5200 Woodward Ave Detroit adults \$6 50 senior citizens full time students with valid ID and DIA members \$5 50 (313) 833 3237 or www.dia.org/dft Discount tickets available in book of five for \$25

Film Wrap

With Ray MacDonald the last Friday of each month 9 11 p m at the Scarab Club 217 Farnsworth Detroit Discussion of the month's film showing at the Detroit Film Theatre Donation \$5 (313) 831 1250

Redford Theatre

Road to Singapore 8 p m Friday Saturday Feb 20 21 organ overture 7 30 and 2 p m Saturday Feb 21 overture 1 30 p m 17360 Lahser Road Detroit (313) 537 2560 www.redfordtheatre.com

DANCE

Moondusters

Moondusters will host ballroom dancing to live bands featuring popular swing fox trot waltz cha cha and others 8 30 11 30 p m every Saturday \$6 Dressy attire Singles and married Meet at the Livonia Civic Center 15218 Farmington Road and Five Mile Livonia Ballroom dance lessons 7 8 p m Saturday call Joe (248) 968 5197

Sangria/Sky Club

Salsa night with DJ Wednesday Thursday free salsa lessons at 8 30 p m 401 S Lafayette Royal Oak (248) 543 1964 \$5 cover 21 and over www.salsaDetroit.com

Are you game?

It's getting hot in here

Gyms can be prime meeting place for singles

OK you're single, tired of nightclubs and there's no one interesting at work to date So where to look?

Gyms

Love can blossom when you're sweating Shannon Bennett of Shelby Township is proof She met husband Nathan at Lifetime Fitness in Troy Their story is a romantic one She's an aerobics instructor and he's a personal trainer Nearly four years ago he noticed her working out and gave her a compliment. Last October they married.

Although Lifetime Fitness is a family-oriented facility, people do meet there, Shannon Bennett said. The Troy location has more members in their late 20s, 30s and 40s The Rochester location has more teenagers

"I used to work out at Bally's and that place is really (one to mangle)," she said

HOW TO MEET

Bennett said she sees women, wearing full make-up, sports bras and form-fitting workout clothes, searching for men.

"That doesn't really make sense to me because you're there to work out," she said. "You don't have to dress like that."

AN EASY APPROACH

And not all women do, she said Approaching people at a gym is easy because the topic of fitness is a common ground

Tracy Spano, a regular at Lifetime, met her fiancé, Andrew Phillips, at Sangria in Royal Oak. But she's seen relationships form at gyms Spano said people from the same gyms often meet outside of them because they recognize each other at restaurants or bars

"They're able to break the ice by saying, 'Hey, don't you go to Lifetime?' I've seen it happen many times," Spano said "You can talk about workout routines, mutual people you know, recommended classes, etc"

Spano said she believes gym members are often quality people

"You're meeting people who at least you know make an effort to stay healthy and keep in shape and therefore are likely to practice care with other areas of their life"

Bennett said her friend, another aerobics instructor, also met her husband at Lifetime

"I've seen so many people date from the gym," she said. "Sometimes men take aerobics classes just to meet a woman."

If you're a woman and don't want to worry

about wearing lipstick during your cardio training, stick with places like Curves that are just for women But if you're looking to flirt and get fit, try a gym like the Powerhouse on Maple Road in West Bloomfield.

Phillips, of Birmingham, said that during his workout days there, he saw as much socializing as he did weightlifting

"Personally, I approached the gym as the sort who wanted to get in, work out and get the heck outta there," Phillips said "Most guys were wearing the tightest shirts possible, whether they should have or not, and spent most of their time talking"

Many women, Phillips said, spend time making eye contact with men who interest them And meeting people there isn't hard, he said.

"Usually it would happen by (someone) saying, 'So and so wants to know who you are' Or, you could see some girls working out and asking the closest guy for a 'spot,' believe it or not."

And if you don't find a date, you might make a friend

"(The gym) is also an easy place to meet great friends," Spano said "I've met some of my closest girlfriends there"



Love can flourish at the gym Shannon and Nathan Bennett of Shelby Township met at Lifetime Fitness nearly four years ago They married last year




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Pure Picks 2004

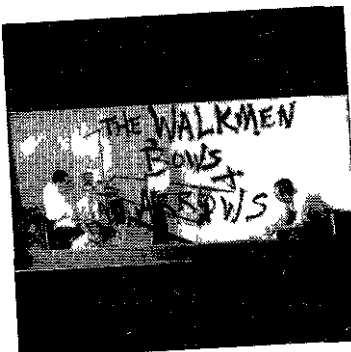
Selected from the reams of publicity propaganda we present our top entertainment picks for the week Filtered just for you

Album

The Walkmen already have a pretty big following in the Motor City I bet if you

cornered five random Detroit hipsters four would have attended a Walkmen show

But people who have never uttered We've been had I know it's over are suddenly asking Have you heard The Walkmen? Are they any good? To



those people I say Yes go buy their new album

Containing former members of Jonathan Fire Eater and the Recoys The Walkmen have released their second



The Walkmen

full length album to critical acclaim Rocking

harder than 2002's debut *Everyone Who Pretended to Like Me Is Gone* *Bows and Arrows* builds on the group's early U2 sonic musings Bono is still there of course but there is a grittiness to this album - perhaps the influence of being lumped (somewhat unfairly) in New York's garage scene for a while now *Bow and Arrows* shows the boys are moving to a more solid rock sound one that will convert that last Detroit hipster and three more people who don't even know what a hipster is

The Walkmen will play March 6 with good friends The French Kicks March 6 at the Magic Stick in Detroit For more info click on <http://www.majesticdetroit.com> The album is available at most record stores

Shows

Warning If you found yourself bad mouthing Janet Jackson this week this pick is not for you But if you barely batted an eye at Nipplegate - this weekend is absolutely full of erotic offerings First up those alt culture posers (not poseurs) the Suicide Girls take their Web act to the stage - **The Suicide Girls Live Burlesque Show** will take place today with guests Bedford Drive at the Magic Stick 4120 Woodward Avenue in Detroit Doors open at 9 p.m. Cover is \$10 18 and up

Next head over to the Tangent Gallery and Hastings Street Ballroom 715 E Milwaukee St as they present **The Dirty Show** this weekend The fifth annual erotic art exhibit is dedicated to the ultimate in sexual art forms A 21 and up preview will take place from 8 p.m. to midnight Friday with Spag Burlesque scheduled to perform The show officially gets under way from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Saturday for those 18 and over Hell's Belles and Causing a Scene will perform Saturday night And if you missed out or just want some more the show will be open from 1 p.m. on Sunday A donation of \$10 is recommended For more info click on <http://www.dirtydetroit.com>

If you'd rather be read to check out the **17th Annual Erotic Poetry Festival** Saturday at Alvin's in Detroit The Car City Call Girls Chokin Susan and the super excellent Terror at the Opera will perform Doors open at 9 p.m. 18 and up Alvin's is located at 5756 Cass Ave For more info call (313) 831 4577

And if this isn't enough for you Each and every Tuesday night at the Belmont Bar is **Punk, Pabst and Porn Night** DJ Mike Smith spins classic tunes while you drink up dollar beer and take in vintage burlesque stag and animated pornography The festivities begin at 7 p.m. The Belmont is located at 10215 Joseph Campau in Hamtramck For more check out <http://thebelmontbar.com> or call (313) 871 1966

Local music

Because I spent so much time writing about the dirty underside of Detroit this week I barely have the space to tell you that The Witches frontman **Troy Gregory** is busy releasing his second solo full length album *Laura* on Fall of Rome Hugs kisses puppies and unicorns to anyone who can guess what next week's Pure Pick album will be



This picture will be back next week

A CD release party is slated for Saturday with the Grande Nationals and The Waxwings at the Lager House in Detroit Doors open at 9 p.m. 21 and up For more info click on <http://www.lagerhousedetroit.com>

Swap

Do your spring cleaning a little early this year

Everyone's favorite info shop **Idle Kids** will hold a fringe culture clothing swap on Feb 21 An improv fashion show will add to the fun of trading your old fishnet stockings for new leather wristbands Participants are asked to arrive at 12:30 p.m. The event will take place from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free Idle Kids is located at 3535 Cass in Detroit For more info call Trisha at (313) 884 5990 or click on the Web site at <http://www.idlekids.com>

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Pure Picks is written by Stephanie Tardy Is there something you want considered for this space? To submit information on local entertainment bands, films clubs, restaurants or other ideas to be featured in this column e-mail stardy@oe.homecomm.net or write to her at 805 E Maple Birmingham MI 48009

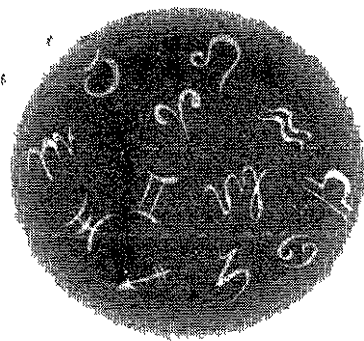
Horoscope



Star Struck

(Feb 12 Feb 14)

By Dennis Fairchild



ARIES (March 21-April 20)



The Moon in your element says that you're worrying if you have been a shade too impulsive about a recent money matter. The important thing to remember now is that you are perfectly entitled to go to any lengths to safeguard what you've achieved or accumulated over the years.

TAURUS (April 21-May 21)



Bolstering up the world weary as well as boosting loved ones' confidence and morale may be one of the Bull's finer traits. However, you must now turn the spotlight on certain troubled areas of your own life and ensure that you are not turning a blind eye to financial undercurrents.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)



Once again you are reminded that the only difference between a flower and a weed is a judgment. If you have this thought in mind over the next few days, you'll find yourself in a unique position to turn what others consider a setback into something of lasting value.

CANCER (June 22-July 23)



Fate has been kind to you recently, but have you been kind to yourself? If you're a typical Moon Child, you have probably pushed yourself just a little too hard recently and need time to recover. You'll thank your lucky stars and slow down after Friday the 13th.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)



You have a knack for telling it like it is and not worrying about whose ego you might be stepping on. At this time, however, the shoe is on the other foot and some uncomfortable things may be said about you. You're big enough to give it. Can you take it? You'll have a good Valentine's Day regardless.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)



Planetary activity over the next few weeks reveals that any changes taking place at home are for the best. Emotions are too close to the surface at the moment, but you are about to find your way ahead clearly signposted and experience a wonderful feeling of relief.

LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)



Because your ruler Venus is at odds with Neptune, planet of illusion, you must resist the urge to rush to judgment. No matter how simple and straightforward a situation may seem, you can bet there's a twist to it. Don't take everything you hear at face value right now. Chill!

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)



You often pride yourself on your intuitive ability to figure out what friends and family are thinking, but you know what they say about pride - it comes before a fall. If you jump to conclusions at this time, you're liable to get it completely wrong. Check the facts, Scorpio!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)



Make the most of planetary activity now to rebuild bridges and reassure loved ones. Above all, flatly refuse to get involved in any further power struggles on the work front, no matter who says what or how much appears to be at stake as the week unfolds.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 21)



Put money worries out of your head and have a good time this weekend, no matter how much it costs you - within reason, of course. According to the planets, this is the ideal time to let your hair down and do what comes naturally. Be yourself, and be well!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 22-Feb. 19)



If you need to get away from your everyday stuff for a while, just get up and go. The more opinions you seek at this time, the more reasons others will come up with for why you should stay right where you are. Trust your instincts, fly high and let honesty be your fuel.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)



It's said that love makes the world go round, but it could turn your world upside down over the coming days. Be careful that you don't fall head over heels for someone who is totally unsuitable for you. A sensitive spirit like you needs understanding, not an emotional ball and chain.

Dennis Fairchild is a Birmingham based astrologer and author of several books on divination. For information about personal consultations, phone (248) 646 3555 or e-mail DenFairchild@aol.com

Fashion

'Sex and the City' leaves behind stylish legacy

BY ERIN HANAFY
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

It's clear there's something different about *Sex and the City* from the opening credits, as Sarah Jessica Parker struts down the streets of Manhattan wearing a tutu and manages to look chic. Lara Flynn Boyle was vilified for her tutu outing at the 2003 Oscars, but it works like crazy for her fellow triple-named star.

The HBO series initially got attention because of the characters' ribald talk and dating adventures, but its most enduring legacy may be its style. As the series prepares to say goodbye on Feb. 22, the fashion world might miss Carrie, Miranda, Samantha and Charlotte most of all.

"Unfortunately we don't have enough Sarah Jessica Parkers in the world," says Andre Leon Talley, Vogue's editor at large. "There's going to be a big void

when that ends. Who will replace her?" *Sex and the City* is a force in fashion now, but originally the influence went the other way.

The world of fashion was never far away from Carrie, public relations executive Samantha (Kim Cattrall), upper-crust Charlotte (Kristin Davis) and lawyer Miranda (Cynthia Nixon).

Costume designer Patricia Field helped create each character's look by painstakingly selecting the best pieces from each season.

In the fourth season, Carrie lives out a couple of her fashion fantasies, writing for Vogue magazine and walking in a charity fashion show, where she is tended to backstage by a frantic stylist played by Alan Cumming.

Wearing a Dolce and Gabbana coat and not much else as she steps into the spotlight, Carrie trips in her towering heels and tumbles onto the runway.

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Contests

Predict who will win an Oscar

BY KEELY KALESKI
STAFF WRITER

What movie is going to win the Oscar for best picture? Will it be *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*?

The *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*, *Filter* and Emagine Theatre in Novi are co-sponsoring an Oscar Contest that lets you be the judge

Pretend you're a member of the Academy and cast your vote for Best Picture, Best Actress, Best Actor, Best Supporting Actress, Best Supporting Actor and Best Original Song. You can vote three ways - online at www.hometownlife.com, or fill out the Oscar Contest Ballot in this week's *Filter* and mail or fax it to the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*. Entries must be received by 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27.

If your predictions were right, you'll be entered into a drawing to win an annual pass to Emagine Theatre in Novi. Ten runners-up will receive a pair of tickets to Emagine Theater.

Winners will be notified by phone and listed in the Thursday, March 4, edition of *Filter*.

To see the complete list of nominees and learn more about Oscar Night, visit www.oscar.com.

Win tickets to 'Cinema Show'

Cinema Show, the Montreal-based musical, is launching its first national tour in February, and stops at the Fox Theatre, Feb. 24-29. *Cinema Show* brings scenes and music from the big screen to life. Performances include *Lady Marmalade* from *Moulin Rouge*, *I Could Have Danced All Night* from *My Fair Lady* and *What a Feeling* from *Flashdance*.

Tell us about your favorite movie scene/movie song of all time and why it's your favorite to win tickets to the show. Three pairs of tickets to the Wednesday, Feb. 25, show will be awarded.

Deadline for entries is Friday, Feb. 13, winners will be notified by phone, and announced in the Feb. 19 edition of *Filter*.

Send, fax or e-mail entries to Keely Kaleski, Assistant Managing Editor, Features, *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. To send a fax call (248) 644-1100 or e-mail kkaleski@oehomecomm.net.

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2004 OSCAR CONTEST

Who is going to win an Oscar this year?

Make your predictions, (circle your choice on the ballot), and if you're right you'll be entered into a drawing to win an annual pass to Emagine Theatre in Novi. Ten runners-up will receive a pair of tickets to Emagine Theater. Deadline to enter is 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27. The Oscars will be awarded Sunday, Feb. 29. Readers who correctly predict the winning entries are entered into the drawing. We'll call the 11 winners, and list their names in the March 4 edition of Filter. Only one entry per person, include your name, address and telephone number.

BEST PICTURE

"The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King"
"Lost in Translation"
"Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World"
"Mystic River"
"Seabiscuit"

BEST ACTOR

Johnny Depp "Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl"
Ben Kingsley "House of Sand and Fog"
Jude Law, "Cold Mountain"
Bill Murray "Lost in Translation"
Sean Penn "Mystic River"

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

Alec Baldwin "The Cooler"
Benicio Del Toro "21 Grams"
Djimon Hounsou "In America"
Tim Robbins "Mystic River"
Ken Watanabe "The Last Samurai"

BEST ACTRESS

Keisha Castle-Hughes "Whale Rider"
Diane Keaton "Something's Gotta Give"
Samantha Morton "In America"
Charlize Theron "Monster"
Naomi Watts "21 Grams"

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

Shohreh Aghdashloo "House of Sand and Fog"
Patricia Clarkson "Pieces of April"
Marcia Gay Harden "Mystic River"
Holly Hunter "Thirteen"
Renee Zellweger "Cold Mountain"

BEST ORIGINAL SONG

Bellefonte Rendevous
The Triplets of Belleville
Into the West - "The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King"
A Kiss at the End of the Rainbow - A Mighty Wind
Scarlet Tide - Cold Mountain
You Will Be My Arm True Love - Cold Mountain

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