

Inside Filter



Rock on
In 2005 expect rock bands to get more emotional and to draw inspiration from fresh sources

INSERTED SECTION

At Home



Simple & stylish
Hand built furniture stands up to years of use

SECTION B

Pipeline

Paying taxes

The Plymouth Township treasurer's office will be open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 31, to allow residents to pay their taxes.

The treasurer's office is located in the township hall complex at the corner of Ann Arbor Road and Lilley. Call the office, (734) 354-3214, for more information.

Safe rides

With Friday's New Year's Eve celebration schedule nearing, party-goers should remember that Plymouth police are teaming with Central Distributors of Beer, ABC Cab and many Plymouth-area bars and restaurants to offer "Project Safe Ride Plymouth" through Saturday, Jan. 1.

Patrons of participating bars and restaurants will be able to obtain a cab ride home in the event they've had too much to drink. The program is meant to encourage responsible drinking, not the overuse of alcohol.

Participating Plymouth establishments include Doyle's Tavern, Hermann's Old Towne Grill, Plymouth Crossing, 336 Main, Plaza Lanes, Boulders, E.G. Nick's, Compari's, Sean O'Callaghan's, Bennigan's, Station 885, LaBistecca, Ernesto's, Plymouth Pub and the Plymouth Knights of Columbus Hall.

Fountain concepts

The Plymouth Community Youth Advisory Commission is accepting "concepts" for the new "Fountain of Youth" in Kellogg Park. The commission recently took on the project of replacing the fountain in the park, which was destroyed earlier this year.

Youth throughout the community of any age are eligible to submit concepts.

The concepts can be a photograph, drawing or any medium desired by the artist.

They must be submitted to Plymouth City Hall, 201 S. Main, by 4:30 p.m. Jan. 21.

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THURSDAY

December 30, 2004

75 cents

VOLUME 119 NUMBER 37

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PLYMOUTH Observer



Alfred Moore of Plymouth Township wipes away the tears after a poem was read at the Memorial Day ceremony in downtown Plymouth in May. Moore is a member of the American Legion 112 and served in the Navy during World War II.

Family takes 'Sysco Kid' suspect off life support

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM
STAFF WRITER

A Plymouth man suspected of nine southeast Michigan bank robberies — including Comerica Bank in Plymouth Township — died Dec. 21 after family members decided to take him off life support.

Kenneth J. Rosselot, 38, of Plymouth was hospitalized Dec. 17 in critical condition at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital following a car chase with Michigan State Police cruisers in Canton. The chase began earlier that day at 9:45 a.m. in Chelsea, where Rosselot allegedly robbed the Flagstar Bank, and a witness watched him get into his car and called Chelsea police.

Rosselot eventually lost control of his car during the high-speed chase, which led state troopers east on I-94, and ultimately through residential areas of Canton. At one point, the chase went right past Dodson Elementary School. It ended when Rosselot lost control of his car, flipping it into the air.

Local FBI officials believe Rosselot was responsible for nine bank robberies since Sept. 3.

"We're fairly certain that he was the Sysco Kid," said FBI Special Agent Terry Booth, referring to the baseball cap Rosselot allegedly wore when bank surveillance cameras captured his image.

Monikers, usually pertaining to the perpetrator's M.O., apparel or appearance, are often given to bank robbers by the FBI. Other bank robber nicknames include the Ziploc Bandit, a wanted bank robber who distributes plastic bags to tellers to fill with cash; the "Bandanna Bandit," who killed himself after being captured; and the White Van Bandit, caught after robbing the same bank four times.

Improved digital surveillance photography and quick police work are just two reasons bank robbers are getting caught more and more these days, Booth said.

"Over the last six weeks, we've been very successful in holding down bank robberies," Booth said, adding that 50 bank robbery cases have been closed. Still, Michigan's year-to-date bank robbery number is the second highest in the U.S., at 449. Only California, with 888, had a higher number of bank robberies in 2004.

Looking back, moving forward

As new year dawns, Plymouth area reflects on 2004

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

From the unusual — an intruder at a day care being shot by police and the collapse of the fountain in Kellogg Park — to the mundane — local elections, business closings and goings — 2004 was an interesting year in the Plymouth community.

Perhaps nowhere was change felt more in 2004 than in the local business community where an old eyesore was suddenly swept clean and long-time businesses finally succumbed.

Downtown Plymouth lost three of its most venerable businesses this year when the Little Book Shoppe on the Park, Plymouth Office Supply and the Penn Theatre all were shut down.

The Little Book Shoppe opened in 1984 and was operated by Jackie Powers until she passed away in 1999. Seller Angelique Burleson said the new owner couldn't make a go of it.

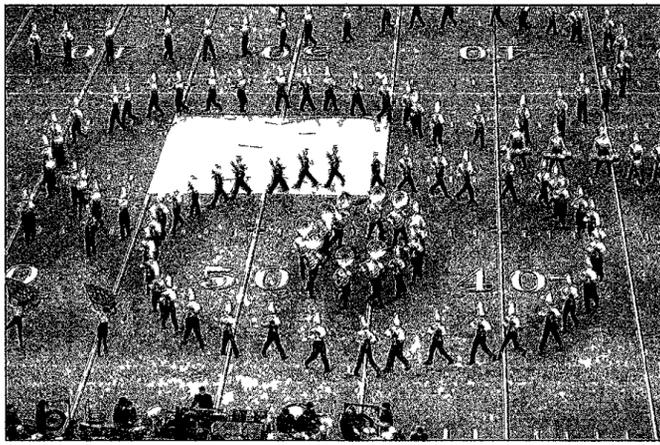


PHOTO BY DIANE HANSON

The Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Marching Band won yet another state championship and finished in the top 10 at the national competition in Indianapolis.

and finally decided it was time to sell. "We really can't compete with some of the big stores," Burleson said. "We are appreciative of the loyal customers who supported us, but only a loyal few really shopped."

None of the businesses had to wait

long for new suitors. The Penn Theatre, which finally closed after switching from old movies to first-run films and back, with a try as a comedy club along the way, has been sold and

PLEASE SEE YEAR IN REVIEW, A7

Sculptor works way through ice age

Plymouth woman carves a niche into festival's success

BY LUANNE BERK
CORRESPONDENT

If you met Tajana Raukar on the street, you could easily see her as a wife, a trained chef, a businesswoman, even a contributing citizen of the Plymouth community. And, as soon as you had a conversation with her, her thick accent might lead you to guess that she is also from Croatia.

But if someone asked you to guess what kind of tools she uses in her business, I doubt you'd come up with the following list, more akin to a medieval battleground than a 21st-century business: hacksaws, chainsaws, ice picks, die grinders,

blow torches, sanding machines and steam irons.

In the modern world, you might assume that she is either a serial killer or a tree trimmer. And her profession is quite unique, definitely requiring imagination combined with skill, but, ironically — with a cold twist.

Raukar spends most of her time either in the cold elements of the Michigan outdoors or in the confines of a very large cold storage freezer.

IT'S MAGIC

Raukar is a sculptor, using a simple element quite plentiful at times in Michigan this time

of year. She works her creative magic on ice. She takes giant blocks of ice and transforms them into magnificent displays of art, expression and joy.

Her tools become tools of precision and artistic expression as she transports ideas from her imagination into the crystal clear blocks until they draw a symphony of "oohs" and "aahs" from an audience of as many as 500,000 in the downtown Plymouth area. This sparkling, crystal "joy" fills the entire community during one week in January — this year, Jan. 17-23 — at The Plymouth International Ice Spectacular.

Tajana Raukar enjoys bringing ice to "life" — her favorite



Plymouth resident Tajana Raukar is one of the favorites for spectators attending the annual ice festival.

sculptures are animals. When you enter the Raukar's "Ice Dreams" studio, you are immediately drawn to the dramatic photo of the enormous tiger Raukar carved in a competition in Alaska. It was so large that several people who sat on its

back for the photo were dwarfed by its size.

According to Tajana, in the Fairbanks, Alaska, competition, they use larger blocks of ice since they have a plentiful

PLEASE SEE ICE, A5

Sponsorships still open for ice festival

The Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular, scheduled for Jan. 17-23, still has some specific sponsorships available that are an integral part of the festival, and are not currently being funded in this year's budget, for businesses who want to help sponsor the annual event.

Sponsors will receive promotional consideration, and the festival is a nonprofit Michigan corporation so all or a portion of the donation may be tax-deductible, according to Mike Watts of Watts Up Inc., who organizes the event. Available sponsorships (with

amounts) include:
■ The Plymouth Middle School design contest (\$2,500) — Presented in conjunction with the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* Sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade students from the Plymouth community submit a design for a single block of ice carving. One design (the one which looks the best as an ice carving design) is selected.
■ Student competitions and awards (\$5,000) — The High School and College student competitions are one of the most important parts of the annual Plymouth International Ice

Sculpture Spectacular, according to Watts. The students carve as a practical learning experience, and the judging is done as a way to evaluate the student's competency. Awards are given as a reward for the students' efforts, and the students are encouraged to speak with the judges and their instructors to obtain firsthand knowledge of how to improve their skills.
■ Caution tape sponsor (\$4,000) — Kellogg Park is secured with thousands of feet of special imprinted caution barrier.

PLEASE SEE FESTIVAL, A4

Coming Sunday in your Plymouth Observer

River Rouge

New coffee table book tells the story of the world's most famous auto factory. See Sunday's Observer Life.



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OBEDIENCE CLASSES

Happy Hounds Dog Day Care and the Pet Teacher will offer puppy and adult basic obedience classes at Happy Hounds Dog Day Care in Plymouth beginning Jan 12. Wednesday classes will start Jan 12, with Tuesday classes starting Jan 25. Puppy and adult dog classes are available either day. Each class will run six weeks with a fee of \$125. Happy Hounds is located at 673 S Main. For more information, visit the Web site at www.happyhoundsdaycare.com or call (734) 459-DOGS.

CHARLIE BROWN AUDITIONS

Auditions for The DuBois Theatre production of the Broadway musical *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* take place from 3-6 p.m. Jan 5-6 in The DuBois Theatre at Canton High School. Potential actors should attend an audition workshop Wednesday, Dec 15 to learn

the music and get audition tips. Those who can't make the workshop should see Shannon Henry for audition packets. For more information, contact Mrs. Henry via e-mail at henrys@pecc.k12.mi.us

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Lee and Noel Bittinger Team at RE/MAX is offering three scholarships, each in the amount of \$1,000, for local high school seniors that are planning to attend a college or university in the fall of 2005.

To apply for the scholarship, entrants must submit a short essay (not to exceed three pages, double-spaced with a 12 pt font) that address the following question: Describe how someone in your life has influenced you in a positive way and changed your life?

All submissions must include name, address and phone number of entrant, high school they attend, and college or university they plan to attend in the fall. All submissions must be received by Dec 31, 2004. They should be sent to The Bittinger Team, 43435 Joy Road, Canton, MI 48187.

"The Plymouth/Canton community has supported us for over 20 years. The Bittinger Team Scholarship is just one of the ways that we can say thank you by giving back to our community," Noel Bittinger said. "This is our way of paving the way for a stronger, happier future for the next generation."

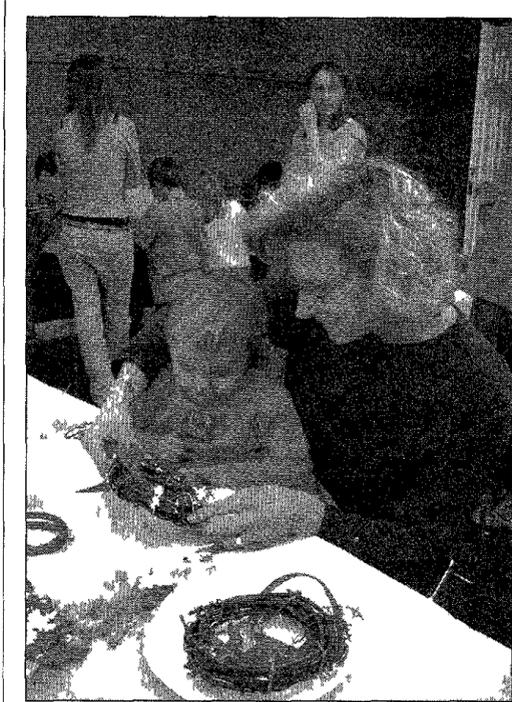
For more information, contact the team at (734) 459-1010, or email Bittinger at noelbittinger@remax.net

PLYMOUTH-CANTON CIVITAN CLUB

The Plymouth-Canton Civitan Club is looking for energetic new members to participate in community service projects. This club meets the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Plymouth Salvation Army Building on Main Street. The third Thursday is a dinner meeting with a speaker. Call (734) 981-7259 for further info.

CRAFTERS, ARTISTS WANTED

Officials of the Plymouth Canton Music Boosters are



Crafty fun

Marisa Bechtel, age 2, and her mother Peggy Bechtel enjoy the holiday craft session at the Plymouth District Library. Nearly 100 children joined in the fun and were assisted by high school student members of the Key Club from the Plymouth Canton Educational Park.

looking for crafters and artists for Spring Arts and Crafts Ensemble. The event is scheduled for 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, March 19 at Canton High School. It's a juried show. For more information, e-mail Diane Van Dyke at djvandyke@peoplepc.com or call (734) 416-3354.

SYMPHONY FUND-RAISER

The Plymouth Symphony is selling the 2005 Entertainment Book, offering 50-percent discount coupons at hundreds of restaurants and discounts for many other services and events. The 2005 Entertainment Book can be picked up at the Plymouth Symphony Office next to the Cozy Cafe in downtown Plymouth or by calling Mary Thomas (734) 453-3016.

Cost of the book is \$20 with proceeds benefiting symphony programs. For more information, call the symphony office, (734) 451-2112.

tion, call the symphony office, (734) 451-2112.

SWIM, GYM AND FILM

Bring out the entire family and celebrate the New Year from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, Dec 31 at Summit on the Park.

The aquatic center will be open from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. for all kinds of swimming and water activities.

Following the swimming, a movie will be shown and popcorn and pop will be on sale. Feel free to bring blankets, cushions and pillows to sit on — no chairs or outside food and beverages please.

NONPROFIT ACCREDITED

Personalized Nursing LIGHT House Inc has been accredited for three years by CARF, an independent accrediting organization, for its day treatment and outpa-

tient substance abuse programs.

Personalized Nursing LIGHT House, Inc has been providing substance abuse treatment throughout the southeast Michigan area since 1990. The non-profit organization has three offices, including one at 575 S Main Street in Plymouth.

The accreditation by CARF, which is an international accrediting organization, marks the fifth consecutive three-year accreditation awarded to Personalized Nursing LIGHT House, Inc.

DEANS' LIST

Kathleen Hammerschmidt of Plymouth Township has been named to the Ohio Northern University deans' list for the fall quarter. The honor means Hammerschmidt, daughter of Thomas and Pamela Hammerschmidt, attained a grade point average of 3.5 or better on a 4.0 grading system.

FREE SEMINAR

Dr. Nicole Whitehead will be holding a free seminar at the Plymouth Cultural Center to focus on the prevention of osteoarthritis.

Whitehead will discuss the contributing factors leading to arthritis, nutrition for healthy joints and how to prevent arthritis.

The workshop will be held on Wednesday, Jan 12, at 7:30 p.m. Participants must register for limited seating by calling (248) 426-0201.

FOUNTAIN CONCEPTS

The Plymouth Community Youth Advisory Commission is accepting concepts for the new Fountain of Youth in Kellogg Park.

The commission recently took on the project of replacing the fountain in the park, which was destroyed earlier this year.

Youth throughout the community of any age are eligible to submit concepts.

The concepts can be a photograph, drawing or any medium desired by the artist.

They must be submitted to Plymouth City Hall, 201 S Main by 4:30 p.m. Jan 21.

PLYMOUTH Observer

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HOW TO REACH US

Susan Rosiek
Executive Editor
(734) 953-2100
srosiek@oe.hometownlife.com

Hugh Gallagher
Managing Editor
(734) 953-2149
hgallagher@oe.hometownlife.com

Brad Kadrich
Community Editor
(734) 459-2700
bkadrich@oe.hometownlife.com

Keely Schramm
Filter Editor
(734) 953-2105
kschramm@oe.hometownlife.com

Frank Cibor
Retail Sales Manager
(734) 953-2177
fcibor@oe.hometownlife.com

Lisa Walker-Kadrich
Retail Advertising Rep
(734) 953-2168
lwalker@oe.hometownlife.com

Newsroom(734) 459-2700 Fax (734) 459-4224
Sports Nightline(734) 953-2104
Circulation/Customer Service1-866-88-PAPER (866-887-2737)
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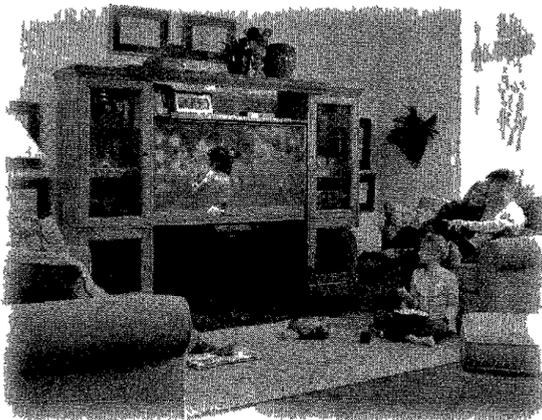
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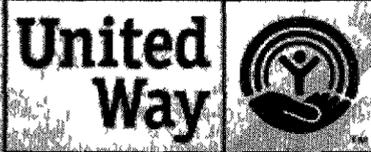
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Quake spawns local wave of grief

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM
STAFF WRITER

Relief efforts are under way locally and nationally to help victims of the earthquake and tsunamis that ravaged – and continue to ravage southeast Asia, killing at least 44,000 and costing billions of dollars in property damage.

An earthquake Sunday off the island nation of Sumatra caused 500-mile-per-hour waves in the Indian Ocean and Bay of Bengal. *U.S.A. Today* reported the tsunami is the deadliest since 1755, when Portugal lost 60,000 people in the tidal waves. The hardest hit areas were Sri Lanka, India and Thailand, but deaths also were reported in Tanzania, Seychelles, Malaysia, Myanmar, Bangladesh, the Maldives and Somalia.

The aftermath of the tsunamis is being felt locally, especially in Canton where there is a large Asian population. In India, the southern coastal regions were hit the hardest, including the major port city of Madras, according to Mukesh Patel, coordinator of the Shri Swaminarayan Mandir temple, which is located on Canton Center. He said not only have people lost their homes, but they have also lost their sources of livelihood, too.

"The poor people are the ones who really get hurt," Patel said, adding that the coastal fishermen have been particularly devastated. "None of them have insurance. People (basically) survive day to day."

The Indian government is typically slow to respond to disasters, Patel said.

"The help will come, but by the time it gets to (the people), it will be too late – that is the tragedy of the whole thing," he said.

GREAT LOSS

A Canton woman, Dhammika Dewasurendra, lost her mother, who lived in Sri Lanka. Her mother was drowned by a tidal wave while on her way to visit relatives, a Detroit newspaper reported.

A family member said Dewasurendra was too upset to return calls for this story.

A local Hindu priest, Shiva Kumar, was vacationing in India – right in the path of the tsunami. He recently telephoned colleagues in Canton to assure people that he was OK. Still, people who know him

– and others living in the area – are bracing themselves for another onslaught.

"There's another attack from the ocean coming," said Shiva Kumar, another priest at the Hindu Temple, located at 44955 Cherry Hill. He added that both commercial and residential areas have been crippled.

"They just closed all the roads and shopping centers," Kumar said.

Canton native Robin Sanborn LaRoy, a 1998 graduate of Canton High School, said three of her friends are in regions devastated by the earthquake and tsunami.

Two of them are newlyweds – Mark and Elizabeth Moon of Fenton, who wed in Miami, but honeymooned in Thailand.

"They were taking an elephant ride in the mountains with a guide and someone in a Jeep stopped them," Sanborn LaRoy said. They attempted to warn them of the tsunami, but language barriers caused the words of caution to be whittled down to "Water, water."

Eventually, the newlyweds figured out what that meant. Now, they are subsisting on bottled water and remaining food from the hotel – and trying to figure out how to get back home. They have been using someone's satellite phone to periodically call their mothers to let them know they're OK.

Amazingly, their belongings made it through the devastation – thanks to mosquito netting. "They were told to put their belongings up on their bed to keep bugs off of them," Sanborn LaRoy said. This was enough distance from the floor to keep them from getting drenched.

Since they are on a small resort island off the Thailand mainland, the infrastructure that helped get them there – such as ferries – isn't there to help them get back. They were scheduled to fly home by Jan. 2. "For now they're safe and dry and have food," she said.

ESCAPED

Another of Sanborn LaRoy's friends, Sonal Amin, is in India and escaped the tsunami's wrath. She was Sanborn LaRoy's maid of honor in her July wedding.

Several organizations are accepting donations to help the tsunami victims.

Scope of local pastor's visit to India may change

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

The associate pastor of the First Baptist Church of Plymouth is in India to set up a teaching mission trip to Manipur the last two weeks of January.

However, Rev. Wungreiso Valu will be spending his time in the northeast sector of the country, away from the devastation left by the tsunami that hit the southern coastal areas of India and several Indian islands.

As of Tuesday afternoon, Valu's wife was waiting for a telephone call to make certain he completed his trip safely. However, Margareth Valu said she didn't expect her husband would be in any danger because of the distance from the area hit by the flood waters, which could result in more than 10,000 deaths.

The Valus and their two children, along with senior pastor, Dr. Michael Bryan, will join the mission team next month.

Meanwhile, a church spokesperson said plans are being made to schedule a Sunday service to help members of the Indonesian Christian Church of Ann Arbor, which hold services in First Baptist Church of Plymouth gymnasium.

Indonesia was hit hard by the tsunami, and many from the congregation have relatives and friends who were victims of the disaster.

■ The Southeast Michigan Red Cross, call (800) HELP NOW, or visit www.semred.org

■ BAPS Care International www.baps.org

■ The Canton based Michigan Indian Community Web site, www.mindia.com, donations may be mailed to P.O. Box 871171, Canton, MI 48187. For information via e-mail, write to info@mindia.com

Artistic license

New gallery offers diverse menu of services

BY KIM KOVELLE
NORTHVILLE RECORD STAFF WRITER

Empty walls, art fairs and a desire to help local artists prompted Andrea Zastawny-Moreno and husband Alfredo Moreno to bring an art shop to Northville Township.

The couple recently opened BWA (Beautiful Wall Art) Gallery at Highland Lakes Shopping Center.



PHOTO BY JOHN HEIDER | NORTHVILLE RECORD

Highland Lakes' Beautiful Wall Art's owners Andrea Zastawny-Moreno and Alfredo Moreno take a look at an oil canvas in their recently opened shop in Northville.

'California bite'

"I come from a family of artists," she said. "My mother was a designer, she had a millinery shop in Dearborn. She taught me everything I know." Dancing at Novi's Walled Lake Casino in its heyday, Zastawny-Moreno said she's always had a love for music, art and design.

"I always shelved my art," she said. Her father's unexpected 1969 death changed things. I started looking at how short life was. I felt it was time to spread my wings."

Answering California's call, she stayed in the state for 28 years, designing costumes and learning about art on the way.

While working retail in Virginia, she met Moreno, a trilingual Spaniard with a penchant for painting and photography.

"I used to read about Spanish literature, different theatrical plays and musicians from all these Hispanic countries," said Moreno, raised in Guanajuato, Mexico. "It was very appealing to be in that environment."

Their artistic passions meshed in marriage four years ago.

ART FOR NORTHVILLE

Before opening BWA Gallery, the Morenos have done several art shows, most recently Arts, Beats and Eats in Pontiac.

"We started noticing that there were so many new houses with empty walls," Moreno said. "What we want to capture is to actually have Michigan typical scenes."

Photos of old buildings, birch trees and Victorian homes all may soon be converted to paintings.

Our costs are about 40 percent below market value, Zastawny-Moreno said. "There's a strong interest. It's word of mouth."

@ Work

Business BWA (Beautiful Wall Art) Gallery, a new business in Northville Township that offers oil paintings, lamps and wall hangers, opened doors Nov. 6. Address: 43133 Seven Mile Rd. in Highland Lakes Shopping Center. Hours: Monday-Friday, 1-8 p.m.; Saturday, Sunday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Contact: Andrea Zastawny-Moreno and Alfredo Moreno, (248) 449-6833.

jazz scenes and reproductions.

Fare also includes lamps and wall hangers, all hand-crafted by artists locally and elsewhere.

Prices start at \$55 for smaller paintings and reach \$700 and up for 48-inch-by-72-inch canvases. Wall hangers average \$40, while lamps run \$200-\$350. "We're going to feature an artist a month," added Zastawny-Moreno. "We want to support the artists."

With plans to consign Michigan paintings – and host art events with wine, cheese and music – the Morenos hope to create a cultural niche, too.

CALIFORNIA DREAMS

For Detroit raised Zastawny Moreno, settling in Northville is a return after getting the

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Located next to the Westborn Market south of 5 Mile Road, our new Livonia office is now open for business. Stop by and see us soon for convenient parking, safe deposit boxes, drive-through teller and ATM service, and more!

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Waiting and wondering

Canton woman
looks forward
to husband's
homecoming
from Iraq

BY KURT KUBAN
STAFF WRITER

Wartime is always difficult, particularly for military wives like Nicole Zsuzsics

The former Canton resident's husband, Allen "Zeus" Zsuzsics, is aboard the U.S.S. Harry Truman, a Navy aircraft carrier that is currently somewhere off the coast of Iraq

Rather than pine away the days worrying about her husband's fate, Zsuzsics, 22, has started an organization called Operation Morale, which is dedicated to helping the sailors aboard the Truman fight their worst fears: loneliness and being forgotten

Through the organization, people can write letters to sailors and send them cards or other care packages, which Zsuzsics says go a long way to make them feel appreciated. Many of the sailors are looking for pen pals, to help keep them connected to back home

"Their worst fear is to be forgotten. There's so many guys that don't get any letters at all. My husband wrote me one time that I needed to do something about it, so I started Operation Morale," Zsuzsics said

Zsuzsics, formerly Nicole Kline, graduated from Plymouth Salem in 2000 and now lives in Chesapeake, Va. She married her husband in October 2003, after the two became acquainted through an online military pen pal service. Currently she is in Canton visiting her mother, Denise Kline

Nicole said she usually gets daily e-mails from her husband who steals away every chance he gets to find out



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Nicole Zsuzsics here with her 8-month-old son Brady, is looking forward to the return of her husband Allen ("Zeus") Zsuzsics, a U.S. Naval officer aboard the U.S.S. Harry Truman somewhere off the coast of Iraq

about news from home, especially about the couple's 8-month-old son, Brady

"He works 12 to 14 hours a day, so he doesn't get much of a chance to use e-mail. I never get more than a paragraph at a time, but at least he can tell me he's OK," she said

Every once in a while, her husband gets access to a telephone and calls home, but because of the time difference, Nicole said the calls usually come early in the morning

Most of the time he calls it 2 or 3 in the morning. I wake up the next morning wondering if I really talked to him or not," she said

Zsuzsics said communication from home is so vital for any sailor or soldier in wartime, especially because many of them don't have family to think about or with whom to keep in touch

"Some people don't have anybody and are sitting on ships wondering if anyone even knows they are there," she said. "Our point with Operation Morale is to make them aware that everyone does know they are there and that we care about them"

Allen Zsuzsics, who is from Kansas, said it makes such a difference for the sailors when they receive letters from home whether it is from someone they know or not

"It's nice to know that people still think and care about us out here. Being away from your family is so hard, especially over the holidays. I miss my wife and baby so much. When we get mail and packages from random Americans telling us how much we're appreciated, it makes being gone a little easier," he said

Nicole said she is counting down the days when her husband returns from his six-month tour, though she understands it could end up being longer depending on what happens in the near future. War is never exact

"I'm just like everyone else. I'll probably find out about four days before he arrives home. But we're really hoping for six months, which means he will be home in early April," she said

Those interested in sending letters or cards through Operation Morale can send them to Operation Morale, 813 Hughes Ave., Chesapeake, VA, 23324. Zsuzsics said people can include a return address, because many sailors like to write return letters

For more information about the group, call Zsuzsics at (757) 543-2808 or visit the group's Web site at www.operationmorale.homestead.com

kkuban@oehomecomm.net
(734) 459-2700

FESTIVAL

FROM PAGE A1

tape to keep the massive crowds away from the ice sculptures

This year for the first time

organizers are offering a sponsorship for this item, which includes company logo and the words Plymouth Ice Spectacular

Other sponsorships are also available, and a small quantity of individual ice carving for local businesses still remain

available until Jan. 3

Any person, business, or corporation interested in sponsoring one of these Ice Spectacular components should contact Michael Watts via e-mail at mikew@wattsupinc.com or by calling (734) 459-6969

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FRU/SAT LS 12:00

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8:45 7:20 9:00 9:30
FRU/SAT LS 1:15 11:45

LADDER 48 (PG 13)
12:20 5:10 7:30

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS (PG 13)
2:50 9:45 FRU/SAT LS 12:00

FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX (PG 13)
12:00 2:20 4:40 7:00 9:20
FRU/SAT LS 11:40

THE INCREDIBLES (PG)
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FRI SAT LS 11:30

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ICE

FROM PAGE A1

supply - they take it right out of a lake nearby. And the possibilities are unbelievable with such large chunks to work with, Raukar said.

A few other animals Raukar has created from ice include parrots, horses, Longhorn cattle, Clydesdale horses, and unicorns. When Tajana arrives on the scene, other carvers know they are in for a treat, and in the case of competitions, a tough competitor. She has won many world championships with the help of her husband, Paul, who handles much of the logistics, and behind the scenes work.

GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS

This is not a hobby for the Raukars. Paul and Tajana have made their dream into a business, located in Plymouth, which offers beautiful carvings for major events such as weddings, conferences, business meetings and other social gatherings. She and her husband also do carvings for many restaurants and in the Detroit area, along with other festivals in the area.

They have a specialized machine that produces crystal clear blocks for both their own use and for sale to other carvers in the area. They also

have machines that carve ice for commercial logos, shot glasses, centerpieces or sorbet dishes for receptions.

This machine can also produce company logos "embossed" in ice which the machine cuts into the ice with incredible precision using computer specifications.

After starting out as chefs with training nearby at Schoolcraft College, the Raukars began their carving with vegetables, but were quickly enamored with the carving of ice from the first time they gave it a try. They especially like the Plymouth Ice Spectacular because it is in their hometown of Plymouth which is also where their business is located. It is much like having a sports competition with home field advantage - you maintain a level of comfort in your own "home field." And the Raukars love the downtown Plymouth setting.

"The people are so nice," said Raukar, who also said she appreciates how close all the events are to one another. "It is easy to go from one event to another, to find a place to eat, stop in and visit other sculptors, and enjoy the overall experience because of the arrangement of the downtown area."

Raukar is only one of many ice carvers who gather in Plymouth every year with great anticipation.

"I try to make ice carving from my heart, express the feelings from my heart to your eyes," said Raukar,

acknowledging she enjoys the reaction of the crowd. Many times the public relates to the carvings that I have made. Last year I carved parrots, and a big Clydesdale with a plow. I also did a Longhorn cow.

MASTERPIECES

Raukar works with blocks of ice weighing 300 pounds each, which are strategically stacked and melted or "frozen" together with water in order to create a larger mound of ice to carve. She usually makes one big sculpture with about 20 blocks and does live demonstrations while the crowd stands in amazement.

Raukar feels "it is different carving in front of stores" when compared to competitions because she enjoys the interaction with the crowds.

"I have to think ahead in case it is warm, you have to be prepared," she said. She especially likes creating the larger designs in the gathering area where the sculptures are more spectacular. "The bigger the better!" is her philosophy.

She and Paul have won the world championship six times - against as many as 35-50 other teams. They also competed at the Olympics in Salt Lake City, Utah, in 2002, where they finished in fourth place.

During competition, the teams divide the work up between the two teammates - sometimes one does the organizing, the planning, the lifting,



Tajana Raukar of Plymouth, a six-time world champion, goes to town on one of her creations during the Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular.

thus helping to keep the peace - while the other does the carving. Sometimes both members of the team carve.

But as Tajana pointed out, it's very hard to find two carvers on the same level, of the same thinking, that complement one another.

Tajana and Paul agree the most difficult part of the ice carving process is watching it melt away.

Of course, that largely depends on the weather.

In Alaska, the blocks are five times bigger, and the temperature is so cold you don't have to worry it

will melt," Raukar said. Here, the weather is so unpredictable. The ice here is manmade, it is smaller and the dimensions are different.

Sometimes Tajana will spend most of a day preparing, imagining, designing and carving, only to watch it melt away by the end of the day. But that is part of the excitement of her line of work. She is challenged to make her work great in the short time that it lasts.

And, of course, the carvers take lots of pictures, so that none of their work will be forgotten.

Many businesses benefit as ice festival success continues

BY LUANNE BERK
CORRESPONDENT

The downtown Plymouth businesses look forward to the Ice Spectacular with great anticipation every year. With annual crowds of over 500,000, the event is an advertiser's dream, giving businesses an opportunity to showcase their specialty shops, restaurants, along with the local charm that Plymouth is known for.

The Plymouth Ice Spectacular is economic development at its very best," said Fran Toney, executive director of the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce. The event brings people from all over Canada, Ohio, even nationwide, and the carvers come from all over the world. Whether they are buying magazines, gasoline or coffee, the biggest comment we get from visitors is, "This is the best-kept secret, a friendly, clean, town, close to Detroit, with all the advantages and opportunities nearby, and a small town flavor. It is the great American town!"

Whether visitors ultimately decide to move their businesses or families to Plymouth, or just shop in the short time they're here, the community is showcased in a spectacular way.

"Our community is one of the favorites of the ice carvers even though there are many around the country," Toney said. "The Spectacular has been here for years and years, and it is the grandfather and king of them all."

According to Mike Watts of Watts-Up, Inc., who coordinates the event, a study done at the Cherry Festival in Traverse City showed the longer people stay in town for an event like this, the greater the benefit to the town.

"For example, if you could get a cup of hot chocolate for the kids, a pastry, lunch, and other activities, then people would stick around," Watts said. "And, once families with kids see these ice sculptures, they almost always come back again next year, and maybe

even bring some friends. Toney testifies to the success of the event for local businesses.

"People who have only been here for the ice festival will call the chamber months later and say, 'I was here for the ice festival back in January and I was in a wonderful little store, it has a red door,'" Toney said. "And the chamber will help them locate it. Then they come back and do some major shopping. It has been incredibly successful."

The festival has come a long way. Now many downtown businesses make their projected revenue for weeks or months in just one week. Local restaurants are often so swamped during this time that one pub owner literally ran out of beer last year.

Stores selling items such as art pieces or clothing find their business picks up during this time, but the real returns for them occur later in the year. In some cases, the ice festival merely serves as a marketing tool for future purchases. Many shoppers see stores that carry items they appreciate, and will make a point to return at a later date, such as Christmas, to make their purchases.

Steve Prokes, owner of the Plymouth Coffee Bean Company on Penniman in downtown Plymouth, said the festival is "either the biggest or the second biggest" retail week of the year for his business.

His shop is very close to the festivities and consistently sponsors a company logo along with a sculpture (this year they sponsored in cooperation with the Coffee Express company).

Their selection of desserts, sandwiches, pastries, coffee, tea and hot chocolate is popular with families who need a warm-up break from the winter elements - and it's open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The festival here is a huge family experience, even though it's cold," Prokes said. "Kids of all ages love it! They have so many ice sculptures, it's amazing."

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26401 Harper Ave
(At 10 1/2 Mile)
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FOR THE RECORD

DEATHS

C
Charles F. Chuck' Comeau 65, of Bloomfield Hills died Dec 23

D
Charles Edward Dwyer 78, died Dec 17

K
J. Richard Kropf, 94, of Oceanside, Calif., formerly of Plymouth died Wednesday, Dec 8

L
Josephine Leavenworth 88, of Westland, died Dec 24
Louise N. Lukomski 87 of Plymouth died Dec 26

M
Helen D. Morris of Beverly Hill died



For the Record appears in every edition of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Complete paid obituaries can be found inside today's Sports section in Passages on page C9.

DEATHS
David J. Trainor, 67, died Dec 24

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON BOARD PROCEEDINGS-DECEMBER 14, 2004

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton was held Tuesday, December 14, 2004 at 46000 Summit Parkway Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag Roll Call Members Present Bennett Caccamo Kirchgatter Lajoie, McLaughlin Yack, Zarbo Members Absent None Staff Present Director Minghine, Director Durack, Director Santomauro, Director Conklin Director Faas Adoption of Agenda Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the agenda as presented with the deletion of C 2 Second Reading to amend Ordinance Firearms remove C 3 Re appointment to the Construction Board of Appeals and place as G-21 and remove C 5 Appointment to Downtown Development Authority Board and place as G 22 and delete G-20 Approve Purchase Order for ACLS Recertification Classes for Firefighters Motion carried unanimously Approval of Minutes Motion by Bennett supported by Kirchgatter to approve the Regular Board Minutes of November 23 2004 Motion carried unanimously Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the Study Board Minutes of December 7, 2004 Motion carried unanimously Motion by Bennett, supported by Lajoie to approve the Special Board Minutes of December 8, 2004 Motion carried unanimously Payment of Bills Motion by Kirchgatter, supported by McLaughlin to approve payment of the bills as presented Motion carried unanimously Expenditure Recap for December 14, 2004

Table with 3 columns: Fund Name, Amount, Total. Includes General Fund, Fire Fund, Police Fund, etc. Total - All Funds: 3,254,636.47

PRESENTATION: RECOGNITION OF TOM GEROU FOR HIS YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY PUBLIC HEARING: Item 1 HOLD THE PUBLIC HEARING OF THE NECESSITY AND CONSIDER ADOPTING THE CONFIRMING RESOLUTION FOR THE NORTH POINTE SUBDIVISION SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT 2004 04 (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to open the public hearing at 7:07 p.m. of the Necessity and Consider Adopting the Confirming Resolution for the North Pointe Subdivision Special Assessment District 2004 04 at 07:07 p.m. Motion carried unanimously Tom Blazer 47147 North Pointe Drive, spoke in favor of the SAD Motion by Bennett supported by Zarbo to close the public hearing of the Necessity and consider Adopting the confirming Resolution for the North Pointe Subdivision Special Assessment District 2004 04 at 07:11 p.m. Motion carried unanimously Motion by Bennett supported by McLaughlin to adopt the Confirming Resolution for North Pointe SAD No 2004 04 Motion carried unanimously CONFIRMING RESOLUTION Charter Township of Canton County of Wayne State of Michigan North Pointe Subdivision Road Repairs Sidewalk and Sign Installation SAD No 2004 04 Minutes of a Regular Board meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Canton County of Wayne State of Michigan (the "Township") held on the 14th day of December 2004 in the Township at 7 o'clock p.m. Eastern Standard Time PRESENT Bennett Caccamo Kirchgatter Lajoie McLaughlin Yack Zarbo The following preambles and resolution were offered by Bennett, and supported by McLaughlin WHEREAS This Township Board pursuant to Act 188 Public Acts of Michigan 1954 as amended and after notice to all of the record owners of land in the proposed special assessment district tentatively declared its intention to undertake certain public improvements in the Township as more particularly described in Exhibit A hereto and WHEREAS The Township Board has caused to be prepared by a registered engineer plans showing the public improvements and the location thereof and an estimate of the cost thereof which have been filed with the Township clerk and WHEREAS after due and legal notice the Township Board has met on December 14 2004 at 7 o'clock p.m. Eastern Standard Time, and heard all persons interest therein at said first hearing with respect to the proposed public improvements and the special assessment district NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT 1 The Township Board hereby determines that the public improvements described in Exhibit A hereto and made a part hereof are necessary for the health safety and welfare of the Township and that said public improvements shall be made and completed pursuant to aforesaid Act 188 2 The Township Board hereby approves the plans and estimate of cost for the public improvements in the total sum of \$30,500 as prepared and presented by the Township engineer Of the aforesaid total cost of the project the sum of \$30 500 will be spread against the hereinafter named special assessment district pursuant to the aforesaid Act 188 3 The Township Board finally determines that said special assessment district shall consist of all of the lots and parcels of land described in Exhibit B hereto and that the existence of said special assessment district shall be maintained until all special assessments payable on the roll hereinafter described and any bonds issued in anticipation of such special assessments, have been paid 4 The Supervisor is hereby directed to make a special assessment roll in which shall be described all the parcels of land to be assessed as above set forth, with the names of the owners thereof if known and the total amount to be assessed against each parcel of land which amount shall be such relative portion of the whole sum to be levied against all parcels of land in the assessment district as the benefit to such parcel of land bears to the total benefit of all parcels of land in the special assessment district 5 When the Supervisor shall have completed the special assessment roll the Supervisor shall affix thereto a certificate stating that said roll was made pursuant to a resolution of the Township Board of the Township adopted on the date of adoption of this resolution and that in making the assessment roll the Supervisor has according to the Supervisor's best judgment conformed in all respects to the directions contained in said resolution and the statutes of the State of Michigan and the Supervisor shall then report the special assessment roll with the certificate attached thereto to the Township Board 6 All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and they hereby are rescinded AYES Bennett, Caccamo Kirchgatter Lajoie, McLaughlin Yack Zarbo RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Canton County of Wayne State of Michigan, at a Regular meeting held on December 14 2004 and that the said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act being Act 267 Public Acts of Michigan 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act Township Clerk CONSENT CALENDAR Item 1. GENERAL FUND BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS - CLERK'S OFFICE AND ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT (CLERK) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the following budget amendments to adjust accounts in the Clerk's Office and Elections Department budgets Motion carried unanimously Increase (Decrease)

Table with 3 columns: Description, Amount, Total. Includes Part-time wages Elections, Overtime Elections, Election worker per diem, etc. Total: \$ 0

This budget amendment increases the Elections Division budget from \$217,950 to \$229,450 reduces the Clerk's Office budget from \$466,600 to \$455,100 and does not change the General Fund budget total

Item 2. SECOND READING TO AMEND ORDINANCE FIREARMS (CLERK) DELETED

Item 3 RE-APPOINTMENT TO THE CONSTRUCTION BOARD OF APPEALS (MSD) REMOVED ADDED TO GENERAL CALENDAR AS ITEM G 21

Item 4 SET PUBLIC HEARING TO ESTABLISH A PA 198 INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT FOR MAPCO. (SUPERVISOR) Motion by Bennett supported by McLaughlin to set the public hearing for January 11, 2005 to consider establishing the

MAPCO Industrial Development District Motion carried unanimously

Item 5 APPOINTMENT TO DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD. (SUPERVISOR) REMOVED AND ADDED TO GENERAL CALENDAR AS G 22

Item 6 APPOINTMENT TO ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMPENSATION COMMITTEE. (ACSD) Motion by Bennett supported by McLaughlin to approve the appointments to the Elected Officials Compensation Committee in accordance with the following schedule Motion carried unanimously 2005 Tom Yack Melissa McLaughlin Karl Zarbo 2006 Elaine Kirchgatter, Karl Zarbo Todd Lajoie 2007 Terry Bennett Todd Lajoie Todd Caccamo 2008 Tom Yack Todd Caccamo Melissa McLaughlin

Item 7 CONSIDER ANNUAL PERMIT FOR WORK WITHIN THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RIGHTS-OF-WAY AND DESIGNATED OFFICER FOR SIGNATURES ON THE ANNUAL PERMIT AND ADDITIONAL PERMITS ISSUES TO CANTON. (MSD) Motion by Bennett supported by McLaughlin to approve the Township Clerk as the designated officer to execute the 2005 Annual Permit for Underground Utility Operations with the Michigan Department of Transportation right of way Motion carried unanimously Motion by Bennett supported by McLaughlin to approve the Township Clerk as the designated officer to sign permits for operations within the Michigan Department of Transportation rights of way not covered by the annual permit Motion carried unanimously

Item 8. REQUEST TO RE-APPOINT MEMBERS TO THE CULTURAL COMMISSION FOR THREE TERMS. (LSD) Motion by Bennett supported by McLaughlin to re appoint the following people to the Cultural Commission with a three year term (expiring December 31, 2007) Lincoln Lao Teresa Lundy and Linda Obrec Motion carried unanimously

Item 9. BUDGET AMENDMENT - GENERAL FUND - RUBBISH DISPOSAL. (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the following budget amendment in the General Fund to appropriate additional funding for rubbish disposal services Motion carried unanimously Increase Revenues Appropriation from Fund Balance #101 000 699 0000 \$50 000 Increase Appropriations Contracted Services Rubbish Disposal #101 521 821 0000 \$50 000 This budget amendment increases the Sanitation Division budget from \$2 398,000 to \$2 448 000 and the General Fund budget from \$25 789 315 to \$25 839 315

Item 10. BUDGET AMENDMENT - COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT FUND - PROPERTY (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the following budget amendment in the Community Improvement Fund for the purchase of property for road right-of-way needs Motion carried unanimously Increase Revenues Royalties Sauk Hills Trails #246 000 668 0000 \$130 000 Increase Appropriations Capital Improvements Public Works #246 440 970 0000 \$130 000 This budget amendment increases the Community Improvement Fund budget from \$2,857 404 to \$2 987 404

Item 11. BUDGET AMENDMENT - GENERAL FUND - SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS. (FBD) Motion by Bennett supported by McLaughlin to approve the following budget amendment in the General Fund to move the funds budgeted for payment of special assessment levies on Township owned properties from the General Government Department to the Transfers Out Department Motion carried unanimously Increase (Decrease) Appropriations. SAD Payments Township Property #101 200 960 0000 (71,134) Contributions to SAD Funds #101 959 965 8000 71 134 This budget amendment decreases the General Government Department budget from \$824 476 to \$753 342 increases the Transfers Out Department budget from \$2 311 938 to \$2 383 072 and does not change the total General Fund budget

Item 12. BUDGET AMENDMENTS - CONTRIBUTION TO POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS FUND (FBD) Motion by Bennett supported by McLaughlin to approve the following budget amendments for additional contributions to the Post Employment Benefits Fund Motion carried unanimously GENERAL FUND Increase Revenues Appropriation from Fund Balance #101 000 699 0000 \$80 000 Increase Appropriations Contribution to Post Empl Benefits Fund #101 959 965 7360 \$80 000 This budget amendment increases the Transfers Out Department budget from \$2 383 072 to \$2 463,072 and the General Fund budget from \$25 709 315 to \$25 789 315 FIRE FUND Increase (Decrease) Appropriations Fringe Benefits Fire Department #206 336 720 0000 \$163 000 Contribution to Post Empl Benefits Fund #206 301 965 7360 163 000 This budget amendment does not change the Fire Fund budget POLICE FUND Increase (Decrease) Appropriations Fringe Benefits Police Dept #207 301 720 0000 (\$63 000) Contribution to Post Empl Benefits Fund #207 301 965 7360 63 000 This budget amendment does not change the Police Fund budget COMMUNITY CENTER FUND Increase (Decrease) Appropriations Fringe Benefits Community Center #208 756 720 0000 (\$ 550) Contribution to Post Empl Benefits Fund #208 756 965 7360 \$550 This budget amendment does not change the Community Center Fund budget WATER & SEWER FUND Increase (Decrease) Appropriations Fringe Benefits Public Works #592 441 720 0000 (\$12 000) Contribution to Post Empl Benefits Fund #592 441 965 7360 \$12,000 This budget amendment does not change the Water & Sewer Fund budget POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS FUND Increase Revenues Contribution from General Fund #736 000 676 1010 \$80 000 Contribution from Fire Fund #736 000 676 2060 \$163 000 Contribution from Police Fund #736 000 676 2070 63,000 Contribution from Community Ctr Fund #736 000 676 2080 550 Contribution from Water & Sewer Fund #736 000 676 5920 12 000 Increase Appropriations Post Employment Benefits #736 238 999 0000 \$100,000 Contribution to Fund Balance #736 238 999 0000 218 550 This budget amendment increases the Post Employment Benefits Fund budget from \$498 750 to \$617,300

Item 13. BUDGET AMENDMENT - CAPITAL PROJECTS ROAD PAVING FUND - BOND FUNDING. (FBD) Motion by Bennett supported by McLaughlin to approve the following budget amendment in the Capital Projects Road Paving Fund for the sale of bonds to finance the project Motion carried unanimously Increase (Decrease) Revenues Proceeds from Sale of Bonds #402 000 668 0000 \$1 500 000 Contribution Private Sources 402 000 675 0000 (1 200 000) Total \$300 000 Increase Appropriations Bond issuance costs #402 506 900 0000 \$100 000 Construction 402 506 969 0000 \$200 000 Total \$300 000 This budget amendment increases the Capital Projects Road Paving Fund budget from \$1 575 567 to \$1 875 567

Item 14. AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS THROUGH THE END OF 2004 (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to authorize the payment of the Township's bills on December 21, 2004 as normally scheduled subject to prior review by the Clerk and Treasurer Motion carried unanimously

Item 15. SECOND READING TO AMEND THE CURFEW ORDINANCE (CLERK) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to amend the Curfew Ordinance Chapter 46, Article VIII, Division 1 Section 46 503 Curfew Ordinance, with publication and effective date on December 23 2004 Motion carried unanimously STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF WAYNE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON SUMMARY OF CURFEW AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 46, ARTICLE VIII DIVISION 1, SECTION 46 503 TO PROVIDE FOR CURFEW FOR MINORS UNDER 17 YEARS OF AGE TO PROVIDE FOR VIOLATION AND PENALTY TO PROVIDE FOR REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES SEVERABILITY AND SAVING OF ALL PENDING MATTERS AND TO PROVIDE FOR PUBLICATION AND THE EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ORDAINS

SECTION 1: AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 46, ARTICLE VIII, DIVISION 1, SECTION 46-503 Chapter 46, Article VIII Division 1 Section 46 503 is hereby amended to read as follows Sec 46-503. Curfew. (a) This section provides for a curfew for any minor under 17 years of age between 12 00 midnight and 6 00 a.m. and for any minor under 13 years of age between 10 00 p.m. and 6 00 a.m. (b) This section provides for the following defenses to a curfew prosecution the minor is accompanied by the minor's parent or guardian or an adult designated by the minor's parent or guardian, the minor is on an errand at the direction of the minor's parent or guardian or an adult designated by the minor's parent or guardian without any detour or stop the minor is in a motor vehicle involved in interstate travel the minor is engaged in an employment activity, or going to or returning home from an employment activity without any detour or stop the minor is involved in an emergency the minor is attending an official school religious or other recreational activity supervised by adults and sponsored by the township a civic organization or another similar entity, the minor is exercising First Amendment rights, the minor is married or had been married or had disabilities of minority removed in accordance with law (c) This section provides that it is unlawful for the parent or guardian to allow such child to violate the provisions of subsection (a) (d) This section provides that it is unlawful for the owner operator or any employee of an establishment to knowingly allow a minor to remain upon the premises in violation of subsection (a) of this section

SECTION 2 VIOLATION AND PENALTY This section provides that any person or entity that violates any provision of this Ordinance may, upon conviction, be fined not more than Five Hundred (\$500 00) Dollars or imprisoned not more than Ninety (90) days or both in the

discretion of the court

SECTION 3 REPEAL. This section provides that all Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect

SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY. This section provides that any unenforceable section can be severed from the rest of the Ordinance

SECTION 5. SAVINGS CLAUSE. This section provides that adoption of this Ordinance does not affect proceedings, prosecutions for violation of law, penalties and matured rights and duties in effect before the effective date of this Ordinance

SECTION 6. PUBLICATION. This section provides that the Clerk cause this Ordinance to be published

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE This section provides that this Ordinance shall take full force and effect upon publication A complete copy of the entire ordinance is available in the Clerk's Office

Item 16. TRANSFER ALL STOCK IN 2004 CLASS "C" LIQUOR LICENSED BUSINESS WITH DANCE PERMIT, LOCATED AT 2936 LOTZ RD CANTON, MI 48188, CANTON TOWNSHIP, WAYNE COUNTY, BY DROPPING DANIEL J ROSS, DECEASED, AS STOCKHOLDER THROUGH TRANSFER OF SHARES OF STOCK TO DANIEL J. ROSS TRUST (CLERK) Motion by Bennett supported by McLaughlin to approve the request from Fellows Creek Golf Club of Canton, Inc to transfer all stock in Class C Licensed Business with dance permit located at 2936 Lotz Road, Canton, Michigan 48188 Canton Township, Wayne County, by dropping Daniel J Ross Deceased, as stockholder through transfer of his 9 000 shares of stock to the Daniel J Ross Trust, Daniel J Ross and Steven M Breshgold Co Trustees Motion carried unanimously GENERAL CALENDAR Item 1. CONSIDER SPECIAL LAND USE AND SITE PLAN FOR THE TARGET EXPANSION (MSD) Motion by Bennett supported by McLaughlin to adopt the resolution for special land use and site plan for the Target Expansion Motion carried unanimously RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON Special Land Use and Site Plan for the Target Expansion WHEREAS the Project Sponsor Mr Jim Tucker has requested special use approval for a superstore and site plan approval for the Target Expansion to be located on Ford Road between Morton Taylor and Sheldon Roads identified as tax EDP # 040 99 0006 701 and, WHEREAS, the Planning Commission found the special use to be consistent with the development objectives of the Township and reviewed the site plan and made a recommendation to approve the request to grant site plan approval as summarized in the attached written analysis and recommendation NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township Of Canton Michigan does hereby approve the request of the petitioner Mr Jim Tucker, to approve the special use and site plan for the proposed Target Expansion subject to any and all state and local development regulations and further subject to any conditions recommended by the Planning Commission and staff, as described in the analysis and recommendation attached hereto and made a part hereof

Item 2 FINAL PLAT FOR ANTIQUE FOREST SUBDIVISION #2. (MSD) Motion by Bennett supported by McLaughlin to adopt the resolution for the final plat for Antique Forest Subdivision #2 Motion carried unanimously RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON Final Plat for Antique Forest Subdivision #2 WHEREAS the Project Sponsor, Mr Bryan Amann has requested final approval of the plat for Antique Forest Subdivision #2 to be located on the south side of Ford Road between Beck and Ridge Roads identified as Tax EDP # 065 99 0031 000 and, WHEREAS the Planning and Engineering Officials have reviewed the Final Plat and made a recommendation to APPROVE the final plat as summarized in the attached written analysis and recommendation NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton Michigan does approve the request of the project sponsor Mr Bryan Amann to grant final approval of the plat for Antique Forest Subdivision #2 based upon recommendations made by staff and the Planning Commission as described in the analysis and recommendation attached hereto and made a part hereof

Item 3 SALE OF MARLOW STREET PROPERTIES. (ACSD) Motion by Bennett supported by Zarbo to sell Lots #158 (057 01 0158 000) and #159 (057 01 0159 000) on Marlowe Street for one dollar (account # 245 000 673 0000 Public Improvement Fund revenue account Sale of Property) to Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne County and further to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to sign the quietclaim deed on behalf of the Township Motion carried unanimously

Item 4 AUTHORIZATION TO CREATE AND FILL MAINTENANCE TECH IV POSITION (ACSD) Motion by Bennett supported by McLaughlin to create and fill one (1) Maintenance Technician IV position under the FY2005 Budget Motion carried unanimously

Item 5 APPROVAL OF 2004-2005 SPECIALIZED SERVICES OPERATING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM CONTRACT. (ACSD) Motion by Bennett supported by Kirchgatter to approve the 2004 2005 Specialized Services Operating Assistance Program contract with SMART in the amount of \$27 021 (Account No 101 670 860 0000, Social Services Transportation) Motion carried unanimously

Item 6 APPROVE CONTRACT WITH DNR FOR TREE SURVEY. (ACSD) Motion by Bennett supported by McLaughlin to authorize the Township Supervisor to sign the grant agreement with the State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources for \$8 000 for a tree survey, and to authorize a local match of \$2 000 (Account No 101 270 930 0000 Maintenance and Repair Park) in cash and \$10 000 in kind services Motion carried unanimously

Item 7 CONSIDER INCREASING PO 43751 FOR THE CHERRY HILL ROAD & RIDGE ROAD SAD PROJECT. (MSD) Motion by Bennett supported by McLaughlin to increase PO # 43751 in the amount of \$92 923 from account number 815-600 969 0000 and authorize final payment to Cadillac Asphalt LLC for the construction of Cherry Hill Road and Ridge Road in the amount of \$123 212 94 Motion carried unanimously

Item 8 CONSIDER AUTHORIZING WARNER, CANTRELL & PADMOSE, INC TO PROVIDE AS-BUILT DRAWINGS. (MSD) Motion by Bennett supported by Kirchgatter to open a purchase order in the amount not to exceed \$11 308 000 (Account No 815 500 969 0000) to Warner Cantrell & Padmos, Inc to complete the as built drawings for the Cherry Hill Road & Ridge Road Project and further that the funding shall be taken from the contingency amount that remains for the project Motion carried unanimously

Item 9 CONSIDER AWARD OF BIDS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE PILGRIM HILLS WATER AND SANITARY SEWER PROJECT (MSD) Motion by Bennett supported by McLaughlin to award the construction of the Pilgrim Hills Water & Sanitary Sewer Project to Lawrence M Clarke, Inc for \$2,739,111.00 plus a 10% contingency in the amount of \$273 911 00 for a total not to exceed amount of \$3 013 022 00 and to authorize the Clerk to execute the contract documents Roll Call Vote Ayes Bennett Lajoie Kirchgatter, McLaughlin, Yack Zarbo Nays Caccamo Motion carried

Item 10. CONSIDER 5-YEAR UNIFORM RENTAL CONTRACT AND AWARD BID TO VANDYNE CROTTY. (MSD) Motion by Bennett supported by Lajoie to award the bid for a five year uniform rental contract to Van Dyne Crotty, Inc 45700 Port Street Plymouth, MI 48170 and authorize the Township Clerk to execute the five year contract Motion carried unanimously

Item 11. CONSIDER LEASING A TENNANT CENTURION SWEEPER. (MSD) Motion by Bennett supported by McLaughlin to wave receipt of bids and authorize the Township to enter into a 60 month lease with option to purchase agreement with Tennant Financial Services for an amount not to exceed \$42,870 50 (account #101 445 940 0000) and further that the Township Clerk sign the lease agreement attached on behalf of the Township Motion carried unanimously

Item 12 CONSIDER BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR THE 2004 SIDEWALK REPAIR PROGRAM. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve additional funds in the amount of \$22 539 and recommend the following budget amendment for the 2004 sidewalk replacement program Motion carried unanimously WATER & SEWER FUND Increase Revenues Appropriation from Fund Balance #592 000 699 0000 \$22 539 00 Increase Appropriations Maint & Repairs of Sidewalks #592 441 933 0000 \$22 539 00 Maint & Repairs Sewer Lines #592 441 935 0000 \$22 539 00 This budget amendment increases the Water & Sewer Division budget from \$25 437 733 to \$25,460 272 and the Water & Sewer Fund budget from \$26,426 978 to \$26 449 517 Motion by Bennett supported by Kirchgatter to increase PO 48755 to Gaglio Brothers Corporation in the amount of \$19 939 00 for additional work performed Motion carried unanimously Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter, to increase PO 48734 to Wade Trim Associates in the amount of \$2,600 for 5 additional inspector days In addition subtract \$2,990 from PO 48758 due to the overage of 5 575 inspector days from the Gaglio Brothers contract and increase PO 48734 in the amount of \$2,990 The Board request on June 22 2004 allows finance and budget to subtract any additional costs based on the per day rate of \$520 for an inspector day if the contractor exceeds the number of specified inspector days in the contract Motion carried unanimously

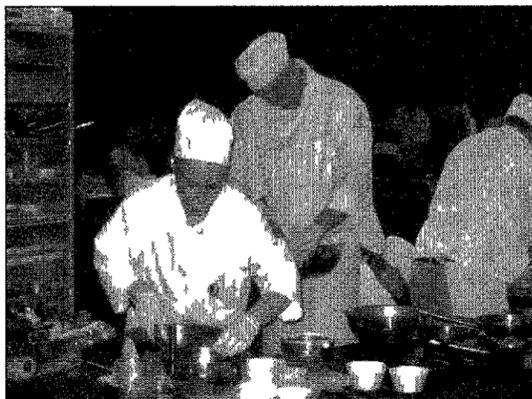
YEAR IN REVIEW

FROM PAGE A1

will feature an Andiamo's Italian restaurant. A new book store, reportedly The Little Professor, will occupy Plymouth Office Supply's old space on Ann Arbor Trail.

And Frank Yaquinto, the owner of Compari's located right next door to the Little Book Shoppe, wasted little time grabbing that space. Yaquinto will put another restaurant in that space.

In other news this year



The Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Culinary Arts team won a national championship in May.

INTRUDER SHOT

In July, Robert VanBuren entered the day care center at the Church of the Nazarene in Plymouth Township, looking for someone named "John." Teachers at the center cleared the kids out and, a short time later, VanBuren was dead after being shot by township police.

In October, after an investigation by the Michigan State Police, the Wayne County prosecutor's office decided not to press charges against the officers involved.

SCHOOL NEWS

While Plymouth-Canton school administrators spent a

good deal of the year worried about the budget, students didn't let money woes get to them.

In addition to a variety of academic achievements, the majority of Plymouth-Canton students performed well on the MEAP tests, well enough to keep P-C above the state averages.

Meanwhile, the district's culinary arts team won a national championship, and the renowned marching band returned to the top 10 in the nation during the national competition in Indianapolis. In September, voters easily

passed a \$109 million bond issue that will pay for the future construction of a new elementary school and for much-needed repairs in most of the district's buildings.

In the June school board election, incumbent Judy Mardigan won re-election, while Barry Simescu claimed the seat vacated by longtime board member Liz Gavens, who opted not to seek re-election.

ELECTIONS

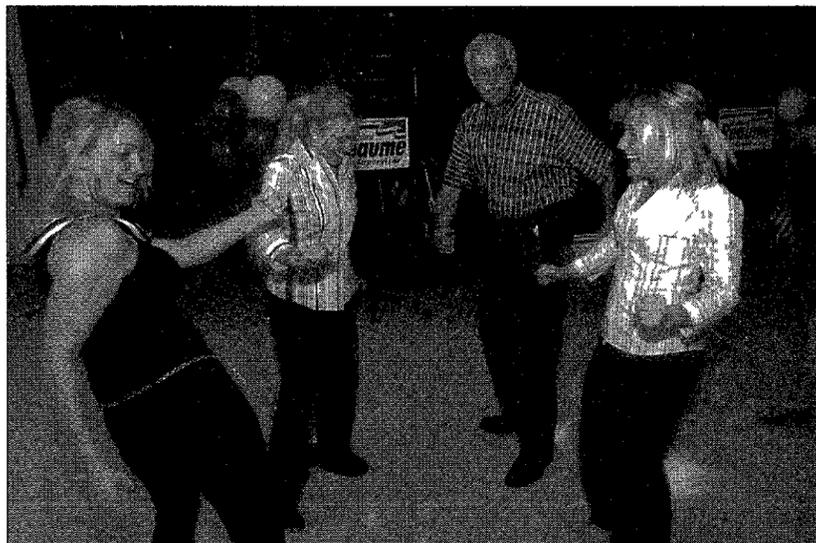
In August, Plymouth Township Supervisor Steve Mann decided his first term would be his only term. After passing the state bar exam and grabbing a job with the Detroit law firm Miller Canfield, Mann decided to run for trustee rather than supervisor.

Mann won election as a trustee, along with newcomer Bob Doroshewitz and three-term incumbents Kay Arnold and Charles Curmi.

Richard Reaume beat Don Schnettler in the supervisor's race, and Treasurer Ron Edwards and Clerk Marilyn Massengill each won re-election.

Massengill's re-election came with some controversy after a letter written by her former deputy accused Massengill of several counts of election wrongdoing. After an investigation by the state elections bureau and a recommendation from the state attorney general's office, no charges were filed.

It was a good year for the Plymouth Community Fire Department, which in September welcomed its first



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Richard Reaume danced up a storm with Krystina Caporosso, Jasmine Reaume and Fawna Millwood after winning election as Plymouth Township supervisor in August.

full-time firefighter, then in December agreed to a new contract with its firefighters union.

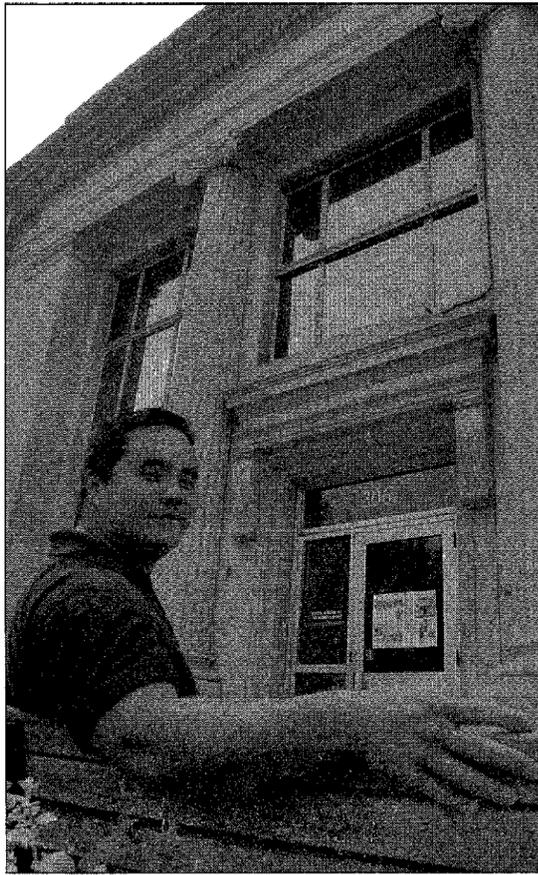
In other news: The long-empty NBD building at the corner of Penniman and Main was finally sold. John Kim will open a new coffee shop/children's playscape.

The fountain in Kellogg Park was destroyed when contracting crews and city workers were trying to correct a slight imbalance in the structure. Neither insurance company agreed to pay to replace it, so the Plymouth Youth Commission has taken on the project.

In April, Plymouth Township became even more of a destination community when St. John's Golf & Conference Center officials announced they'd be adding a 118-room hotel to its popular conference center, which is already host to hundreds of wedding receptions, meetings and other events every year.

After a brief flirtation with Salem Township, Johnson Controls, Plymouth Township's second-largest taxpayer, decided to remain in the township.

The Music in the Park concert series sponsored by the Plymouth Community Arts Council celebrated its 20th anniversary, and continued to be one of the most popular attractions in the city.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

John Kim swooped in and bought the NBD Bank building after the building sat vacant for several years on one of the city's most visible corners: Main and Penniman.

Continued From Page A6

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON BOARD PROCEEDINGS-DECEMBER 14, 2004

Item 13. REQUEST TO CREATE AND FILL POSITIONS IN LEISURE SERVICES. (LSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to authorize Leisure Services to create and fill a Recreation and Facility Operations Supervisor and a Parks and Facility Maintenance Supervisor and eliminate the existing Park Supervisor and Facility Supervisor positions. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 14. AWARD BID FOR PRINTING ONE EDITION OF THE LEISURE SERVICES DISCOVER BROCHURE (LSD) Motion by Bennett supported by McLaughlin to award the bid for the printing of one edition of the Winter 2005 Discover program guide to S & N Graphic Solutions PO Box 871296 Canton MI 48187 in the amount of \$12,865 to be paid from account #s 208 757 900 0000 101 691 900 0000 101 672 900 0000 211 756 900 0000 101 755 900 0000 and 101 750 900 0000. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 15. AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN CONTRACTS WITH DETROIT EDISON FOR ELECTRICAL SERVICE TO FIRE STATION III. (PSD) Motion by Bennett supported by McLaughlin to approve authorization for the Township Clerk to sign the agreements with Detroit Edison Company for the Line Extension and to build new underground electric facilities and infrastructure along the north side of Cherry Hill and the West side of the Denton Road extension in Canton and issue a check for the combined cost of \$89 951 20 (Fire Budget Account No 206 336 975 0000). Motion carried unanimously.

Item 16. AUTHORIZATION TO CONTRACT FOR A CLEMIS STANDARDIZED GIS BASED MAP (PSD) Motion by Bennett supported by Kirchgatter to authorize the Public Safety Department to contract with North Arrow Technologies to create a CLEMIS compliant road centerline file to be used for GIS mapping purposes and CLEMIS for a cost not to exceed \$6 860 00 (account no 206 336 818 0000 Contracted Services). Motion carried unanimously.

Item 17. PUBLIC SAFETY CONTRIBUTION TO CONSTRUCTION PROJECT (FBD) Motion by Bennett supported by Kirchgatter to approve the transfer of \$777 116 from the Fire Fund and \$1 165 675 from the Police Fund to the Capital Projects Building Construction Fund for the completion of the Public Safety Building addition portion of the construction project. I further move to approve the following budget amendments for these transfers: Motion carried unanimously. **Fire Fund, Increase Revenues, Appropriation from Fund Balance #206 000 699 0000 \$ 777 116 Increase Appropriations, Contribution to Capital Projects Building #206 336 965 4020 \$777 116** This budget amendment increases the Fire Fund budget from \$11 573 077 to \$12,350,193. **Police Fund, Increase Revenues, Appropriation from Fund Balance #207 000 699 0000 \$1 165 675 Increase Appropriations, Contribution to Capital Projects Building #207 301 965 4020 \$1,165 675** This budget amendment increases the Police Fund budget from \$12 567 937 to \$13 733 612. **Capital Projects Building Construction Fund Increase Revenues, Contribution from Fire Fund #402 000 676 2060 \$777,116 Contribution from Police Fund 402 000 676 2070 \$1 165,675 Appropriation from Fund Balance 402 000 699 0000 (1,107,006) Total \$835,785 Increase Appropriations, Building Construction #402 302 975 0000 \$835 785** This budget amendment increases the Capital Project Building Construction Fund budget from \$15 248 798 to \$16 084 583.

Item 18. REQUEST TO PURCHASE LOBBY FURNISHINGS FOR THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING. (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve a Purchase Order in the amount of \$18,199 10 (402 302 975 0000) for La Z Boy Furniture Galleries to purchase lobby furnishing for the Administration Building. Roll Call Vote Ayes: Bennett, LaJoy, Kirchgatter, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo, Nays: Caccamo. Motion carried.

Item 19. BUDGET AMENDMENT - SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS FUNDS 266, 267, AND 289 (FBD) Motion by Bennett supported by Kirchgatter to approve the following budget amendment for the Special Investigative Funds 266, 267 and 289. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 20. APPROVE PURCHASE ORDER FOR ACLS RECERTIFICATION CLASSES FOR FIREFIGHTERS (PSD) DELETED FROM THE AGENDA Item 21. RE-APPOINTMENT TO THE CONSTRUCTION BOARD OF APPEALS. (MSD) Motion by Bennett supported by LaJoy to re-appoint Edmond Robert to the Construction Board of Appeals (term expiring December 31 2009). Motion carried unanimously.

Item 22. APPOINTMENT TO DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD. (SUPERVISOR) Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to appoint Dr. Tom Cassidy to serve on the Board of Directors of the Downtown Development Authority of the Charter Township of Canton for a four-year term ending December 14 2008. Motion carried unanimously.

OTHER. Supervisor Yack stated that the agenda item C 2 Second Reading to Amend Ordinance Firearms which was deleted will be revisited at a study session in January. The Planning Commission will give a general overview on the IKEA project at the December 20 2004 meeting. There will be a joint meeting between the Planning Commission and Board of Trustees on January 24, 2005.

ADJOURN Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to adjourn at 09 42 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

THOMAS J YACK Supervisor
TERRY G BENNETT Clerk

Copies of the complete text of the Board Minutes are available at the office of the Charter Township of Canton 1150 S. Canton Center Road Canton Michigan 48188 during regular business hours and can also be accessed through our web site www.canton.mi.org after Board.

Publish December 30 2004

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OUR VIEWS

Best stories not always printed

Every year at this time of year, news organizations tend to run lists of "The Year's Top Stories," and this news organization is no different, as you can see by our Page 1 story.

But as a reader pointed out a few years ago, some stories tend to get overlooked when you go back and start listing the best stories of the year. In the Plymouth community, for instance, plenty of ink was used for the story about the day-care intruder shot by Plymouth Township police.

We wrote ad nauseum about the City of Plymouth's budget problems, the effort to get a new township hall and the dwindling foundation grant for the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools.

While those are definitely good stories, some of the best stories in a community like Plymouth often go unreported, because they're selfless acts done by generous people whose only goal is to help other people.

Time and again, people in this community have shown the kind of heart that make a community like ours special. Whether it's for campaigns as popular and well-known as the Salvation Army's Red Kettle campaign, which drew some \$140,000 last year, or as subtle as family adoption programs by local businesses, folks around here again proved their generosity. Once again, the people in this community proved this year that the best stories aren't necessarily the ones found on Page 1.

Sponsoring ice fest should help business

The Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular has rolled around again, and this time it has brought with it its annual share of financial problems.

The annual ice festival, one of the most popular events hosted in the city, has struggled with money the last several years. This year, it looked like the pullout by Farmer Jack was going to hurt, until Rock Financial stepped up and financed the Children's Fantasyland in The Gathering. There are still several chances to help sponsor the event. And we believe Plymouth businesses should take advantage of the opportunity, because rarely do better chances to get their businesses out there come along.

Want to argue about visibility? The ice festival creates millions of media impressions every year, according to figures compiled by Mike Watts of Watts-Up Inc., who organizes the annual festival. Granted, those are estimates based on the potential audiences/viewership/readership of the various news media outlets that did even the smallest amount of coverage. Still, that's a lot of interest. Downtown businesses should be able to reap the benefits of having that much media coverage and that many people clogging the streets. Township businesses aren't quite as proximate, and so don't benefit as much, but there's still a residual effect for them, as well. The ice festival is one of our jewels, and we believe local businesses should take advantage of it by helping to sponsor it.

To improve economy, lower business taxes

As we look forward to what 2005 will bring, no doubt many of us are hoping for an improved economy.

We may be hoping in vain — unless the state Legislature takes some bold steps to make Michigan more friendly to business. The state's economy, particularly the job market, lags significantly behind the national economy. Since November 2001, Michigan has lost 147,000 jobs — more than any other state — according to the State Fiscal Agency. Growth in inflation-adjusted personal income has also lagged behind the national average, falling 1.6 percent in 2002 and rising only 2.1 percent in 2003. The Single Business Tax discourages companies from adding jobs because it goes up as their payroll increases. Since the tax is also applied to benefits, it keeps businesses from offering health care to their employees.

Michigan also taxes equipment that businesses own and requires them to collect sales tax, which raises the costs of goods to consumers and of doing business. We laud Gov. Jennifer Granholm and Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson's efforts to go abroad and attract new emerging business sectors to the Great Lakes State. But the legislature needs to do its part, too, by making this a more business-friendly state in which to open up shop.

PLYMOUTH Observer
Part of HomeTown Communications Network™

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Hugh Gallagher Managing Editor	Peter Neill General Manager
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Jack Lessenberry VP Editorial	Phil Power Chairman of the Board

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

State budget is a mess

I agree with Philip Power that the state budget is a mess. I think it got that way because our federal politicians let factories build overseas just for cheaper labor not because they more efficient.

As far as I am concerned, if you sell something here it should be made here, if practical. Because of our money-bribing type of government (PACs) you have what you see today.

You don't say what kind of solution we should have, certainly not taxing the hell out of the rest of us because I for one would just leave the state, if that happened and after a while the whole state would resemble Detroit.

One way to cut expenses is to stop subsidizing people for having kids that they can't support. I know some people make mistakes, but others have kids because they know that the state will pick up the tab.

Another pet peeve of mine is letting all these immigrants who are supposed to be sponsored and then they are on their own and the state picks up part of the bill to support them.

I am tired of seeing them come over here to replace the American worker with a cheaper workforce. Again the politicians and CEOs in bed with each other.

Robert Eberts
Westland

Keep feds out

Phil Power makes a good point about overregulation (case in point wine and alcohol sales) in his Dec. 2 column "Archaic distribution laws hurt consumers, vintners."

His point about the "spider web of regulations covering wine, beer and booze" is well-said. However, it is ironic that Mr. Power concludes by hoping that the U.S. Supreme Court will rule that the states do not have any authority to regulate alcohol sales, but that all regulation must be done by the federal government pursuant to its authority to regulate interstate commerce.

In other words, Mr. Power is arguing for more federal regulation, and less authority for the states to decide what is best for their citizens.

Although I agree that Michigan's liquor laws are antiquated and paternalistic, the last thing we need is more federal regulation of anything.

I would argue, instead, that the state should change its laws. Why get the federal government involved? Don't we have too much interference from Washington already?

We repeatedly hear conservatives argue that less government is better, and that we, the people, know more about what's best for us than the politicians in Washington. Despite that rhetoric, though, the federal government (even under this 'compassionate conservative' administration) keeps extending its control.

Look at our school systems, traditionally under local control. Now the federal government (under the "No Child Left Behind" legislation) is dictating not only

the curriculum, but what happens if a school doesn't meet certain federally imposed criteria. Does anybody really believe that Washington knows how to educate our children better than we do?

Our state legal system, too, is coming under attack from Congress. President Bush has promised national tort reform. Michigan has, over the past dozen years, instituted a number of legal reforms. Those reforms were the subject of wide and spirited debate in Lansing and in the press.

We, in the State of Michigan, discussed and decided which reforms to adopt and which to reject. Why can't Washington accept that? Why does Congress feel they have to force their opinions on us?

Conservatives consistently argue about returning government to the people, but continue to create new federal regulations to take the government away from the people.

We hear a lot of talk about our rights under the U.S. Constitution, but the 10th Amendment, the last of the Bill of Rights, has been completely ignored. "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States, or to the people."

True conservatives shouldn't be so eager to ignore that part of our Constitution.

George Shea
Plymouth

Benefits need changing

Your article on school funding problems identified two problems.

Politicians don't like spending caps, except when they're used to get trade-offs that they have every expectation of nullifying at a later date. Proposal A has been a success. Now younger families and seniors like us can afford to remain in our home because of capped property taxes. Nothing is said about rolling back the increase in the sales tax that was part of the trade-off.

It's time the teachers union joins the rest of us and drops defined benefits and changes to defined contribution. It was rather telling that the biggest problem was the pension costs, not educating students. Many of us have taken hits from the economic downturn, yet teachers appear to think they should be immune to it.

Perhaps one of the first steps should be changing the teacher's pension fund into a 403(b), like the 401(k) that most of us have. Teachers only reinforce the perception that federal and state bureaus are one big retirement club. Proposal A is not the problem. Runaway costs are the problem. Jim Ryan from Plymouth-Canton Schools might explain why the new Canton High School looks more like a corporate headquarters than a teaching building.

Taxpayers are not unlimited financial resources to state and local municipalities. We live in the real world and they should join us.

Joanne Sonnenberg
Canton

Government needs goals

I believe the majority of local governments and school districts in Michigan have done all they can to contain costs while still delivering essential basic services efficiently and effectively.

I do not believe, as some do, that municipal or school employees are overpaid.

For the most part, they and their bargaining units have recognized the new reality of escalating health care and other costs and have made accommodations.

Nor can we blame the citizens of Michigan for the crisis in education funding.

Ten years ago we recognized that the system of dependence on local property taxes had created a system that valued a child from a wealthy community over a child from a less affluent one, and we passed Proposal A which shifted funding to the state sales tax in hopes that the local tax burden would be reduced while funding would be equalized.

The citizens of Michigan did not fail, the Michigan Legislature failed to keep the promise, and we have seen school revenues remain flat while costs escalate.

Our federal government has also failed. Ours is the only industrialized country which does not have some system of national health care, except for our Medicare and Medicaid.

More and more of our taxes go for health care costs and less and less go toward delivery of municipal services and education.

Our state and federal governments must do what businesses, school districts, and local governments do. Set goals, prioritize, and allocate funds accordingly.

If this state and this nation fail to establish education of all children as a top priority and fail to fund it appropriately, we can not expect to continue as world leaders.

Mary Jane Schildberg
Garden City

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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Letters to the editor
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E-mail
bkadrich@oe.homecomm.net

QUOTABLE

"When I'm singing, I look around at all the people and wonder how many of them have a friend or a loved one in the war. It's very sentimental for me now."

-Justine Blazer, local singer and 2001 Canton High graduate discussing singing the national anthem in the Detroit Pistons/Indiana Pacers Christmas Day game

New agreement threatens safe asylum for refugees

They have come from El Salvador and Russia, Uganda and Colombia, Iraq and Cameroon. Most of them have been tortured. Most of the women have been raped along the way. Some die or are arrested on their way to the rundown streets of the southwest side of Detroit.

Yet several thousand do arrive every year, finding their way across the globe to an ancient red-brick former convent in the shadow of the Ambassador Bridge called Freedom House, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping "huddled masses yearning to breathe free" to do just that. Those who come here, and who huddle for a few weeks or months in its dormitory-style rooms, risk their lives for the promise of new ones in this nation or in Canada.

But now, thanks to a new agreement between Washington and Ottawa, Freedom House's ability to help these people may be largely cut off. On Dec. 29, something called the "Safe Third Country Agreement," took effect and severely curtail the ability of most of the world's refugees to cross over to Canada, where asylum has been easier to win in recent years.

What it means is that refugees who land in a nation regarded by both Canada and the United States as "safe" (i.e., free and democratic) will be obliged to apply for asylum there, rather than crossing the border to do so.

"This is perfectly reasonable and meant to reduce the abuse of the asylum systems by stopping asylum shopping in both Canada and the United States," said George Costaris, who manages political and economic relations for the Canadian government's consulate in Detroit.

David Koelsch, Freedom House's staff attorney, doesn't think it is reasonable. He thinks this is an outrage. "This is an attempt by both governments to cut down on the number of refugees in the name of national security." What it will do, he fears, is doom some persecuted people.

"It will also force people to go underground, both in the United States and Canada," he fumed, since the new regulations specify that if refugees apply for asylum and are turned down, they may be detained and swiftly deported. Gloria Rivera, a Mexican-born Roman Catholic nun who has run Freedom House for the last five years, is dismayed by the ruling, especially because so many of the refugees who she has helped go to Canada.

For many years, Canada has been much more willing to grant refugees asylum than the United States has.

Members of her staff have been toiling selflessly to help them win political asylum and get a new chance since 1983, when Freedom House was founded, spurred in large part by local outrage over United States policy in El Salvador and Nicaragua.

Many of the founders were Catholic, though Freedom House's charter is scrupulously non-denominational.

Last year, the house housed more refugees from Albania than any other country, followed by the persecuted of half a dozen nations of sub-Saharan Africa.

Far more of them sought asylum in Canada than in the United States. Last year, Freedom House helped 2,481 adult men and women take the first steps to apply for asylum in Canada, and a mere 286 apply here.

Things will be different now. Not entirely, it will still be possible for people from some countries — Mexico, Cyprus and Iraq among them — to bypass the system and make a refugee claim from the United States. Those with close blood relations already in Canada will also be able to apply.

But otherwise, if a refugee lands in America first — and there are very few international flights direct to Canada — they will have no choice but to apply for asylum in the United States.

If it is denied, they won't have the option, as they have had in the past, of trying again in Canada.

They'll be sent back to wherever they escaped from. "This isn't about national security, it is economics," said Koelsch. In other words, the rich nations of the world no longer want the world's poor.

There is something sad about that, I think, especially given that this ruling comes at Christmas time, when people gather together to remember a homeless and stateless couple whose baby was born in a manger.

What is ironic too is that virtually all those making it harder for new immigrants are the direct descendants of persecuted immigrants themselves.

Detroit, where the refugees have huddled in Freedom House, is largely depopulated, with less than half as many people as it had half a century ago.

Canada is one of the most sparsely populated nations in the world.

Taking in a few more immigrants might not hurt either country. Odds are the immigrants would give back more than they receive. They usually do, you know.

Jack Lessenberry is editorial vice president of HomeTown Communications. He can be reached by phone at (248) 901-2561 or by e-mail at jlessenberry@homecomm.net.

Term limits still a bad idea that enables lazy electorate

In the business world, people tend to trust people who have more experience compared to a green counterpart.

In the classroom, parents tend to be more comfortable with a veteran teacher than an educator who's only a year removed from college.

Experience is viewed by most people as a positive attribute, however, many turn the tables when it comes to politics.

When Michigan voters approved term limits for state offices in 1992, it was viewed as a quick-fix for the perception that all career politicians were bad. It was believed that government would become more efficient and new people would have a chance to serve. While the latter is true, the former has not panned out.

Since 1998, Michigan senators, governor, attorney general and secretary of state can be elected to no more than two, four-year terms. Members of the Michigan House of Representatives can be elected to only three, two-year terms. Those limits produced some interesting developments in the Michigan Legislature.

There are 25 members of the Michigan House who are under the age of 30, a few of whom still live with their parents.

A new speaker of the house, who's third in line to run the state, takes over next month. He is 34-year-old Craig DeRoche, a Nov. Republican, who's in the midst of completing only his first two-year term in Lansing. He will appoint a number of lawmakers to committee leadership positions who have a comparable amount of legislative experience.

At a time state finances have been in a quandary for several years, there will be a one-third turnover in the Michigan House at month's end, a situation primarily created by term limits. This means dozens of new lawmakers need months to get acclimated to their new jobs, learn how the state spends \$39 billion a year and be prepared to make some significant votes on funding for state programs.

After leaving office, a number of term-limited legislators have been hired to work as lobbyists. These lawmakers-turned-lobbyists have more institutional memory and carry much influence over new lawmakers learning their duties. Also, these new lobbyists are using their lawmaking experience to pro-

mote their employer's agenda instead of promoting the public's agenda.

Veteran legislative staffers often have more institutional knowledge and influence on legislation instead of those elected to vote on bills.

In 2000, as the current economic doldrums were starting, state lawmakers collected more than a \$20,000 a year pay raise. Since a number of term-limited lawmakers would be forced out of office in 2002, there was little motivation for these lame-duck legislators to heed public cries to block these raises.

There's a common joke in Lansing. Members of the state House use one term looking for the bathroom at the Capitol, another term learning who they work with, they finally start working on some legislation in the third term, then they have to leave.

Our country's Democratic processes are cumbersome and time-consuming because of the number of checks and balances designed to protect citizens and discourage corruption. With such short opportunities available for competent individuals to serve in Lansing, the process handcuffs their ability to make a difference, especially for those serving in the minority party.

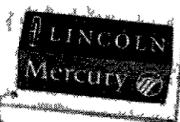
The term-limit policy is a gimmick that needs to be abolished. If not, Michigan voters need to at least extend the current periods lawmakers can serve. It is not fair to assume all politicians are corrupt. Many people who run for office have the best of intentions and deserve opportunities to be elected if they do a good job. It's not a bad idea to give some motivated, effective lawmakers a chance to serve for an extended period of time. Top-notch legislators can play a vital leadership role at times of transition.

There's another important element that makes our Democratic process work well. A participatory public who actively and fairly scrutinizes elected representatives, their activities and their votes.

There are some bad apples who get elected to office, and there is a mechanism to remove troublesome lawmakers: vote them out. In the House, the voters have a chance to grade their representative every two years.

If a more-involved electorate does its job, then there's a better chance their lawmakers will do a better job. A civic-minded public does far more for government's effectiveness than term limits.

Dan West is a staff writer for the *Livonia Observer*. He can be reached at (734) 953-2109 or at dwest@oe.homecomm.net.



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Area mailman delivers ad to nation

BY STACY JENKINS
STAFF WRITER

Jim Willson is the mailman right out of the movies.

With his unassuming smile and his "at your service" attitude, he's the mailman you offer lemonade to on summer days and hot chocolate to on bitterly cold days.

And, he's quick to return small favors. Whether it's helping an elderly woman take out her trash or helping someone on his route plant a tree, Willson has made some friends along the way.

Customers on his route know all about their postal carrier and his delivery-with-a-smile attitude.

And now, the entire nation knows it, too.

The Farmington husband and father of three is one of nine U.S. Postal Service carrier ambassadors selected to represent the USPS in a national advertising campaign promoting its new services.

Willson, who returned to work at the Royal Oak post office in June, after recovering from two surgeries relating to a rare form of kidney cancer, is now featured on a 50-foot billboard at 43rd Street and Broadway in New York's Times Square.

It all happened so fast for the veteran carrier. He was asked by his supervisor to do a commercial interview, in which he read a script. He was selected from 12 interviewees to move on to Chicago for some media training, where

several more impromptu interviews took place.

Even when we weren't being filmed, we were still being watched, he said.

After returning home to his normal delivery duties, he was notified he was selected to appear in print and television national ads.

"I almost died, he said, smiling. 'I couldn't believe it'.

From there, he attended a national postal forum in Washington D.C., where he met the U.S. postmaster general — a rare opportunity. He participated in a pre-game commercial for college football and he hopes to take his family to New York City to see the Times Square billboard, which will be up for about a year. Willson is humble about

being selected from the field of 80 carrier ambassadors to do the national ad campaign.

"With the people I was competing against, I think I'm as positive about the services we offer as anybody else. Maybe they had to draw straws," he said.

His supervisor thinks otherwise.

Jim has been with us for a long time, said Brenda Ernst, acting manager at the Royal Oak post office. "He goes above and beyond for his customers. They often call and write in about him. We're more than happy (one of the ambassadors) came out of our post office."

Willson said he's happy to be back to work and doing something interesting.



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jim Willson works, sorting mail before heading out to his route.

He was diagnosed with cancer in January and underwent two surgeries.

"I was thinking, 'How am I going to carry mail again?' I can't even get to the end of my bed," he said. Then, we went from that to this — this is where I ended up."

The advertising campaign is centered on new services offered by the U.S. Postal

Service.

"The whole emphasis is to show what a customer can do online, without having to go to the post office," Willson said.

He spent nine years on his previous 12 Mile and Campbell route.

"I went to weddings, graduations and funerals — we actually became friends," he said of his customers.

Cold weather no pal to our furry friends

The Michigan Humane Society emphasizes that pet owners should make proper provisions for their animals now before it becomes a life or death situation — and one for which they can be charged with animal cruelty law violations. Usually, these charges are misdemeanors which can include a sentence of up to 93 days in jail, a \$1,000 fine, community service and loss of pet ownership for a specified amount of time.

The cruelty investigators see an increase in calls each winter, said spokeswoman Nancy Gunnigle. "Their call volume does go up dramatically when severe weather hits," she said. The MHS has four cruelty investigators, she added, and the society receives no government funding.

The Michigan Humane Society recommends that pets live indoors with the rest of the family. However, at a minimum, animals kept outdoors must have the necessary provisions as required by law to maintain their health. A properly-sized dog house with clean, dry straw as well as a healthy diet and additional calories can help a dog maintain enough warmth to carry him through months of cold weather.

Dr. Brad Davis, a veterinarian with VCA Animal Hospital of Garden City, doesn't see a great problem with neglected animals in his practice.

"There are outdoor breeds of dogs that do very well," Davis said. Animals do need access to water and it's important that pet owners make sure water doesn't freeze.

Veterinarian Dr. Vyvian Gorbea, owner of Plymouth Veterinary Hospital, also doesn't see much neglect in her practice. Animals are sometimes overexposed in the winter, she said, and some become overheated in the summer. "If they're outside, they should have a shelter," Gorbea said of dogs.

Pets need food and water. She educates her clients about such needs.

Guardians who are not able to provide for their animals' basic needs of food, water and adequate shelter are encouraged to surrender the animals to an animal welfare organization such as the Michigan Humane Society.

The following tips will help owners care for their pets during cold weather.

■ When temperatures drop, pets should not be left outside

for any length of time. Even large or long-haired dog breeds cannot withstand severe or inclement weather. Bring small or short-haired dogs inside when temperatures reach 15-20 degrees Fahrenheit. Larger breeds and thick-coated dogs may remain outside, with adequate shelter, to about 0 degrees. Precipitation and severe wind chills should also be taken into account.

■ Cats should be kept permanently indoors or at least brought into a warm, animal-proofed garage during severe weather.

■ Because roaming cats often seek the warmth of car engines, knock on the car hood and honk the horn before starting your car.

■ Shelter is required by Michigan state law for dogs that must remain outdoors for any length of time. Adequate shelter means a well built, insulated, slant-roofed dog house. The interior should be just large enough for the dog to stand and to lie down comfortably. It should be slightly elevated from the ground for air circulation. The door should face away from prevailing winds and have a protective flap to eliminate drafts. Clean, dry straw should always be provided for bedding rather than towels, rugs or blankets which may quickly freeze.

■ Several types of inadequate shelter frequently encountered by investigators include an unheated garage or shed, a dog house that is too large or that lacks straw, or dogs simply tied out to a porch, fence or deck with no shelter at all.

■ Increase food and water 10-20 percent for outdoor dogs during the winter months.

■ If an animal is cold to the touch, or his paws and ears have turned bright red, he may be suffering from frostbite. Move the animal to a warmer area and contact your veterinarian immediately.

The Humane Society's four cruelty investigators and one field agent handle approximately 4,000 cases of animal cruelty each year, in the cities of Detroit, Hamtramck and Highland Park. Suspected animal abuse or neglect in these cities should be reported by calling the MHS Cruelty Hotline at (313) 872-3400. A confidential message can be left 24 hours a day. Elsewhere, suspected animal cruelty should be reported immediately to the local animal control or police, Gunnigle said.

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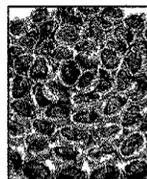


TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Humane Society employee Christy Schmoock of Westland gets a kiss from Lana, a 3-year-old golden retriever/husky mix up for adoption.

AT HOME Observer

AMAZING APPETIZERS
Step up the party with
zesty hors d'oeuvres.



Taste begins on page 4

Section B

Thursday December 30 2004

Ken Abramczyk, editor
(734) 953 2107
Fax (734) 591 7279
kabramczyk@oe.homecomm.net

www.hometownlife.com



Simple, stylish HANDMADE PIECES STAND UP TO YEARS OF USE

STORY BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI | CORRESPONDENT

Brian Thelen once bought an Amish-made bedroom set and he was so impressed with the workmanship that he kept buying more of the handmade furniture for the rest of his house. Since then, he's added an Amish living room set with a desk, a computer cabinet, stereo cabinets and end tables. "The quality is so much better," the Sterling Heights resident says. "You need two people to carry the headboard on our bed. It's very well-built furniture."

He likes that he can customize orders, too, something shoppers can look at if purchasing furniture is on the agenda in January.

"Essentially it's the way you want something and in the finish you like," he adds. "Probably the best thing to do is examine the quality of the Amish furniture versus other furniture."

AMISH SIMPLICITY

The Amish are a Mennonite group descended from the followers of Jakob Ammann, a Swiss Mennonite bishop. Since they live a simple life patterned after 17th century rural Europe, most Amish reject many modern society developments. That's why much of the Amish furniture represents the old world through historical design and tool use.

About 80 percent of the Amish in the United States are located in Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana.

Primarily what makes it Amish is that it's handmade and basically like furniture made many, many years ago," explains Noreen Desilets, designer with Laurel Furniture in Plymouth.

The stamming and quality is unsurpassed by anything else because it is all hand done."

People often think all Amish furniture is done in mission style, she adds.

"But the Amish have progressed, as the world has, and they realized that they couldn't continue to make it that way," Desilets says. "They make everything from Queen Anne to something traditional and things that lend themselves toward a transitional line of furniture. And of course they still make the true mission style."

Customizing is one of the Amish furniture's biggest attractions. Thelen wanted a stereo cabinet, for instance, that is 1 foot higher than he found in stores and ordered it at Amish Direct Furniture in Utica.

Most of sale associate Adam Gerber's customers are repeat buyers or are referred by others. Amish Direct works with 180 different builders often using fax services to place orders, since most Amish don't have telephones. With some Amish builders, Gerber says, he has a "middle man" who drives the orders to their homes.

There are about 8,000 different Amish-made items in oak, quarter-sawn oak, cherry, maple, hickory and walnut. It takes between eight to 12 weeks to

Photo Amish furniture features handmade pieces following historical design. This dining set includes steam-bent chair backs and table with gear-driven table extension.

PLEASE SEE AMISH, B2

ACCENTS

Wanted: home gyms

Soon every would-be dieter will be struggling with food choices and looking to knock off holiday pounds by signing up with a health club.

But you don't do that. You already own exercise



equipment and use it at least five days a week. (OK, maybe it's three days a week, or worse yet, the equipment is used for hanging clothes.)

We'd like to feature home gyms created in lower levels or basements at the homes of Observer & Eccentric readers. If you have a combination of a treadmill, stationary or recumbent bike, elliptical or free weights set up in that special room, we'd like to hear from you and include your room and you in our story.

Please contact Ken Abramczyk, At Home editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia MI 48150 call (734) 953 2107 or e-mail him at kabramczyk@oe.homecomm.net

Playing it safe

"Children like to run and play and sometimes things get in the way," say James and Morris Carey, writing for AP Weekly Features.

"To provide a safe environment for little ones, it's important to fully child-proof your home."

"First, cushion all sharp corners. Add special 'kid' locks on all doors, drawers and cabinets, and kid-proof latches on all kitchen appliances. And don't forget locks for bi-fold doors and toilet lids."

"Put slip-type loose covers on doorknobs and stove knobs, and non-slip pads and strips underfoot (to add traction for little feet)."

"You'll find all these items and more at your local hardware store. An ounce of prevention is definitely worth a pound of cure, especially when it comes to little ones."

Vix it

"If you have trouble drilling precise hinge holes to mount hinges on doors of all sizes because your drill bit wanders a tad (making doors hang kind of oddly), you need to know about Vix," say James and Morris Carey, writing for AP Weekly Features.

"It's a specialty bit made just for drilling hinge holes. It has an outer cylinder tapered at the end that fits right into the countersunk hinge holes."

"With the hinge hardware in place, all you do is fire up your drill and press down. The center bit is spring-loaded and lowers down, centered precisely in the hinge hole. It drills to a predetermined depth that you set beforehand."

"It's an invaluable specialty tool and inexpensive, to boot."

Take steps to scale down kitchen clutter

The kitchen is one of the busiest spaces in a home.

Cooking, eating, entertaining and socializing all happen in the kitchen - it's the main gathering place in the home. As a result, it is likely the most unorganized room in the house.

If your kitchen cabinets and junk drawers are jammed and overflowing, you are running out of counter space, or you can never find what you need when you need it, it's time to take control of your kitchen clutter. Here are some tips to organize your kitchen and keep it clutter-free,



Utilizing storage solutions and tossing unused gadgets can help keep your kitchen organized and clutter-free.

courtesy of organized-mom.com

■ Create an organizational plan. Establish work stations like a restaurant does and keep related items at each

station: prep area, cooking, baking and cleaning

■ Purchase storage solutions: Plastic bins, baskets, containers,

PLEASE SEE CLUTTER, B2

MARKET PLACE

Munchkin Melodies

Give your child a personalized CD with at least seven songs repeating his or her name more than 30 times.

Munchkin Melodies & more, based in Wixom, makes the CDs as well as personalized, interactive CD storybooks.

The entertaining and educational songs teach about the alphabet, manners, friendship, sharing, love and other topics. More than 3,000 names are available.

Munchkin Melodies & more was started this year by Barbara Ephraim-Gooze and Becky Weitzman. The women were looking for intriguing and novel ways to spark educational interests in their grandchildren, and found the ideal 'tool' with personalized musical CDs and CD storybooks. Ephraim-Gooze and Weitzman launched the collection with a computer system in the spring. By summer, they were giving displays at shows, fairs and exhibits throughout metro Detroit. Call (248) 788-9547 or (248) 926-1727, or e-mail Munchkinmelodies@aol.com.



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, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.

Use a silicone product to treat grout

BY JAMES AND MORRIS CAREY
FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

Rosale asks, "We recently had our countertops re-tiled, and we got two separate opinions on how to treat the grout. One was to use Old English Lemon Oil, the other to use a silicone sealer. I chose the oil because it was less expensive, but now I'm wondering if I did the right thing. My main concern is to avoid as much future cleaning

as possible. Also, is it possible to change the color of the grout at some future date? Since both of the products you mentioned are relatively inexpensive, the cost to seal the grout shouldn't be the issue here. You could be penny wise and pound-foolish by not using a sealer that will offer the greatest longevity. In our opinion, your interests would best be served by using a silicone product to seal

the grout. Not only will it last longer, but it is highly impervious to water, more so than lemon oil. Furthermore, we believe that if you go with the lemon oil rather than the silicone, you may find yourself spending a great deal of your spare time sealing and resealing your grout. And where silicone generally dries to a clear finish, lemon oil tends to yellow the grout. As far as changing the color

is concerned, there are a couple of different ways that this can be accomplished. The first method is by dyeing the grout. Obviously, any sealer that may have been previously applied to the grout will need to be removed so that the dye may be absorbed into the grout. A trip to your local hardware store or home improvement center will get you what you need to perform this relatively simple task.

GARDEN CALENDAR

Beverly Hills Garden Club
Della Haydon of Garden City will present a program on indoor bonsai to the Beverly Hills Garden Club 1 p.m. Tuesday Jan. 4 at the Beverly Hills Village Office 18500 W. 13 Mile. Guests are welcome.

Livonia Garden Club
Composting will be the topic of the next meeting of the Livonia Garden Club 7:30 p.m. Tuesday Jan. 4 at the Livonia Senior Center Five Mile at Farmington Road. Master composters Jane and Allan Geisler, instructors at Henry Ford Community College, will present a program outlining indoor and outdoor composting as a component of organic gardening. Increase your knowledge of the eco

logical and gardening benefits of the use of black gold compost. Visitors are welcome.

School of Gardening
The Michigan School of Gardening offers a variety of classes for different levels. 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 Effective Hand-drawn Design Tuesdays Jan. 4-25 in Pontiac or Thursdays Jan. 6-27 in Livonia (fee is \$168). Growing Vegetables Mondays Jan. 10-24 in Livonia (\$102). Ins and Outs of Plants Mondays Jan. 10-24 in Pontiac (\$102) and Shade Gardens two Wednesdays beginning Jan. 12 in Pontiac (\$72).

The School of Gardening also offers specialty classes and classes for the certificate of landscape and garden design at The Community House 380 S. Bates in Birmingham west of Woodward and south of Maple (15 Mile). For information or to register call The Community House at (248) 644-5832. This schedule includes Focus on Design Saturdays Jan. 8-29 (\$137).

Tropical plants
English Gardens will present free gardening seminars on Saturdays in January at its five metro Detroit stores in West Bloomfield (phone (248) 851-7506), Royal Oak/Troy (phone (248) 280-9500), Dearborn Heights (phone (313) 278-4433), Clinton Township (phone (586) 6100) and Eastpointe (phone (586) 771-4200). Caring for Tropical Plants will be the topic 11 a.m. Jan. 8. Learn about houseplants that will thrive indoors. The seminar will provide information on how to select a plant, tips to encourage flowering and suggestions on using plants to enhance a home's decor. For the nearest English Gardens location call (800) 335-GROW or visit www.englishgardens.com. 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@oehomecomm.net

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HOME CALENDAR

Home decor
Haberman Fabrics 905 S. Main in Royal Oak presents a variety of home decor classes for different skill levels. The schedule includes Lampshades Sundays Jan. 2-23 (fee is \$80). Beginner Pillow Mondays Jan. 3-17 (\$60) and Roman Shade four sessions beginning Thursday Jan. 6 or Friday Jan. 7 (\$80). Call (248) 541-0010 e-mail ContactUs@HabermanFabrics.com or visit www.HabermanFabrics.com for registration and other information.

Make a blanket
Learn to make a fleece blanket in a class 6:30-8:30 p.m. Monday Jan. 10 at The Community House 380 S. Bates in downtown Birmingham. The fee is \$20. To register or for more information call The Community

House at (248) 644-5832 or visit www.communityhouse.com. All of the pieces will be assembled in the class. You will need two pieces of fleece in your favorite colors (each measuring 1 3/4 yards), sharp scissors, long sharp pins, needle and thread to match the fleece, and rotary cutter and board (optional for basic fleece blanket). Instructor Kathy Hosken has been participating in craft shows for 25 years.

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@oehomecomm.net

AMISH

FROM PAGE B1
get the furniture, which is delivered to Amish Direct. "The biggest thing going on is dining rooms and entertainment centers," Gerber says.

ALL SOLID, NO LAMINATES

It's difficult to stock the furniture, Gerber says, because oak features 15 different stains and cherry wood has eight stains. "It's all solid wood," he adds. "There's no particle board or plastic laminate junk. It's all English dovetail drawers with interlocking notches, which is the strongest corner possible. It's heirloom furniture that's going to outlive all of us by a couple of hundred years. The stuff you get from the big chains is made overseas and all junk pretty much. He finds that customers, like Thelen, often outfit a room and come back a couple of years later to finish another room. "Let's say you get a hutch from grandma and you bring in a drawer, Gerber says. "We'll send it down and they'll do a custom-stain match for the table and chairs." Often customers will bring

in a picture. The customer wants the style shown in the picture, but they also want it made the Amish way. Amish furniture sold at Laurel Furniture in Plymouth ranges from bedroom and dining room sets to plant stands and other accessories. The furniture is built in Goshen, Ind., according to owner of Laurel Furniture Don Wurm. "When they build something it's not just one family building a whole dining set," Wurm says. "One family builds chairs, another family builds tables, another builds china cabinets and another does the finishing. They specialize in their particular area." Once customers start buying Amish furniture, they tend to keep coming back. "The quality is lifetime furniture," Wurm adds. "People are very impressed by the way it's made. It's like the furniture that was made many, many years ago. Inside the drawers are finished as good as the outside of the cabinet. It's a little more, but very reasonably priced and I think that's why we sell so much of it," he said. Deslites adds, "People say they don't make furniture like they used to. Well, the Amish do."

Diane Gale Andreassi is a freelance writer for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers who lives in Livonia.

CLUTTER

FROM PAGE B1
racks and freestanding units are inexpensive storage ideas. You can find deals at dollar stores, or check stores that carry overstocks, closeouts and slightly dented items. You may even be able to reuse items you already own. For instance, a shoebox covered with the same contact paper as your shelves can store spice bottles. If you are short on cabinet space but have plenty of wall space, try using an old bureau

to store canned goods, towels, extra dishes or cookware. Don't forget to nest items inside one another to maximize space. Every item needs its own home. When items have a designated place, they tend to get put away. If they don't, they tend to get lost. Utilize bins and baskets wherever possible to keep like things together and readily accessible. Go vertical to free up horizontal space. Utilize the empty vertical wall space in a nearby closet by installing shelves that can be used to store canned goods. Install hanging broom and

mop holders. Employ hooks, pegboards and lazy Susans. If your counter space is at a premium, mount some of your small appliances under the cabinets. Toss clutter. Get rid of what is old and what you don't use. Check expiration dates of herbs, yeast and baking powder. Throw out cooking gadgets that are gathering dust. Remove items on counters that don't belong in the kitchen. Organize for maximum efficiency. Place items near each other if they will be used together. If your coffee maker sits on the counter, store the

coffee cups, filters and sugar in the cabinet above it. Clean everything. Tackle cabinets, drawers, shelves, countertops, refrigerator and oven. Replace tattered dish towels and torn or worn shelf paper. Keep out clutter. Since you've spent all that time organizing your kitchen, you'll want to make sure it remains clutter-free. Set aside some time once a month to check for clutter buildup, and spend a few minutes each night putting away anything that doesn't belong in the kitchen.

CHANGE for the homeless and hungry

Did you know that the number of people in metropolitan Detroit needing help with basics like food and shelter has increased by 33 percent over the past three years?

But our ability to protect and support our vulnerable men, women and children is at risk this holiday season. With fewer public locations available for our Red Kettles, we need your help to **Make Change Happen** for people who need us most.

Your gift will help The Salvation Army bring real and lasting changes to the lives of thousands of people in need this holiday season and throughout the year. By sharing with The Salvation Army, you help **Make Change Happen**... and bring hope where once there was despair.

Don't wait to hear the bell ringing! Call or click and **Make Change Happen** today!
1-877-SAL-MICH or RedKettleCampaign.org

1-877-SAL-MICH or RedKettleCampaign.org

Take time to speak with a few homeless people and one thing becomes obvious: there's no single path that leads to life on the street. It could be a job loss or drug addiction. It makes no difference to us. In the past year, The Salvation Army served 2,191,095 meals or an average of 6,003 meals per day and provided 595,015 nights of shelter or an average of 1,630 beds per night. The numbers are staggering. The need is heartbreaking. And it all adds up to a huge opportunity to make a difference for the homeless and hungry in Detroit.

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Create a party for your kids

I was selected as room parent for my child's elementary classroom, but I am not very good at party planning. I'm just not creative. What can I do?

You do not have to be creative to plan school parties.



Domestic Planner

Diana Koenig

Use ideas and materials that other people have created. Purchase "how to" books or check them out at the library. You do not need an original idea to plan a party.

Most schools allow about one hour for the party. There are usually three parties scheduled per school year. Keep the planning simple.

Have a basic plan before arranging a meeting with other parent helpers. Brainstorm ideas with them.

Your focus should be on entertaining children. Kids enjoy simple games and prizes. The same basic game can be changed according to the party theme. Take for example a younger child's game, Pin the Tail on the Donkey. For Halloween, play pin the nose on the jack-o-lantern or for Christmas, pin the star on the tree top.

Do not try to do everything yourself. Delegate work and supplies. This is a classroom of children who all have parents that can contribute in some way. Some parents may have time to help on the day of the party or perhaps they could send baked goodies. Working parents could donate paper goods. Some schools have parent boards that contribute some money to the school parties. Apply this money to game prizes or to a guest performer such as a clown, a magician or a story teller.

Do a grade level party. Arrange a party with all the classes of a specific grade level. Use the combined money for a guest performer. Another option is to set up activities in each classroom and have the

different classes rotate into each of the rooms. One school year I had a party with an international theme. Each classroom chose a country and planned a craft, game, and food associated with that country.

The easiest way to plan a party is to select a specific theme. Plan the decorations, food, games and prizes around the theme. The holidays celebrated may depend on whether your child attends a private or public school. Most schools would celebrate in October with a Fall or Halloween party. December would be a Winter Holiday, Hanukkah or Christmas party. February might include a Valentine's Day Party.

You may decide to make invitations by hand or use the computer. Part of the enjoyment of an event is the anticipation that it is going to happen. You can give the invitations to the teacher several days ahead of time so she can pass them out to the students.

Choose prizes at carnival supplies, mail order houses, dollar stores or discount stores. Prizes could include candy, pencils, book markers, erasers, crayons, markers, fast food coupons, and five-cent toys (they are abandoned quickly but enjoyed for the moment).

Use paper lunch bags or zip lock bags to hold prizes. Lunch bags are available in different colors. The cheapest prize bags are brown bags decorated by you or the children. The children could start the party by decorating their bag with stickers, cut-outs and markers.

If you have several parent helpers the day of the party, you could plan centers with activities. Divide the children into four groups. Assign a color for each group and give each child the appropriate colored name tag so they can rotate to each center with their group. It is easier to get the attention of a group of five children than 20.

Party ideas for elementary grade children for the school year (ideas may need to be modified according to the grade level).

WINTER PARTY

Invitations Write or print the party information on a snowman or Christmas tree.

Refreshments Decorated cookies, trail mix (different cereal, pretzels, M & M's and raisins), soda.

Games Name that tune - record holiday songs and have the children guess the title.

Bean bag toss Cut out a tree from green poster board, attach it to a box and cut out holes for the bean bags.

Fill a jar with candy kisses. Have each child guess how many kisses are in the jar.

VALENTINE PARTY

Invitations Write or print party information on a heart.

Refreshments Make red punch and create ice cream sundaes (vanilla ice cream, marshmallows, chocolate chips, sprinkled candy).

Group activities Decorate a box to keep valentines. Cut a hole in the top of a shoe box and decorate with stickers, doilies, and cut out hearts. Have a contest and vote for a winner on the funniest, most creative, simplest or prettiest box. Have the children play postal delivery clerk and pass out valentines to each of their classmates. Send a note home ahead of time so each child will have valentines to give.

Play valentine bingo using heart candies for markers. Set up the games and crafts at centers.

To establish order and bring an end to the party use the last 10 minutes to read a seasonal story or play bingo. Buy paper goods to coordinate with the theme. If you do not want to follow the traditional parties, choose themes such as a carnival, a beach party, a 1950s party, a pizza and movie video, or a party to play favorite board games.

Today's Refrigerator Bulletin Simple party planning results in a smashing success!

Send your questions and success stories to Diana Koenig. E-mail: diarakoenig@hotmail.com or www.domesticplanner.com

Distemper vaccine doesn't control poor behavior

Years ago, a young actor on the David Letterman Show talked about how much he learned from working with Michael Caine.

Waiting between shots annoyed him, but Caine told him that he was being paid for the waiting, not the acting, as the acting is the fun part.

All professions have to deal with problems like this. Police deal with endless paperwork. Firefighters have long periods of tedium between runs. Fast food workers have to deal with drive-thru speakers that sound like 1970s NASA transmissions.

Medical professionals in all fields have to deal with answering the same questions over and over. No one minds answering the questions. Client/patient education should be a cornerstone of medicine at every level, as client understanding makes the treatment go more smoothly.

FLEA TALK

Years ago, before Advantage and Frontline, flea control was a huge hassle, and my days filled with flea appointments. I had a speech about fleas, telling one person after another how to be rid of these unpleasant invaders.

I recited it so often that the speech basically recorded itself in my head. I would replay it without having to think, like a child who memorizes a speech for a Christmas play.

One afternoon, I heard a low annoying hum in the room. I then realized it was me talking.

The two better products I mentioned have retired my flea speech, but many questions I hear commonly still require repetitive answers. Let's try to make this a group session, answering a few common questions for everyone at one time.

Fleas demand concern from owners whose pets are afflict-



About Animals

Dr. Brad Davis

ed, especially when a human family member gets lesions on their leg. Why do fleas like some people and not others?

They don't. The fleas we see around here don't like the taste of people.

To find human fleas, travel to the Appalachians, where pockets of human fleas still persist.

Fleas are very species specific, meaning there are dog fleas and cat fleas, etc. Dogs and cats will share fleas, but they don't like the taste of other species. (By the way, cat fleas are bigger than dog fleas. If you ever win Trivial Pursuit with that answer, you owe me!)

Fleas will taste people, but will say 'yuck' and move on, which is why people don't end up with hair full of fleas.

Why do some people get lesions? Because they're allergic to the flea bites. Everyone gets bitten, they just show the signs. (People who have a bad infestation and lose their pet can be pretty badly eaten by the environmental fleas, but mild reactions are different.)

DISTEMPER VACCINE

Frequently a person will come in with the yard dog they touch once a year, to come in to get the vaccines.

They try, but are too afraid to place a muzzle on the dog.

I don't understand owning a pet you're afraid of, but some people seem to like it.

Anyway, many will ask me for the Distemper shot, because they want to remove or decrease the dog's temper.

Distemper does not refer to removal of a personality trait. It is a virus with intestinal and

neurologic signs, and can be deadly. The vaccine prevents disease, but it does not control poor behavior.

Explaining chronic ear infections can be confusing. Unfortunately, chronic ear problems occur far too often, and can be very frustrating for owner and for the vet.

Most chronic ear infections initiate and recur thanks to allergies. To understand how allergies cause ear infections, remember ear infections are kind of like graffiti.

A building in one neighborhood might get covered in graffiti, but that same building would be left alone in a different neighborhood. The culture within the neighborhood tends to be the deciding factor as to whether or not there'll be graffiti.

Allergies tend to set up the environment for ear infections to occur.

(Lifestyle also has an effect. The Labrador who swims 25 hours a day can create chronic problems without allergies.) Routine ear cleanings can help to control the problem.

There are many other issues that could use a group session. Are over-the-counter flea controls as effective and safe as prescription? No. Is parvo always lethal? No. Should a pregnant woman get rid of her cat? No, no, no! (If your OB-Gyn says to get rid of your cat when you're pregnant, get a new OB-Gyn.)

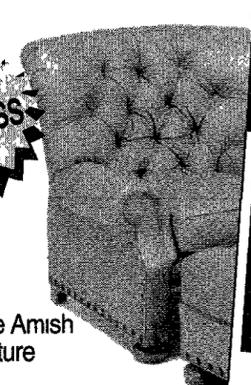
Getting information to lots of people at once really is much more efficient. I wonder if Letterman would have me on his show.

Dr. Brad Davis is medical director for the VCA of Garden City 2085 Inkster Road Garden City MI 48135. Mail questions and comments there. He is also one of the hosts of the nationally syndicated radio show Animal Talk. Visit the web site: www.animaltalkradio.com. E-mail questions or comments to: Questions@animaltalkradio.com

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Hugh Borde's TRINIDAD TRIPOLI STEEL BAND. This amazing group of performers that once toured for two years with Liberace plays a repertoire of music that ranges from classical to rock and roll on oil drums. 9:45 pm - Midnight

ADDITIONAL FIRST NIGHT LOCATIONS
St James Episcopal Church, First Christ Scientist Church and Birmingham Historical Museum

OTHER PERFORMANCES & ACTIVITIES

- DAVID SYME, *Pianist* - 7:00, 8:15, 9:30 pm
- Bernie Stevens Magic - 7:00, 8:30 pm
- Teddy Bear Puppet Show - 7:15, 8:30 pm
- Adam Mellema Storyteller - 6:00, 7:15, 8:30, 9:45 pm



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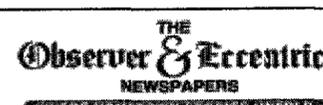
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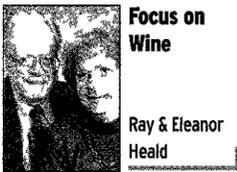
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Ken Abramczyk editor
(734) 953 2107
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Focus on Wine

Ray & Eleanor Heald

Wine is fashion

At age 45 in 1988, vintner Roberto Guldener sold his fashion business on Zurich's prestigious Bahnhofstrasse to begin making wine in Italy's Tuscany region.

Both businesses are very connected, said Guldener's daughter Maja Guldener Marino. Both wine and fashion are creative products and are an interpretation of our time. Both are continually evolving. Today's wine is not like yesterday's and neither is fashion.

Marino indicated that her father is fascinated by wine-making as a profession because it begins with grapes in a vineyard and finishes with a product in the glass that gives pleasure to people who love life.

A LITTLE LUCK

A little luck benefits any business and Guldener's luck was finding Terrabianca in the Comune of Radda in Chianti, near Siena. How did he find it? Guldener's maternal grandparents were Venetians who moved to Zurich and opened a trattoria.

They purchased wines for their restaurant from the Chianti region. Guldener came to know the area well and learned that Terrabianca estate dated back to 1085. Chalky composition gives the appearance of white soils and thus is the origin of the name.

Initially, Guldener began

PLEASE SEE WINE, B5

WINE PICKS

Several readers questioned why we have not recommended merlot lately. Reason: many over \$20 are overoaked and those at \$10 and under are often weak and underflavored. The following are the **BEST MERLOTS** we've tasted recently.

Pick of the pack: 2000 Sebastiani Sonoma County \$17.

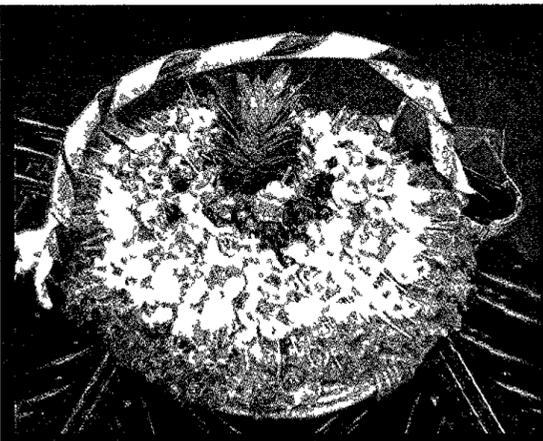
Outstanding: 2001 Chateau St. Jean \$50.

Excellent: 2001 Rutherford Hill, \$25. 2001 Pine Ridge Crimson Creek \$27. and 2001 English Hills \$46.

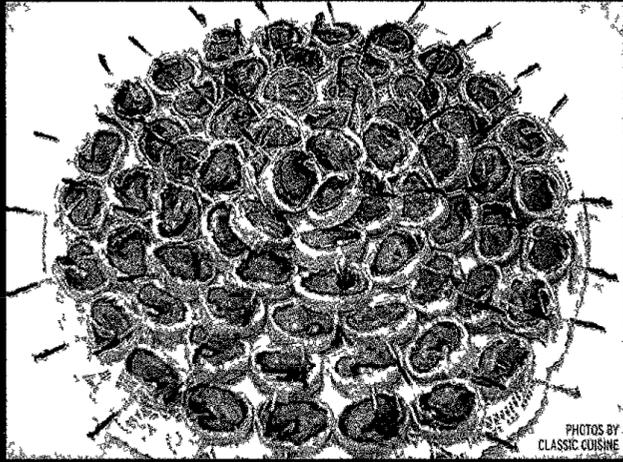
Very good: 2001 Genesis \$17. 2001 Mason \$20. 2000 Geysler Peak Shoreline Vineyard \$26. 2000 Rodney Strong \$26. and 2001 Stag Leap Wine Cellars \$40.

Wallet pleasers: 2001 Camelot \$7. 2002 Bogle \$9. 2002 Reynolds (Australia) \$9. 2003 McManis \$10. and 2002 Trinchero Family Selection \$10.

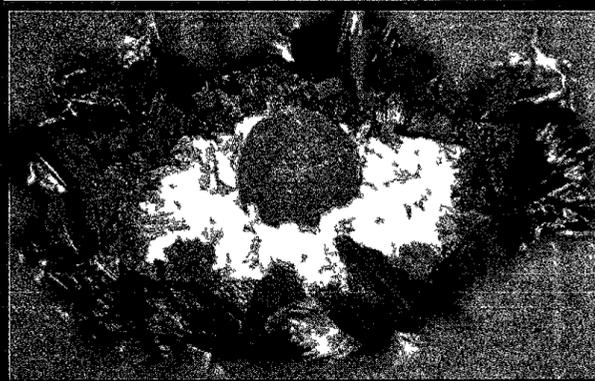
All wines mentioned are available in the metro Detroit area. If a retailer does not stock a specific wine, ask that it be ordered from the distributor.



Amazing



PHOTOS BY CLASSIC CUISINE



appetizers

Step up the party with zesty hors d'oeuvres

BY ELAINE PERLIN CROSSLE | CORRESPONDENT

Appetizers are more popular than ever. Great for home entertaining, they not only create a comfortable, light atmosphere but also offer variety.

There's something about a table brimming with an array of tempting hors d'oeuvres - the nibbling begins, the conversation stirs and the party is under way.

The formal sit-down meal has its place for some holidays and occasions, but an hors d'oeuvre party lends itself to a casual ambiance and allows guests to consume at their own pace - and as much or as little as they choose.

As the trend turns toward home conversation and entertainment areas, gatherings are taking on the informal pleasures of "digging in" to celebrate the New Year, watch one of the bowl games or simply kick back and chat.

With cookbooks and culinary magazines filling bookstore stands

and cable cooking shows all over the airwaves, finger food recipes are at our fingertips. Local retailers and many area grocers are good bets for finding fabulous ingredients and ready-made items.

Although some tried and true classics may still be on our list of favorites, they can take on updated twists with the exciting selections in today's marketplace.

When asked about such old standbys as pigs-in-a-blanket, caterer Jami Levin-Gorehck quipped, "I call them Frankies Wellington!" But there are so many more wonderful choices these days. American food now includes many diverse styles from Hispanic to Asian to European to Mediterranean.

Chris Shelters, a chef at Edwards Cafe and Catering, has re-invented another basic. "With the use of a papaya, you can put a new, upbeat spin on meatballs by serving them in a Polynesian

sauce," Shelters said.

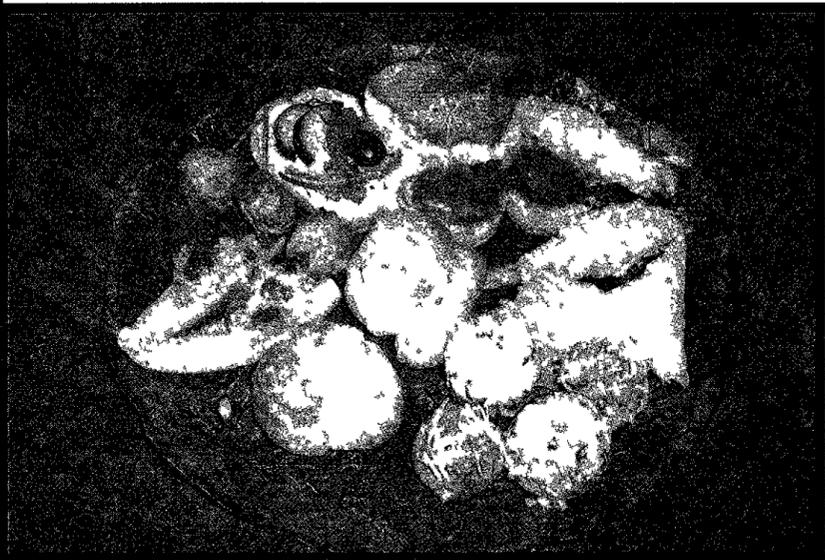
A popular Northville mainstay since 1986, Edwards specializes in off-premises custom catering and carry-out cuisine. Owner Mary Pearce said Shelters and co-chef Becky Morelli prepare house recipes with fresh shipments of meat, produce and dairy from Detroit's Eastern Market.

TANTALIZING TASTES

There is no greater testament to the American "melting pot" than how our culinary tastes have evolved over the past several years. Mexican food is now an American staple. The piquant kick of taquitos, chunky red and green salsas, hearty bean dips, rich guacamole and nacho chips have wide appeal.

Layered dips make for a palate-pleasing appetizer starting with a layer of refried beans, then sour

PLEASE SEE APPETIZERS, B5



EDWARDS CAFE AND CATERING

Appetizers bring variety to parties with a little something for everyone.

Among these appetizers are asparagus wraps, endive cups, boursin cheese puffs, bacon-wrapped water chestnuts, prosciutto and gorgonzola, redskin potato halves, and mini quiche Lorraine.

RECIPES

EDWARDS' BACON-WRAPPED WATER CHESTNUTS

Sauce
1/2 cup brown sugar
1/2 cup Dijon mustard
1/4 cup cider vinegar

One 15 ounce can whole water chestnuts drained
8 ounces bacon slices

Preheat oven to 350°F. Mix all sauce ingredients together in a small bowl and set aside.

Wrap each water chestnut in half slice bacon and secure with a wooden toothpick.

Dip into sauce to coat, and place on a parchment-lined baking sheet. Bake for 15 minutes until bacon is crisp.

PLEASE SEE RECIPES, B5

Photos clockwise from top: Pasta primavera kabobs are an easy appetizer to prepare to help ring in 2005. Smoked salmon roulades are just one of many catered selections for parties. Shrimp cocktail is a popular New Year's Eve or New Year's Day appetizer.

Side dish

Feed guests

The entertaining season is here, time to plan spreads full of holiday cheer. Here are some suggestions for feeding a crowd. Make it easy with a potluck party or simple finger foods.

■ Potluck party: Invite a group of friends to celebrate at your place and ask each to bring their favorite dish.

A simple and easy option is a tasty tart. Line a tart tin with pastry shell and bake for 10 minutes. Peel and slice 6 tomatoes and 3 onions very finely. Fry onions in a saucepan until transparent. Spread a thin layer of Dijon mustard over the base of tart. Cover with a layer of tomatoes, then a layer of onion and sprinkle with 1 1/2 cups of grated Swiss cheese. Season with salt and pepper, bake for an additional 30 minutes and serve warm.

■ Warm welcome: Greet guests with a finger food to start.

Prepare succulent jumbo shrimp with a delicious honey mustard dip. Combine 3 cups of water, 3 pecorino, 1 lemon slice and 1 bay leaf, bring to boil. Add shrimp, boil until they turn pink. Drain shrimp, add ice to stop the cooking process. In a small saucepan, combine 2 teaspoons scallions, 1 teaspoon lemon juice, 2 teaspoons honey Dijon mustard, stir with fork until warm. Transfer to a bowl, arrange shrimp over the edge of bowl and serve.

■ Dazzling dip: Impress the company with a creamy, delectable dip for crackers or chips. Mix a 6 1/2-ounce jar of liquid from marinated artichoke hearts, 8-ounce package of cream cheese and 1/4 cup of Dijon mustard. Add sliced artichokes from jar. Blend until smooth and chill.

■ Seasonal gravy: Spice up traditional gravy by adding a seasonal fruit flavor. Combine 1/2 cup fresh cranberry sauce, 2 tablespoons whole-grain mustard, and 1 tablespoon orange rind with gravy powder. Blend with water, simmer over low-heat until thickened. Serve over turkey, mash potatoes or fresh vegetables. (Also bring fruit into the festivity by using it as decorations around the mantel and the dinner table.)

■ Holiday ham: A fine asset at the holiday feast is a honey-baked ham. One version calls for 1 egg yolk mixed with 3 tablespoons honey Dijon mustard. Spread mixture over ham and sprinkle with 2 or 3 tablespoons of bread crumbs. Bake until it turns a golden brown color. Slice and serve.

Recipes courtesy of Maille Fine French Condiments

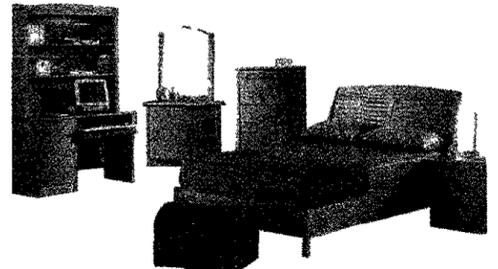
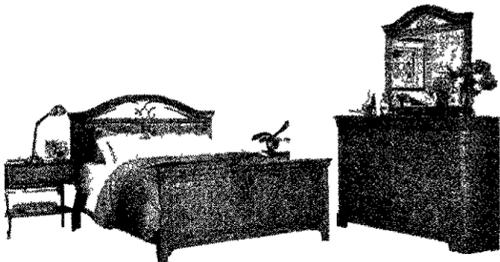
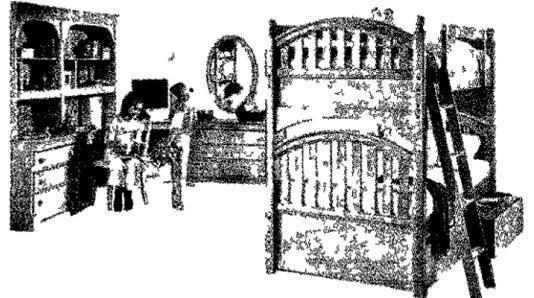
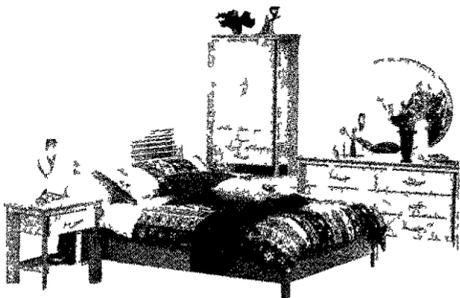
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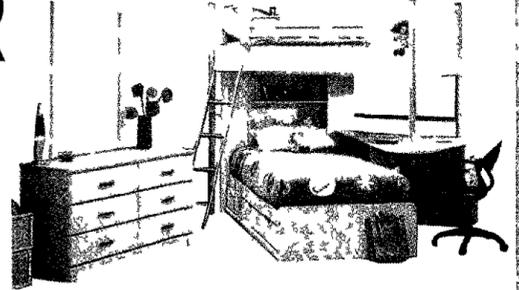
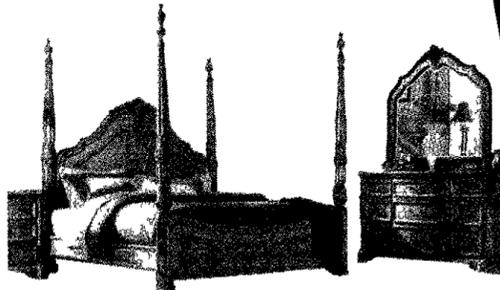
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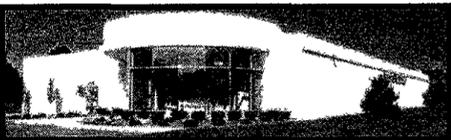


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HOCKEY COMEBACK – Burton returns to minor league. **2, 3**

HOLIDAY CLASSIC – St Mary's beat buzzer. **4**



Section C
Thursday, December 30, 2004
(CP)

Ed Wright editor
(734) 953 2108
Fax (734) 591 7279
ewright@oe.homecomm.net

Fast pace

Active Aquinto stars in three sports, classroom

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

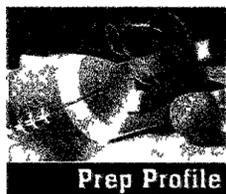
There are hundreds of high school coaches around who would clone Salem three-sport/academic standout Ashley Aquinto if given the chance.

The only problem would be finding a few free minutes in her activity-filled schedule to perform the cloning.

Aquinto possesses a boundless energy level that is matched only by her talent, which has earned the senior trips to the state meet in two sports and a close-call in a third.

The one thing she doesn't have an overabundance of is time, which flies by quickly when you're involved in athletics year-round like Aquinto, who has earned accolades and applause for her swimming-and-diving exploits in the fall, gymnastics maneuvers in the winter and pole vaulting skills in the spring for the past three-plus years.

Aquinto doesn't slow down in the summer as she swims



Prep Profile

for a club team, plays tennis and works on her impressive gymnastics skills in June, July and August.

"I always have to be doing something," admitted the energetic Aquinto, who is currently serving as a captain for the Rocks state-ranked gymnastics squad. "I'd go crazy if I had to sit around and do nothing."

There's rarely a dull moment in the life of Aquinto, whose efforts have allowed her to compete in Division 1 state meets in gymnastics, and swimming and diving during her career at Salem. Aquinto hasn't qualified yet for the state meet in pole vaulting, but she's come close, having missed by just a few inches the past two years.

"Gymnastics is probably the



HEATHER ROUSSEAU

Salem senior Ashley Aquinto has excelled for the Rocks' gymnastics, swimming-and-diving and track-and-field teams during her three-plus years at the school. She also shines academically, having earned a 3.5 grade-point average.

most fun for me, but I enjoy the other sports a lot, too," she said. "I've been participating in gymnastics since I was 3-years-old, so that is the sport I would miss the most if I had to give it up. I like it, too, because it's the one sport I can beat most of the boys in."

The most glaring highlight of Aquinto's illustrious high

school gymnastics career came two years ago when – as a sophomore – she finished first in the state on the balance beam and second in the all-around competition.

"The key to doing well in gymnastics is flexibility and strength," Aquinto said. "Those are things that are necessary in diving and pole vaulting, too,

which helps me."

Aquinto, who earned a 12th-place showing in diving at the Division 1 state meet two years ago, finished 25th at this year's competition, which was held in November. She also captured top honors at the Western Lakes Activities Association

PLEASE SEE AQUINTO, C2

Sidelines

Gymnasts excel

Four local gymnasts who train at Gym America of Ann Arbor turned in outstanding performances at the club's season-opening gymnastics competition Dec. 17-19 in Covington, Ky. The meet attracted clubs from throughout Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Ohio and Kentucky.

Level 7 gymnast Kayla Weber, a fifth-grade student at Eriksson Elementary School, placed first on vault (9.20), first on beam (9.425) and first all-around (36.22). She also finished sixth on bars (8.70) and fourth on floor (8.90). Kayla's sister, Haylee, a Level 5 gymnast and a third-grader at Eriksson, took home top honors on vault (8.40). She also placed fifth on bars (7.25), third on beam (7.80), fourth on floor (8.30) and third all-around (31.75). Paige Wright, a Level 5 gymnast and fifth grader at Eriksson, placed eighth on vault with an 8.475.

Nation's best

Five Wayne State University men's hockey players – including a Canton native – are listed among the nation's best in this week's NCAA statistical report. In addition, the Warriors are ranked in three team categories.

Sophomore left wing Jason Bloomingburg (Canton/Texas Tornado) is tied for 17th nationally in goals per game at 65 (11 goals in 17 contests).

Freshmen forwards Tylor Michel (Sudbury, Ont./Owen Sound Greys) and Stavros Paskaris (Dearborn/Kewadin Indians) are tied for third in the country with 20 other skaters with two short-handed goals.

Sophomore right wing Nate Higgins (Calgary, Alb./Green Bay Gamblers), who has scored the game-winning goal in each of the last two Saturday contests for WSU, is tied-for-fourth in the nation with three game-winning goals.

Junior defenseman Steve Kovalchik (Riverview/Omaha Lancers) and Bloomingburg are tied-for-19th in the NCAA with five power-play goals each. Wayne State is 14th in scoring offense at 3.33 (60 goals in 18 games), 18th in winning percentage at .583 (10-7-1) and 16th in power play percentage at .203 (24 for 118). The Warriors return to competition with a two-game College Hockey America league series at Alabama-Huntsville on Jan. 7-8.

Sarnia on deck

The Plymouth Whalers will host the Sarnia Sting tonight at 7:30 p.m. at the Compuware Sports Arena. The Sting, who are rebuilding under first-year general manager Alan Millar and first-year coach Shawn Camp, currently sit in ninth place in the Ontario Hockey League's Western Conference.

Sarnia goalie Ryan Munce (2.65 goals against average) and leading scorer Brad Efhimou (30 points) have been solid for the Sting this season.

Plymouth spikers earn silver title at tourney

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

It was, by most accounts, an up-and-down day for Observerland teams at Monday's annual University of Michigan-Dearborn girls volleyball tournament.

Only Livonia Churchill advanced to the Gold Playoffs (for the top eight teams in earlier pool play), with the Chargers losing two-of-three to Royal Oak Shrine.

Trenton defeated Dearborn 25-17, 25-18 to take the overall 20-team tournament.

Plymouth and Redford Thurston met in a semifinal in the Silver Playoffs (teams nine through 16), with the Wildcats knocking out the Eagles – and subsequently claiming the Silver championship trophy with a 25-10, 25-21 win over Lincoln Park.

In the lowest grouping, the Bronze Playoffs (teams 17 through 20), Wayne Memorial needed just one point to defeat Mount Clemens Clintondale for the Bronze trophy, but the Dragons rallied for a 19-17 triumph in the deciding game.

Plymouth's day began with a two-game loss, in pool play, to Monroe-Jefferson. But the Wildcats came back to defeat Dearborn Heights Annapolis and Woodhaven (both in two games).

Wildcats head coach Kelly McCausland said inconsistent play on offense and defense cost her team a chance to compete in the Gold bracket. But 10th-seeded Plymouth excelled in serving to eliminate Detroit Renaissance (25-6, 25-9), Thurston (25-17, 25-23) and Lincoln Park.

McCausland said winning the Silver trophy was an accomplishment, but not the team's goal heading into the tournament.

"Serving was our only saving grace," she said. "I didn't see my team performing to full potential today."

She credited junior middle blocker Jeanine Moise, junior outside hitter Jackie Dorre and sophomore outside hitter Kim Klonowska for sparking the Wildcats with their play. Dorre, in particular, "stepped up and really helped us" with 10 service aces against Thurston, McCausland said.

Churchill coach Mark Grenier's pre-tournament goals were not met Monday.

"I think, overall, it was a little disappointing for us," said Grenier. "We had higher expectations coming in. We had our opportunities, but we didn't play exceptionally well all day. We just made a ton of unforced errors."

The Chargers, who went 5-1 in pool play to qualify for the Gold Playoffs, lost 25-22 to Royal Oak Shrine in the Gold quarterfinals before rebounding with a 25-7 victory in the second game. The Knights clinched the match with a 15-13 win.

On the plus side, Grenier liked how many players contributed during the day, gaining experience that should help the Chargers, now 11-4 overall, in upcoming Western Lakes Activities Association play.

Senior outside hitter Kelsey Mack led the way



JIM JAGOFFELD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's Janet Hanchett winds up for a spike during Monday's match against Woodhaven in the University of Michigan-Dearborn volleyball tournament. Woodhaven's Stephanie Wolf is preparing to defend the attempted kill

with 36 kills and 11 aces, senior setter Kristyna Archer collected 41 assists, four kills and three aces, junior outside hitter Shea Truxell had seven kills, 10 digs and five aces, junior defensive specialist Brynn Kerr went 15-for-16 in serve-receive along with four aces and seven digs, senior defensive specialist Mia Macerati picked up 15 digs and was 16-for-19 in serve-receive.

Although 20th-seeded Wayne Memorial competed in the lowest rung of playoffs after going 0-6 in pool play, the Zebras still were fighting and clawing to the end – just missing out on taking home the Bronze hardware.

Wayne needed three games to get past Edsel Ford in the Bronze semifinal and won the first game in the final against Clintondale, 25-17. But the Dragons evened the match with a 25-21 triumph and then came from behind for the 19-17 clincher.

"The girls really came together at the end," said Zebras coach Jessica Shoemaker, adding that competing in the tournament should be beneficial to her squad for the rest of the season. tsmith@oe.homecomm.net | (734) 953 2106

Let it snow

Wintry weather can't stop golf-instruction program

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Once the Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center's new covered, heated instructional facility is officially opened in the next couple of weeks, avid golfers in southeastern Michigan will have another opportunity to thaw out their clubs and swings during the frigid months of January, February and March.

The new facility, which will become the year-round "office" of Crystal Mountain Golf School PGA professionals Scott Wilson and Brad Dean, will feature two enclosed, heated studios for teaching, and four partially enclosed bays for driving-range practice.

Fox Hills, a 63-hole public golf complex, is located on North Territorial Rd. in Plymouth Township, approximately seven miles west of downtown Plymouth.

"One of the nice things about the video studios is that they are open at one end so that the golfers can see the full flight of the ball once they hit it," said Wilson, a Crystal Mountain instructor since 1994. "They won't be hitting the ball into a screen or net."

"Even though it will be cold outside, the tubular heating we

are having installed will make it nice and warm in the studios and the driving-range bays. There will also be an artificial putting surface available. The entire structure will be lit at night, too, so the golfers can see where the ball is going."

Wilson said golfers who receive the video swing analysis that the facility offers will get instant feedback from the technology that was designed by V-One, a Livonia-based company. "Before this latest technology came along, we used to videotape the golfer's swing, then take it inside and plug it into a computer to analyze it," Wilson said. "Now, a few seconds after the golfer is videotaped, we can play it back for them right in the studio. It's a very advanced system that allows us to use a number of tools."

One unique tool the professionals can utilize is a feature that splits the computer screen in half with the golfer's swing on one side and a PGA tour pro's swing on the other.

"It lets the golfer compare his swing to, let's say, Vijay Singh's," Wilson said. "We can also use stop-action and slow-motion, which allows us to analyze the golfer's swings thor-

PLEASE SEE GOLF, C2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Crystal Mountain Golf School PGA professional Scott Wilson is pictured outside the Fox Hills Golf Complex's newly completed heated video studio/driving range. The facility, which is located on North Territorial Rd. in Plymouth Township, should be ready for business within the next two weeks.

Ex-Wing starts to build team with vet Burton

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

Garry Unger and Joe Burton go way back. Unger, who once scored 42 goals for the Detroit Red Wings, dialed up Burton in July when he started the monumental task of filling the expansion Motor City Mechanics of the United Hockey League. The former Wings forward now is head coach of the Mechanics, based out of Great Lakes Sports City in Fraser.

"I knew he lived in Michigan," Unger said "So when I got the job here, he was one of the first guys I contacted."

The 57-year-old Unger's knowledge of what Burton can do around opposing goal-tenders is more than a decade in the making.

In the early 1990s, Burton began a very prolific stretch with Oklahoma City of the Central Hockey League. But it could have happened with Tulsa, a team Unger coached at the time.

"Joe, back in 1992, when the Central started up, I tried to recruit him to come to Tulsa," Unger recalled. "I had quite a few talented guys come to my team and he decided that he'd rather go to Oak (Oklahoma) City, which was our rival. He went there because he didn't think he could make our team when he saw the roster and the guys

For more on Burton's career See Page C3.

we were bringing in. "So he ended up going to Oak City and I coached against him for about 10 years. And he was Oak City's No. 1 guy, the guy that scored the big goal when they needed it. I got to know him, really."

TRY, TRY AGAIN

Five years later, Unger left Tulsa to take over a New Mexico franchise (Western Professional Hockey League) and again, he tried to get Burton for his team.

This time, he got Burton's name on the dotted line. But, the Blazers' brass found out about the signing and countered with "a whole pile of money (for Burton) to stay in Oak City," Unger said.

Because of his respect for Burton as a person and player, Unger voided the contract with New Mexico and allowed the winger to return to Oklahoma City.

"The only way he could play in Oak City was if I released him," he said. "I did it as a favor to him, I let him go back to Oak City."

Eventually, of course, the two would pair up with the Mechanics.

Motor City got a late start

on signing players this summer, but Unger knew of at least one player who would fit right in - Burton, who retired after 2002-03, but who still had ability to put the puck into the net.

"Even though he has great skills and wasn't that far out of shape," Unger said, "I knew it was going to take a couple months for him to get his real game back."

"You have to roll with it, and again, that's cost us a little bit because he hasn't been at the top of his game. Now, he's getting close, he's starting to get back to where he used to be."

And what about Unger's own return to Hockeytown after a 33-year absence?

"It's been great," said Unger, who played in Detroit from 1967-68 into the 1970-71 season, when he was dealt to St. Louis. "The only tough part has been the losing."

"We're getting about 1,500 to the games (the arena seats nearly 3,000) and the quality of game is real good. The guys work real hard and it's a fun game to watch. Plus, I think 'The Garage' is a neat concept."

Winning more would be even neater. Unger hopes, with Burton's help, to soon get the Mechanics' collective engine revving and bring more fans out to "The Garage" on Utica Road.

tsmith@oe.hometownlife.com (734) 953-2106

AQUINTO

FROM PAGE C1

meet after compiling 335.40 points in 11 dives.

"Ashley has been the force in diving for Salem the past four years," said Salem coach Chuck Olson. "She has displayed sportsmanship and a competitive nature that was respected by teammates and competitors."

Aquinto's versatility came into play when she was a key contributor to the Rocks' 200 medley relay team, which finished second at the WLAA meet and 15th in the state.

When she's not performing no-hands cartwheels on the balance beam, pushing herself over the pole-vault bar or completing effortless somersaults after springing off a diving board, Aquinto is usually hitting the books, which her 3.5 grade-point average proves.

"I have pretty good time-management skills, which I use to keep my grades up," Aquinto said.

Once she graduates next June, Aquinto's competitive athletic career will probably end, she predicted. Her goal is to attend college and work toward a degree in engineering.

"Gymnastics is very hard on the body, so I'm planning on taking some time off once I'm out of high school," she said. "I love the sport, though, so maybe I'll coach or help out with it in the future."

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PREP BASKETBALL Thursday Dec. 30 Plymouth Christian at Warren Bethesda 7:30 p.m. Tuesday Jan. 4 A.A. Pioneer at Canton 7 p.m. Plymouth at Dearborn Heights Robichaud 7 p.m. Allen Park at Belleville 7 p.m. Plymouth Christian at Baptist Park 7 p.m. Canton Agape at Br. Tton Macon 7 p.m. Friday Jan. 7 Salem at W.L. Central 7 p.m. W.L. Western at Canton 7 p.m. Plymouth at Livonia Churchill 7 p.m. Monroe at Belleville 7 p.m. International Academy of Flint at Plymouth Christian 7:30 p.m.	Allen Park at Belleville 6:30 p.m. Saturday Jan. 8 Salem at Wyandotte Invitational 10 a.m. Plymouth at Saginaw Heritage Tourney TBA
PREP HOCKEY Tuesday Jan. 4 Salem at W.L. Central 7 p.m. W.L. Western at Canton 7 p.m. Plymouth at Livonia Churchill 7 p.m. Monroe at Belleville 7 p.m. International Academy of Flint at Plymouth Christian 7:30 p.m. Friday Jan. 7 Salem at W.L. Central 7 p.m. W.L. Western at Canton 7 p.m. Plymouth at Livonia Churchill 7 p.m. Monroe at Belleville 7 p.m. International Academy of Flint at Plymouth Christian 7:30 p.m.	VOLLEYBALL Tuesday Jan. 4 Oakland Christian at Canton Agape 7 p.m. Wednesday Jan. 5 Westland John Glenn at Salem 7 p.m. Thursday Jan. 6 Bloomfield Hills Rooper at Plymouth Christian 7 p.m. Saturday Jan. 8 Canton at W.L. Central Invitational 9 a.m. Plymouth Christian at Whitmore Lake Tournament TBA
BOYS SWIMMING Thursday Jan. 6 Woodhaven at Plymouth at Canton High School pool 7 p.m. Belleville at Ypsilanti 7 p.m. Saturday Jan. 8 Salem and Canton at Rock Kilgore Invitational noon	GYMNASTICS Monday Jan. 3 Westland John Glenn at Salem 7 p.m. Thursday Jan. 6 Canton at Northville 7 p.m. Saturday Jan. 8 Canton at Rockford Invitational 10 a.m. MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL Thursday Dec. 30 Hope College DeVette Classic 6 & 8 p.m. Wednesday Jan. 5 UM Dearborn at Madonna 7:30 p.m. Alpena at Schoolcraft 7:30 p.m. Saturday Jan. 8 Siena Heights at Madonna 3 p.m. Schoolcraft at Delta CC 3 p.m.
WRESTLING Thursday Dec. 30 Belleville at Goodrich Invitational 9:30 a.m. Thursday Jan. 6 Salem at W.L. Northern 6:30 p.m. Livonia Franklin at Canton 6:30 p.m. Plymouth at Northville 6 p.m.	WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL Thursday, Dec. 30 (Peninsula Hoops Classic Menlo, Calif.) Madonna vs Menlo College (Calif.) TBA Wednesday Jan. 5 UM Dearborn at Madonna 7:30 p.m. Alpena CC at Schoolcraft 5:30 p.m. Saturday Jan. 8 Madonna at Siena Heights 1 p.m. Schoolcraft at Delta CC 1 p.m. ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE Thursday Dec. 30 Whalers vs Sarnia Sting at Compuware Arena 7:30 p.m. Tuesday Jan. 4 Whalers at Saginaw Spirit 7 p.m. Tuesday Jan. 6 Whalers at Barrie Colts 7:30 p.m. Friday Jan. 7 Whalers at Sudbury Wolves 7:30 p.m. Sunday Jan. 9 Whalers at Sault Ste. Marie 7 p.m. TBA - time to be announced

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GOLF

FROM PAGE C1

oughly. "A lot of the video studios only shoot the golfers from one angle, usually the back. Our new studios will videotape the swing from two angles - the back and from in front of the golfer. It's a neat tool."

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CE022851

Joe & the Mechanics

Garden City's Burton revels in minor-league hockey comeback

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

Scoring a big-time furniture sale might get an employee's name on a bulletin board somewhere for an 'atta-boy'. As nice as that might be, it wasn't enough to keep long-time minor-league hockey star Joe Burton - Garden City's answer to Wayne Gretzky with 573 goals, 1,000 points and counting - on board at Art Van Furniture in Westland.



Burton

Burton, 37, a diminutive, soft-spoken forward for the expansion Motor City Mechanics United Hockey League franchise, ditched the life of pushing tables and chairs for a rare opportunity. He was wooed from Art Van to the Fraser team this summer by Mechanics head coach and former Detroit Red Wings star Garry Unger.

"I heard he was selling furniture and I know what it's like," added Unger, "the difference between playing hockey and selling furniture."

Nobody had to make a huge pitch on Burton, a 1985 graduate of Garden City High School, for him to rejoin the minors. The reason he retired after 2002-03 in the first place was to return to Detroit-area roots, where he and wife Linda (originally from Redford Township) still have their families.

"That was the main reason (for his retirement), we just wanted to settle down," said Burton, who nonetheless looks more like a salesman than a hockey player. "I started working with Art Van (But) I figured if I could come home and play it would be a good opportunity for us."

"At Art Van, I was making enough money to survive. But for me, with the hours I was putting in, and working every weekend and the holidays, it wasn't worth it for me."

That's not to say he didn't do a good job with the furniture company over the seven or eight months he was employed there.

"He was a real nice guy, cordial and polite," said store sales manager Mike Wiseman. "He did a nice job for us, we're sorry he left."

But Wiseman said he wasn't surprised Burton opted to return to hockey. "He definitely still had it in his blood."

Even though Burton only makes about \$900 a week with the Mechanics (that being the salary earned by veterans), he is finding other ways to cash in.

Joe and Linda purchased his parents' Garden City home, the very one he grew up in.

And now, they'd like it if sons Joe, 4, and Luke, 2, grew up in the small city. One day they might become Cougars, too, although the elder Joe only played freshman football at Garden City High School.

"I liked growing up in Garden City," said Burton, who played hockey and other sports for the Garden City Youth Association. "It's a good town. Hopefully when I'm done here I can coach some of the younger kids and try to help out with some of the hockey programs in the area."

COMING AROUND

On the ice, things are slowly progressing, both for Burton and the Mechanics.

Although the team is struggling this season, with a 3-17-2 mark to date, Burton's stat sheet isn't terrible.

He has seven goals and six assists in those 22 games.



PHOTO BY DAVID BIRDSONG

Motor City Mechanics forward Joe Burton (left) looks for an opening in front of the Quad City goal during a game last month. Burton of Garden City, came out of retirement to join the first-year United Hockey League team.

including a three-goal hat trick on Nov. 26 against Quad City. The goals gave him a career total of 572, mostly tallied during a stellar 11-season run with the Central Hockey League's Oklahoma City Blazers.

"I'm still working on my timing and some of my puck-handling skills are just starting to come back," said Burton, following a recent practice at Great Lakes Sports City in Fraser.

For his hat trick against Quad City, Burton showed fans at The Garage (named for the venue's nondescript exterior) that he still has the touch.

One goal came on a deflection in front of the goalie, another on an opportunistic rebound. The third? His shot from between the circles ricocheted off two defensemen and settled over the goal line.

"I scored a lot of goals in my career, but I'm not flashy, beating guys 1-on-1 or anything like that," said Burton, who makes the hour commute from Garden City. "My biggest asset is my brain. I'm smart. I know when to go in front of the net and anticipate plays."

At this level, the only way you're going to score a lot of goals is you have to pay the price in front of the net.

Unger didn't have to be reminded about how Burton knows his way around an enemy goal. When the ex-Wing coached Tulsa during the 1990s, he had to watch Burton wreak havoc with his own goaltenders.

"He's not a pretty goal scorer," Unger said. "He's got a good shot, and when he shoots the puck he shoots it at places where he has a chance to score. It's not just a shot on net."

THE RIGHT SPOT

Had the top goal-scorer in CHL history been blessed with

more physical tools, there is no telling how his career might have evolved.

"Obviously, I knew I wouldn't make it (to the National Hockey League) because I didn't have the talent or size," said Burton with a shrug.

Apparently, that Burton did not fit the brawny hockey prototype came up at Art Van during banter between Burton and co-workers.

"People used to kid him," Wiseman said. "How can a guy like you score so many goals?"

Unger pondered the question by players with natural scoring ability sometimes a proverbial brick wall between the so-called AA minors and higher levels, right on up to the NHL.

"I think maybe his (lack of) size, and even though he is a fairly good skater, as you go up in levels guys get to be great skaters," Unger said.

"So if you can't keep up skating-wise, you don't have a chance to get the puck. Now, there's a lot of guys down here, that maybe in the right circumstance, maybe could play on a (NHL) team."

"But they have to be in the right spot at the right time. And sometimes they're not. There are a lot of skilled players in this league."

"So if you are going to play in this league, why not be the best possible player you can at this level?"

For now, at least, the right spot for Burton is Fraser. It's a chance to keep playing the game he loves while scoring goals rather than sales.

"I love playing," he said. "And as long as I can pay the bills and support my family I will."

That kind of thinking is as on-target as many of Joe Burton's shots.

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Lions season finales create memories for fans

Alto Reed, the famed local saxophone player gave a rousing rendition of the National Anthem at the Lions final home game of 2004. For years Reed was a part of Bob Seger's Silver Bullet Band. There he was, however, blowing his horn by himself making the hairs on your neck stand on end.

Football is the ultimate team game yet there stood Reed, solo, bringing the Ford Field house down. It was a moment 61,000 will not soon forget. The Lions finish another season this Sunday in Tennessee. Something will happen to make that game memorable. Seems to always happen. Just look at the last decade-plus.

In 1991, the Lions went to Buffalo and won on an Eddie Murray overtime field goal. It finished off the Lions first 12-win campaign.



Mark Wilson

The difference between a home or road playoff game

In 1995, the Lions had to win at Tampa to make the playoffs again. They blew out the Bucs that day to finish with seven wins in a row. Then came Lomas Brown and his famous guarantee against Philadelphia in the post-season.

You can print it, or say it, or whatever.

We are going to beat the Eagles. We are that confident," said Brown who had never guaranteed anything before.

Before you could blink, the Eagles had a record 58-37 win in Philadelphia.

I will never forget it," Brown said.

In 1996, it was another season-ending loss at San Francisco. That was the finale for both head coaches. Fontes would be fired for 5-and-11 and show up at his own firing press conference. George Seifert would leave the Niners only to be replaced by Steve Mariucci. We call that, foreshadowing.

Bobby Ross replaced Captain Wayne-O and ended 1997 by beating Bill Parcells. New York Jets when Parcells called some silly halfback option play. Sanders went over the 2,000-yard mark in the game marred by the career-ending injury to linebacker Reggie

Brown. The Lions made the playoffs only to lose at Tampa 20-10. By the end of 1998, the Lions would lose at Baltimore in what would be Sanders' final game as a Lion.

In 1999, with no running game to speak of, the Lions made the playoffs despite a loss at Minnesota and a four game losing streak. The 8-and-8 got them in the playoffs.

The following season ended with that loss to the Bears I wrote about last week, which changed the franchise.

2001 ended with a win over the Dallas Cowboys. It was the make-up date from the postponement of 9/11. It also happened to be just the second Lions win of the season.

In 2002, they lost by two to the Vikings to finish 3-and-13 and end the

Marty Mornhinweg era before it really began. Two years, five wins, 27 losses. Yecck!

Last year, the Lions finished Mariucci's first year as head coach with a victory over the St. Louis Rams. It was supposed to be a springboard to 2004.

That brings us to Tennessee this Sunday. After a 4-and-2 start, the Lions were officially eliminated from the playoffs last week. Something memorable will happen against the Titans. It's the season finale. Bank on it.

Even Lomas Brown can guarantee that.

Mark Wilson is host of the Steve Mariucci Show Mondays on WKRR FM (97.1). He's a former Associated Press and Michigan Association of Broadcasters Michigan Sportscaster of the Year. He lives in West Bloomfield.

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Watson plays a big role in Wolverines defense

BY MIKE ROSENBAUM
STAFF WRITER

Big things were expected for Gabe Watson when he entered the University of Michigan. Unfortunately, the biggest thing about Watson early in his college football career was his weight, which was closer to 400 than 300. Nevertheless, the Southfield High graduate made steady progress his first two years, seeing limited playing time at defensive tackle as a true freshman, then joining Michigan's regular defensive line rotation last season.

This season Watson, now listed at 333 pounds, earned a starting position. Additionally, Michigan re-designed its

defense, in large part, because of Watson's ability to play nose guard. U-M switched from a 3-3 defense to a 3-4 set this season. Watson's spot in the middle of the line is vital to the Wolverines' ability to play the 3-4.

"That defense begins with a nose guard," said Wolverines coach Lloyd Carr earlier this season. "If you've got a nose guard in that defense, you've got a guy that can go quickly to the side the ball is run to. A lot of times it forces the guard and the center to what we call scoop or double team him. Gabe is so big and strong that eventually one of those guys has got to come off and block the linebacker. If they stay on

him, the linebacker's free. If they come off too soon, he's free. That's the beauty of that defense. I think Gabe has made a real difference in there."

Watson responded with a strong season, earning first team All Big 10 honors. He made 36 tackles, including 24 solo stops and seven tackles for loss. But the numbers don't tell the story of his success. His dominance on the line often forced ballcarriers to avoid Watson's territory, permitting other defenders to claim the tackle. Watson also forced most teams to double-team him, which, again, gave other Wolverines a better opportunity to make the stop.

Watson admitted that being double-teamed "gets frustrating at times. It's a tough position. You want to go against one guy, you focus on one guy in film (sessions). Sometimes you get mad about it, but I notice on film that some guys make plays because I am double-teamed. It's all a part of the job."

Which doesn't mean that Watson gives up on making plays when he's double-teamed.

It is kind of hard at times to split the double team, but you just have to keep rushing, he says.

Watson and the Wolverines wrap up their season Jan. 1 in the Rose Bowl against Texas.



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Pittsburgh	at	Buffalo
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Indianapolis	at	Denver
Kansas City	at	San Diego
Cleveland	at	Houston
Green Bay	at	Chicago
Minnesota	at	Washington
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CC varsity grapplers fare well in Ohio

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

With several athletes continuing to win virtually every bout, Redford Catholic Central's varsity wrestling team took both ends of a double dual meet near Cleveland.

The Shamrocks (5-0) knocked off St. Peter Chanel (Ohio) 39-36 before wiping out another Ohio team, Maple Heights, 42-25.

Leading the way for CC head coach Mike Rodriguez were Eric Vojtkofsky and Trevor Stewart, who are a combined 29-0 in

individual matches so far this season. "Eric and Trevor are going strong," Rodriguez said. "They have not lost."

Vojtkofsky took care of both opponents at 215 while Stewart won at 171 against St. Peter Chanel and at 160 against Maple Heights. Those two weren't the only bright spots for Catholic Central, which defeated Maple Heights for the first time since the Shamrocks began making occasional visits in 1975.

In the opener against St. Peter Chanel, the Shamrocks prevailed because heavyweight John Morasso lost by a 4-2 deci-

sion to Wade Cameron instead of being pinned.

Catholic Central also came from behind, after trailing 22-0 out of the gates.

"Sean Dong (at 135) started it off," Rodriguez said. "We were behind 22-0 and he started it off for us with a fall. Ryan Brown came in with a win at 140 and then John Cox (at 152) had a fall in 54 seconds."

Also registering a pin was Brad Bartram at 189, he was moved up from his customary 171 weight class for the meet.

Winning by void at 160 was Marty Collins.

The deep and talented Shamrocks took care of Maple Heights with a somewhat different lineup.

Andrew Nadhir won by a 9-3 decision at 125 while Rob Price won with a fall at 130. Dong pinned his opponent at 135,

Matt Kelley won at 145, Stewart (14-0) won with a fall at 160 and Matt Farmer pinned his opponent at 189. In the later matchups, Vojtkofsky improved his own mark to 15-0 with a victory at 215 and Morasso (12-3) won with a fall. Bartram lost by a single point at 171. It was his first loss in 15 bouts. "Things are going well, we're doing things this year we haven't done before," Rodriguez said. "They're starting to develop."

Rodriguez added that having Dong back after missing the 2003-04 season is making "a big difference. He's just going to make us stronger."

Catholic Central will compete at a tournament Thursday in St. Johns, Ohio and follow that up with a home tri-match 5 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 4, with Ypsilanti and Clio.

tsmith@oehomecomm.net | (734) 953-2106

SPORTS ROUNDUP

SOCCER SIGN-UP

The Canton Soccer Club is accepting registrations for spring soccer for players 5 through 19 years of age (as of March 1). Registration forms are available online at www.cantonsoccerclub.com or at the club office, which is located at High Velocity Sports, 46245 Michigan Ave., Canton. For more information, call (734) 480-7046.

ULTIMATE FISHING

The four-day Ultimate Fishing Show, which will feature hundreds of exhibits for outdoor-sports enthusiasts, will be held Jan. 13-16 at the Novi Expo Center.

The show will include several direct-factory exhibits that will be staffed with designers, technicians and other manufacturers' experts as well as specialty bait vendors from across the country.

"It's a pure fishing show," said Adam Starr, of ShowSpan Inc. "Detroit sportsmen have long yearned for such a show. For us and for them, this is an all-new event at a new venue. That's why we're calling it the Ultimate Fishing Show."

Admission will be \$8 for adults and \$4 for children 6-14 years old. Children under 5 will be admitted for no charge.

CARBO BASEBALL SCHOOL

The Bernie Carbo Pro Premier Baseball School will stage individual, small group and team skill sessions specific to conditioning, velocity improvement, power hitting and fielding.

Mark Rutherford, former Livonia Churchill High, Eastern Michigan University and former Minor League player, will be the featured instructor. FCall director Gordie Rutherford at (734) 421-4928.

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 December 30 2004 and January 9 2005

CE08284212

STORAGE USA

Notice is hereby given that on (January 17, 2005), Tate & Co Auctioneers Executive Administrator for Storage USA, will be offering for sale under the judicial lien process by public auction the following storage units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be cash only. Storage USA reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: Storage USA, 6729 CANTON CENTER RD., CANTON, MI 48187 AT 12 30 PM.

- C98 Cheryl Lawrence Computer Sewing Machine and Misc
- E197 Amy Schneider Rugs and Household
- F209 Brian Waskiewicz Banquet Table & Chairs Curio Cabinet
- J372 Claudia Volansky File Cabinets Books

Publish December 30 2004 and January 9 2005

CE08284475

SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS

"Notice is hereby given that the following units will be sold to the highest bidder by way of open auction on 01/07/05 at approximately 9:00 a.m. at the following locations:

- Shurgard of Canton
2101 Haggerty Rd
Canton MI 48187
734 981 0300
- Unit 4287 household
- Unit 4294 household
- Unit 5251 household
- Unit 6015 household
- Unit 6220 household
- Unit 6268 household
- Shurgard of Farmington Hills
28600 Grand River Ave
Farmington Hills MI 48336
248 473 9303
- Unit 2188 household
- Unit 3294 household
- Unit 3420 household
- Shurgard of Westland
36001 Warren Rd
Westland MI 48185
734-326 6000
- Unit 3098 household
- Unit 3196 household
- Unit 4020 household
- Unit 5072 household
- Unit 5126 household
- Unit 5170 household
- Shurgard of Livonia
30300 Plymouth Rd
Livonia, MI 48150
734 522 7811
- Unit 2017 household
- Unit 3091 household
- Unit 4140 household
- Shurgard of Plymouth
41889 Joy Rd
Canton, MI 48187
734 459 2200
- Unit 1009 household
- Unit 1026 household
- Unit 1034 household
- Unit 2071 household
- Unit 3032 household
- Shurgard of Dearborn
24920 Trowbridge
Dearborn, MI 48124
313 277 2000
- Unit 1078 household
- Unit 1090 household
- Unit 1252 household
- Unit 1560 household
- Unit 2026 household
- Unit 2090 household
- Unit 2240 household
- Unit 2492 household
- Unit 3004 household
- Unit 3010 household
- Shurgard of Southfield
19350 W 8 Mile Rd
Southfield, MI 48075
248 357 1137
- Unit 1002 household
- Unit 1044 household
- Unit 1061 household
- Unit 1101 household
- Unit 1169 household
- Unit 1209 household
- Unit 1302 household
- Unit 2018 household
- Unit 2056 household
- Unit 2126 household
- Unit 2149 household
- Unit 2161 household
- Unit 2243 household
- Unit 2284 household
- Unit 4010 household
- Shurgard of Canton South
45229 Michigan Ave
Canton MI 48188
734 398 5416
- Unit 4010 household
- Unit 4055 household
- Unit 4103 household
- Unit 4109 household
- Unit 4121 household
- Unit 4126 household
- Unit 4147 household
- Unit 4218 household
- Unit 4271 household
- Shurgard of St. Clair
24200 Telegraph
Southfield MI 48034
248 208 9000
- Unit 1050 household
- Unit 1020 household
- Unit 1102 household
- Unit 1123 household
- Unit 1140 household
- Unit 2019 household
- Unit 2030 household
- Unit 2100 household
- Unit 2117 household
- Unit 2152 household
- Unit 2169 household
- Unit 2175 household
- Unit 2187 household
- Unit 2196 household
- Unit 3026 household
- Unit 3052 household
- Unit 3057 household
- Unit 3074 household
- Unit 3078 household
- Unit 3081 household
- Unit 3118 household
- Unit 3133 household
- Shurgard Taylor
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- Unit 4003 household
- Unit 4027 household
- Unit 4063 household
- Unit 4071 household
- Unit 5014 household
- Unit 5020 household
- Unit 5042 household
- Unit 5045 household
- Unit 5093 household
- Unit 5097 household
- Unit 5100 household
- Unit 5104 household
- Unit 6001 household
- Unit 6005 household
- Unit 6025 household
- Unit 6129 household
- Unit 6189 household
- Unit 9046 household
- Unit 9092 household

Publish December 28 and December 30 2004

CE08282835

STOW & GO SELF STORAGE AUCTION NOTICE

Pursuant to State Law Notice is hereby given that a public auction will be held at **STOW & GO SELF STORAGE, 41999 ANN ARBOR ROAD, PLYMOUTH, MI ON JANUARY 21, 2005 at 10:00 a.m.** on past due tenants listed below. The entire contents of the following units will be auctioned and sold to the highest bidder on each individual unit. **CASH ONLY! DESCRIPTION IS BRIEF SUMMARY OF ITEMS, MAY OR MAY NOT CONTAIN MORE OR LESS ITEMS.**

- UNIT #024 - RAY GOSNELL**
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 - UNIT #130/249 - COLONIAL CARD & CAMERA**
44465 ANN ARBOR ROAD, PLYMOUTH, MI 48170
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 - UNIT #339 - JAMES ALTER (NWC INC)**
P O BOX 512, DEARBORN HEIGHTS, MI 48127
Brief case, fax machine clothes boxes, other misc items
 - UNIT #348 - KEVIN EFIMETZ**
23751 STONEHEDGE, NOVI, MI 48375
Couch, 27 TV, washer dryer vacuum, fan waterbed, toolbox, microwave grill boxes, other misc items
 - UNIT #414 - DANIEL HEDEEN**
465 PROVIDENCE TOWN LANE, PLYMOUTH, MI 48170
Engine block table, rugs rocking chair bike cooler wood engine stand gas can, car equipment other misc items
 - UNIT #560 - DEDRICK ANDERSON**
10360 WESTPOINT, DETROIT, MI 48204
Mattress/box spring electronic equipment (2) fans (2) fish tanks tools vacuum speakers console table boxes other misc items
 - UNIT #619 - CLAUD STOPCHINSKI**
42173 E ANN ARBOR ROAD, PLYMOUTH, MI 48170
Pallets of computer printers approximately 100 copier other misc items
 - UNIT #464 - RONALD DIXON**
P O BOX 87856, CANTON, MI 48187
Desk rug clothes/coats, (3) chairs boxes other misc items
- SALE DATE IS JANUARY 21, 2005, AT 10:00 A.M.**

Publish December 19 and 30 2004

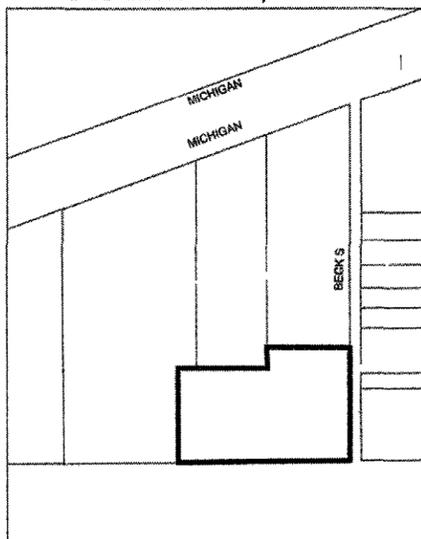
CE0829288

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby provided that the Canton Township Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, January 11 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the Chestnut Room at the Summit on the Park Community Center 46000 Summit Parkway to consider the establishment of an industrial development district proposed to be known as the MAPCO Industrial Development District.

Parcel 4 of Tax I D #125 99 0005 701 Part of the S E ¼ of Section 32 T 2 S R 8 E Canton Township, Wayne County Michigan, more particularly described as beginning at a point on the South line of said Section 32, distant South 87 degrees 32 minutes 28 seconds West 471 72 feet from the Southeast corner of said Section 32 and proceeding thence South 88 degrees 09 minutes 00 seconds West 536 06 feet along the South line of said Section 32, thence North 01 degrees 03 minutes 40 seconds East 309 99 feet thence South 88 degrees 56 minutes 20 seconds East 277 52 feet thence North 01 degrees 03 minutes 40 seconds East 65 24 feet thence South 88 degrees 56 minutes 20 seconds East 257 85 feet thence South 01 degrees 03 minutes 40 seconds West 348 00 feet along the center line of Beck Road to the point of beginning Containing 4 03 acres Subject to easements of record, and that part taken used or dedeed to Beck Road

MAPCO Industrial Development District



Interested parties may appear at the hearing to provide testimony before the Board of Trustees. Written comments will be received at 1150 S Canton Center Road up to the time of the hearing.

TERRY G BENNETT Clerk
Charter Township of Canton

Publish December 30 2004

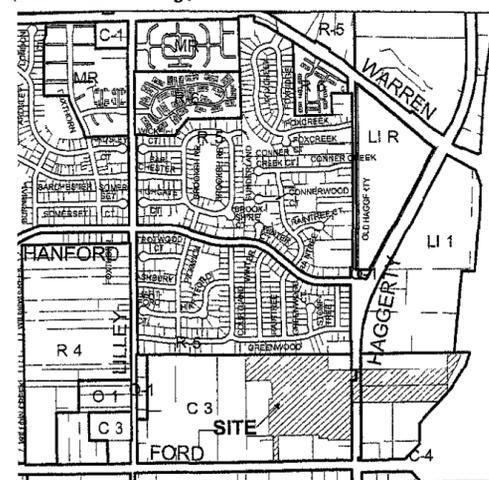
CE08284422

PLANNING COMMISSION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1945 of the State of Michigan as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday January 24 2005 in the **Chestnut Room, at Summit On The Park, 46000 Summit Parkway at 7:00 p.m.** on the following proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance:

IKEA-CANTON PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (PDD) - (PRELIMINARY PLAN) CONSIDER REQUEST TO ESTABLISH A PDD AS PERMITTED IN SECTION 27 04 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE INCLUSIVE OF PARCEL NO(S) 044 99 0010 704 044 99 0012 001 AND 044 99 0017 706 Property is located at the northwest corner of Ford and Haggerty Roads (**First Public Hearing**.)



Part of Sections 11 & 12

Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 Canton Center S prior to Thursday January 20 2005 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

VIC GUSTAFSON Chairman

Publish December 30 2004 and January 9 2005

CE08284221

Loss to Southfield no holiday for Rockets

BY PAT ALLEN
STAFF WRITER

Team speed is something that can't be taught, only inherited and now in his second year, Southfield boys basketball coach Gary Teasley must feel like he inherited a fortune.

The Blue Jay guards played Road Runner to Westland John Glenn's Wyle E. Coyote on Monday night as Southfield grounded the Rockets 71-53 in the Holiday Classic played at Rouge River High School.

Like Wyle E., the Rockets needed some rocket power to keep up with the likes of Antomo Harrison, Brandon Williams and Ubong Ubokudom, but unfortunately for Glenn, ACME wasn't sponsoring the event.

Harrison led the way for the Blue Jays with 20, Williams added 14 and Ubokudom capped off stellar guard play with nine points off the bench. "When you have team speed," Glenn coach Joel Lloyd said, "you can do a lot of things. They're difficult to defend, when you've got the team quickness that he has, it's just tough to match up."

The trio penetrated and scored all

night scoring almost all of their points in the paint and completing three traditional three-point plays.

"That's something that you can't coach," Teasley said, "we're just fortunate to have those kind of guards. If they can finish we finish, if they can't finish then that play-making ability comes into play."

Alex McMillian led the Rockets with 17 points, including five three-pointers, and scored all but three of his points in the second half.

Duncan Jones dropped in 13 for Glenn, which remains winless this season (0-4 overall).

McMillian and Jones got most of their points from outside, as the Blue Jays (1-1) made it difficult for Glenn to get the ball in the post to Barry Eberhardt, the Rockets' leading scorer. "Even if you don't score inside," Lloyd said, "you have to at least touch the ball inside. We did that a little bit in the third quarter but, for some reason, we abandoned it and boom, they were up and out."

Despite the rough goings, Eberhardt was able to contribute a dozen points and a half-dozen rebounds, but his presence was overshadowed by the Blue Jays' swarming



Westland John Glenn's Barry Eberhardt looks for a teammate to pass to during Monday night's opening-round game in the River Rouge Classic.



PHOTOS BY LAWRENCE MCKEE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Westland John Glenn's Alex McMillian defends Southfield's Brandon Williams during Monday night's opening-round game of the River Rouge Classic.

defense. Glenn was behind by only two after the opening quarter but faced deficits of 11 and 15 points after the second and third quarters, respec-

tively. Teasley commented that Monday's outing was what he expected out of his team. "I'm trying to coach them to have

some kind of savvy," Teasley said. "And that attitude is what I'm looking for every time we step on the floor and we've got to have it."

Biscuits shine

The IHC Black Biscuit 88's recently finished first in the Bronze Adult League at the In-Line Hockey Center in West Bloomfield. The 88's were the only team of 16-year-olds playing in the league. The team consists of Dan Bara and Kevin Etzel (Northville), Scott Ozog (Novi), Ryan Lammers (Rockwood), Mike Hargreaves (Hartland), Tom Pashkot (Livonia), Nick Harris (Westland) and Nick Siekirk. Brett Giacomo, Nick Pesant and Kevin Tollison (Canton). The team is coached by Jay Pesant and Scott Etzel.



LEARN TO SKATE

The winter session of the Novi Ice Arenas Learn to Skate program will run from Jan. 4 through Feb. 19, 2005. Classes are offered in a variety of times on Tuesdays through Saturdays. Skate rental is available.

In addition, Learn to Skate students who are registered will receive free admission to open skating at the Novi Ice Arena.

throughout the seven-week session. The following classes will be offered: beginning tots, Snowplow Sam 1-3, basic 1-8, freestyle 1-2, adult 1-4, and home school. Open registration for Learn to Skate begins Dec. 5. For more information, call the Novi Ice Arena at (248) 347-1010 or visit its Web site at www.novoicearena.com.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN LEGAL NOTICE 1954 PA 188 PROCEEDINGS NOTICE OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT HEARING

TO THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH WAYNE COUNTY MICHIGAN AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that as a result of Petitions of property owners within the Township signed by the record owners of land whose front footage constitutes more than 50% of the total front footage of the hereinafter described Special Assessment District and the Township Board of the Charter Township of Plymouth proposes a road paving project in the Beacon Estates Subdivision and to create a Special Assessment for the recovery of the cost thereof by Special Assessment against the properties benefited thereon.

Notice is hereby given to all persons interested that the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth has tentatively declared its intention to make the hereinafter described improvement.

The proposed improvements shall consist of milling and/or pulverization and/or removal of the existing bituminous road and placement of a new bituminous pavement course. In addition, select areas of concrete curb and gutter will be removed and replaced as necessary to promote positive drainage. The proposed improvements shall consist of two lane asphalt pavement constructed over the existing road as well as miscellaneous driveway and drainage work which may be needed to facilitate the placement of the asphalt road pavement. The project commences at the south right-of-way line of North Territorial Road and proceeds southward along Beacon Hill Drive approximately 1100 feet where the road turns into Concord Drive and continues in a westward direction for approximately 550 feet. The project continues southward along Beacon Hill Drive for 580 feet to the north right of way line of Ann Arbor Trail. The project also includes Beacon Hill Court commencing at the intersection with Beacon Hill Drive extending to the east to its point of terminus. In addition, Lighthouse Court commencing at the intersection with Beacon Hill Drive and proceeding eastward and northward approximately 860 feet to its point of terminus is included in the project. Concord Court from the intersection with Concord Drive to its terminus is also included.

That it has further been tentatively determined that the following described lots and parcels of land will specially benefit from said improvements and will constitute a Special Assessment District against which the cost of said improvement shall be assessed:

The district limit for frontage along Beacon Hill Drive, Beacon Hill Court, Concord Drive, Concord Court and Lighthouse Court consists of the following parcel numbers: R 78 033 01 0001 000 through R 78 033 01 0024 000, R 78 036 01 0025 000 through R 78 036 01 0042 000, R 78 036 02 0043 000 through R 78 036 02 0056 000, R 78 036 05 0163 000, R 78 036 05 0173 000, R 78 036 05 0172 000, R 78 035 0858 0173 000, R 78 033 02 0079 000, R 78 033 02 0080 000, R 78 033 01 0002 302 and R 78 033 01 0007 002.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth shall meet on Tuesday, January 11, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at the Plymouth Township Hall, 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170 for the purpose of reviewing said proposed Special Assessment District and hearing objections to the improvement, creation of the Special Assessment District and the assessment thereon. All persons may then and there appear and make any objections they may have to such improvement and assessment. Appearance and protest at the hearing is required in order to appeal the amount if any of the special assessment to the state tax tribunal. An owner or party in interest or agent thereof may appear in person at the hearing or may file an appearance or protest by letter. All parties or agents appearing in person at the hearing for purposes of protest should request the appearance be entered into the record of the meeting.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the plans, specifications, estimates of cost and recommendations of the engineer for said proposed Special Assessment District have been filed with the Township and are available for public examination at the office of the Township Clerk. The estimate of costs of such construction is in the approximate amount of \$493,000.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that periodic redetermination of costs for the proposed Special Assessment District may be necessary and may be made without further notice to the record owners or parties in interest in the property.

MARILYN MASSENGILL, Clerk
Charter Township of Plymouth
42350 Ann Arbor Road Bldg #3
Plymouth, Michigan 48170
(734) 354-3224

Pub. at: December 30, 2004 and January 2, 2005

CEC0284397

WAYNE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES PARKS DIVISION
PROPOSED WAYNE COUNTY PARKS 5-YEAR RECREATION MASTER PLAN PRESENTATION OF PRELIMINARY FINDINGS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Thursday January 6, 2005 • 6:00 PM TO 8:00 PM
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN - DEARBORN SOCIAL SCIENCE BUILDING AUDITORIUM (Main Entrance off Evergreen & directly across from Parking Structure)
4901 EVERGREEN • DEARBORN MICHIGAN
For info 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (313) 593-5140 After hours (313) 593-5333
Or call Wayne County Parks (734) 261-1990
For Maps and Directions Please visit UM - Dearborn Web Site www.umd.umich.edu
Publish December 30, 2004

ENTER THE WORLD OF ERHARD
LAND ROVER
FARMINGTON HILLS
LR3 NOW AVAILABLE!
Starting at \$399 mo.*
Land Rover Farmington Hills
38200 Grand River Ave. Farmington Hills, MI 48335
(888) 834-8632
Visit us online at www.worldoferhard.com

OAKLAND BASKETBALL
MBB vs. Bowling Green
Thurs., December 30th (7pm)
3 Good Things Come in Threes!
3
WBB vs. Centenary
Mon., January 3rd (7pm)
WBB vs. Valparaiso
Wed., January 5th (7pm)
And Carson Goes Up... Shoots... For THREE!
Gameday Sponsors:
FOR TICKETS Call 248-370-4000 or Visit ougrizzlies.com
MARC DUTTON
MARILYN MASSENGILL
T-Mobile

Rock financial PRESENTS GOIN' TO WORK EVERY NIGHT
PISTONS
RING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH THE PISTONS SEATS STILL AVAILABLE
vs. BOSTON CELTICS
THIS SUNDAY, JANUARY 2 AT 6 PM
SUBWAY FAMILY NIGHTS
SUNDAY-SUBWAY® FAMILY NIGHTS feature 4 \$32 tickets, 4 SUBWAY® 6" sub vouchers and 4 Pistons collectibles for just \$119. Add on additional tickets for only \$30 each!
Fifth Third Bank PHOTO SUNDAYS
SUNDAY-Fifth Third Bank Photo Sundays feature players on the court available to have their photos taken with Pistons fans.
vs. MEMPHIS GRIZZLIES
THURSDAY, JANUARY 6 AT 7:30 PM
vs. NEW ORLEANS HORNETS
WED, JANUARY 12 AT 7:30 PM
Don't forget to
Upcoming TV & Radio Schedule
Tonight 12/30 vs. Heat on TNT @ 8 pm
Sat. 1/1 Prime Time Pistons on WB20 @ 7 pm
Sun 1/2 vs. Celtics on FSN Detroit @ 6 pm
Pistons Weekly show Sundays at midnight on WDIV4 and Tuesdays at 6:30 pm on FSN Detroit
All Pistons games can be heard on WDFN 1130 AM
GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!
GO TO PISTONS BGM, THE PALACE BOX OFFICE AND ALL TICKETMASTER LOCATIONS, OR CALL (248) 977-0100

SPORTS Gridiron, Court, Pool, Arena, Greens, Diamond
We're there!

Your Invitation To Worship

Mail Copy To: Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia MI 48150, Or Fax: (734) 953-2121

For Church Page Changes And Information Regarding Advertising In This Directory, Please Call: Donna Hart (734) 953-2153
THE FRIDAY BEFORE PUBLICATION

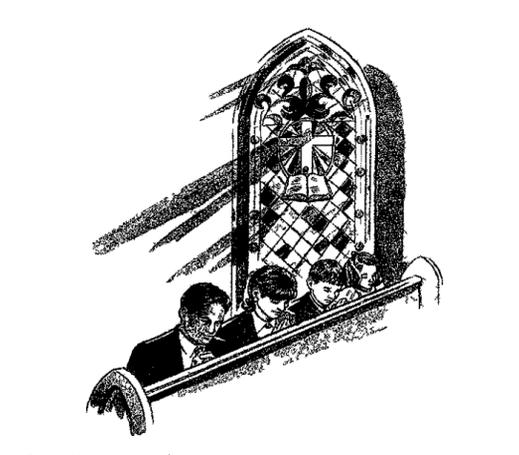
AME CHURCH

Rain Drop Church
Send Mail to P.O. Box 52006, Livonia Michigan 48152, 248-752-0500, www.raindropamc.com

Bring Your Children!
One church in two locations

Meeting at **Madonna University Chapel** Sundays @ 11:00 AM, 14221 Levan Road, Livonia Michigan 48150
Multi Racial Church!

Meeting at **Chinese Gospel Church** Sundays @ 3:00 PM, 5301 Five Mile Road, Livonia Michigan 48154
The Chesborough Family



LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
14175 Farmington road Livonia Just north of I 96
734-522-6830

Sunday Worship 8:15 & 11:00 am Traditional, 9:45 Modern
Staffed Nursery Available

Sunday School 9:45 & 11 am
Early Childhood Center Phone 734 513 8413

Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ
Rev. Luther A. Werth Senior Pastor & Rev. Robert Bayer Assistant Pastor

MAKE TIME FOR God

UNITED METHODIST

BAPTIST

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH
33640 Michigan Ave • Wayne MI (Between Wayne Rd & Merriman Rd)
(734) 728-2180
Virgil Humes, Pastor

Saturday Evening 7:45 p.m. • Sunday 9:30 a.m. • Sunday School 9:30 a.m. • Wednesday P.M. Service 6:00 p.m. • Wednesday Childen Youth and Adult Bible Study 7:00 & 8:00 p.m.

Clarenceville United Methodist
20300 Middlebelt Rd • Livonia 474-3444
Pastor James E. Britt
Worship Services 8:45 & 11:15 AM
Sunday Eve Bible Study 6:00 PM
Nursery Provided
Sunday School 10 AM

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST
30900 S. M. Le Rd (Bet. Merriman & Middlebelt)
Rev. Mary Margaret Eckhardt, Pastor
10:00 A.M. Worship & Church School
www.gbgm.umd.org/stmatthews | on a Nursery Provided • 734-422-6038

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD
25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY 313-532-2268 REDFORD TWP
Worship Service 9-15 & 11:00 AM
Sunday School 9-15 & 11:00 AM
Nursery Provided
The Rev. Timothy P. Halboth, Senior Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pastor

HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
9600 Laverne • So. Redford • 313 937 2424
Rev. Steve Eggers
Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Adult Bible Class 9:00 a.m.
Chr. at an School
Pre Kindergarten 8th Grade
For more information call 313 937 2233

Canton Christian Fellowship
"Where the Word is Relevant, People are Loved and Christ is the Key"
Join us for Worship Service at 10:30am
Sunday School and/or New Members Orientation 9:00am
Located at 6500 N Wayne Rd • Westland, MI
Between Ford Road and Warren Road
Inside Good Shepherd Church
734-721-9322
It's not about Religion. It's about Relationships.
Come on a place where lives are changed that lives are made whole and ministry is real.

"More than Sunday Services"
9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Worship Service
• Dynamic Youth and Children's Programs
• Excellent Music Ministries
• Small Groups For Every Age
• Outreach Opportunities
Pastor: Dr. Dean Klump
First United Methodist Church of Plymouth
45201 North Territorial Road (West of Sheldon Road)
(734) 453-5280
www.ptumc.org

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Open Hearts, Minds & Doors
36500 Ann Arbor Trail between Wayne & Newburgh Flds
734-422-0149
Worship Service and Sunday School 9:15 & 11:00 a.m.
Rev. Terry W. Allen
Rev. Barbara E. Welbaum
visit our website www.newburgumc.org

Risen Christ Lutheran
46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth (1 Mile West of Sheldon)
(734) 453 8252
Sunday Worship 8:15 & 10:45 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
All are Welcome Come as you are!

ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN Church & School
5885 Venoy 1 Elk N of Ford Rd Westland 425 0260
Divine Worship 8 & 11:00 A.M.
Bible Class & SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M.
Monday Evening Service 7:00 P.M.
Kurt E. Lambart Pastor
Richard Schumacher Prncipal/Youth Director

CATHOLIC

Tridentine Latin Mass
Approved by the Archdiocese of Detroit
Every Sunday at 9:30 AM
Sunday October 31 Music Program.
Byrd Mass for Four Voices
Benediction Following Mass
Discover the solemnity and majesty of the Traditional Rite of the Roman Catholic Church in one of Detroit's architectural masterpieces
St. Josaphat Church
691 E Canfield Ave
On the West I 75 Service Drive
Between Warren and Mack
(313) 831 6659
www.stjosaphatchurch.org

CHURCH OF CHRIST

CHURCH OF CHRIST WEST
291 East Spring Street • Plymouth 48170
Sunday Worship • 11am & 6pm
Bible Class
Sunday 10am & Wednesday 7pm
734-451 1877 Michigan Bible School
Minister Tuesday & Thursday 7pm
John Natw www.churchofchristwest.org

First Church of Christ Scientist Plymouth
1100 W Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI
734-453-0970
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Evening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Reading Room 550 South Main
Monday-Saturday 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
734 453-1676

EPISCOPAL

Trinity Episcopal Church
11575 Belleville Rd., Belleville
4 miles south of Michigan Ave on Belleville Rd
Belleville Rd & I 94
734-699-3361
Sundays Worship at 8 & 10 am
Youth programs 8:50 am ages 11-17
Sunday School 10 am ages 3-11
Nursery 8:45-12:15 pm

ST ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Immemorial Latin Mass
Approved by Pope St. Pius V in 1870
St Anne's Academy - Grades K-8
23310 Joy Road • Redford Michigan
Blocks E of Telegraph • (313) 534 2121
Mass Schedule
First Fri 7:00 p.m.
First Sat 9:30 a.m.
Sun Masses 7:30 & 9:30 a.m.
Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
45601 W Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453 1525
Sunday School 9:45 A.M.
Sunday Worship 11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening 6:00 P.M.
Family Night Wed 7:00 P.M.
NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN 455-3196

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

NATIVITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
9435 Henry Ruff at West Chicago
Livonia 48150 • 421 5406
Rev. Laury Hoxey Pastor
10:30 a.m. Worship Service and Youth Classes
Nursery Care Available
WELCOME

RESURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH
48755 Warren Rd Canton Michigan 48187
451-0444
REV. RICHARD A. PERFETTO
Weekday Masses
Tuesday & Friday 8:30 a.m.
Saturday 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

CHURCH OF GOD

Riverside Park Church of God
11771 Newburgh Road Livonia
Come out to us in Newburgh
734 464 0990
Service Schedule:
Sunday School 9:30am
Sunday Worship 10:45am
Wednesday Evening 6:00pm

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

BELL CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH
Casual, Contemporary, Excellent Children's Program
Meets at Franklin H.S. in Livonia on Joy Road (Between Merriman and Middlebelt Roads) at 10:00 a.m.
734 425 1174
Join us for coffee, bagels and donuts after the service!

ST. GENEVIEVE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL
29015 Jamison Ave • Livonia
East of Middlebelt between 5 M & Schoolcraft Rds
MASS Mon Wed Thurs Fri 9:00 a.m.
Tues 7:00 p.m. • Sat 5:00 p.m.
Sun 8:30 & 10:00 a.m. & 12:00 noon
Confessions Sat 3:00-4:00 p.m.
734-427-5220

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH
32430 Ann Arbor Trail • Westland MI
734 422-5550
Sunday Bible Study 9am
Sunday Worship Service 10am
Wednesday Evening Service 7pm
Rev. David W. Zeuschner Pastor

Grace Lutheran Church
Rev. Kirk D. Miller
46001 Warren Road just west of Canton Center
Sunday Worship at 9:30 am
Sunday School at 10:45 am
734-414-7422
Our mission at Grace Lutheran is to make, teach and send out disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ.

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Timothy Lutheran Church
8820 Wayne Rd (Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road)
Livonia • 427-2290
Jill Hegdal Pastor
9:00 a.m. Sunday School (all ages)
10:00 a.m. Family Worship (Nursery Avail.)
http://www.timothyilivonia.com

EVANGELICAL COVENANT

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH
14 Mile Road Drive Farmington Hills
(248) 661-9191
Sunday Worship and Children's Church
9:15 a.m. Contemporary
11:00 a.m. Traditional
Child Care provided for all services
Youth Groups • Adult Small Groups

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Immemorial Latin Mass
Approved by Pope St. Pius V in 1870
St Anne's Academy - Grades K-8
23310 Joy Road • Redford Michigan
Blocks E of Telegraph • (313) 534 2121
Mass Schedule
First Fri 7:00 p.m.
First Sat 9:30 a.m.
Sun Masses 7:30 & 9:30 a.m.
Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.

HOLY CROSS Evangelical Lutheran Church
Nursery of Both Services Handicapped Accessible
Sunday Worship 9:30 & 11 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 am.
(734) 427-1414 • 38630 E. Mile Rd., Livonia (1/2 Mile West of Middlebelt)
VISITORS WELCOME

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church
40000 Six Mile Road
"just west of I-275"
Northville, MI
248-374-7400
Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor
Traditional Worship and Sunday School
8:00, 10:15, 11:30 A.M.
Contemporary Worship
9:05 A.M.
Nursery Provided During All Morning Worship Services
Evening Service • 7:00 P.M.
Services Broadcast 11:00 A.M. Sunday
WMUZ 560 AM

LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

ST. PAUL'S EV LUTHERAN Church & School
17810 Farmington Road Livonia • (734) 261 1360
Sunday Worship Services 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Pastor James Hoff
Pastor Eric Steinbrenner

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Immemorial Latin Mass
Approved by Pope St. Pius V in 1870
St Anne's Academy - Grades K-8
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Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.

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 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 Observer & Eccentric NEWSPAPERS
WHERE HOMETOWN STORIES UNFOLD

In addition to our weekly Worship Directory, the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers publishes a traditional holiday directory before Christmas. If you are interested, please call 734-953-2153 for more information.

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

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

JANUARY

Festival Services

Holy Eucharist and 10 a.m. Chalking the Door Service, Epiphany Feast, Saturday, Jan. 1 at Trinity Episcopal Church, 11575 Belleville Rd., Belleville, Call (734) 699-3361.

Blood Drives

17 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 4 at Cherry Hill United Methodist Church, 341 South Ridge Road, Canton. For more information, call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE. 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 9 at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 West 11 Mile Farmington Hills. No appointment necessary. For more information, call (248) 476-8860.

Catholic Church update

Were you once Catholic? Beginning Monday evening, Jan. 11 for six weeks, St. Mary's of the Hills Parish will host sessions entitled "While You Were Away." Join the discussion of what's happened in the Catholic Church as it relates to Mass, Sacraments and beliefs/practices. For more information or to register, call Jan. Hall at (248) 853-5390 ext. 123.

Divorce Recovery Workshop

Bethany Rochester conducts a workshop beginning 7:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13 for 11 weeks at St. Irenaeus Catholic Church, 7710 Old Perch Road, Rochester Hills. The workshop is open to the divorced and separated of all faiths. No charge. For more information, call Mike at (248) 652-3860.

Birmingham First Concert Series

Presents "Everyone Dance," a varied program of music based on dance with concert organist Tom Trenney and Friends, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 14 in the sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church, 1669 West Maple between Cranbrook and Southfield roads. A meet-the-artists reception follows the program. No charge, but a freewill offering will be collected to benefit future events in the concert series. For more information, call Trenney at (248) 644-2040 ext. 136.

ONGOING

Aerobic class

Trinity Church of the Brethren, 27350 W. Chicago at Inkster, is offering a Women's Low Impact Aerobic Class to the community every Monday and Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. in the church basement. To participate in this cost-free 30-minute class, wear comfortable exercise attire (floor mats optional). Join us as we exercise for JOY. For more information, call the church office (313) 937-1199.

Worship services

All are welcome to attend worship services at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Five Mile and Inkster roads, Livonia, 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. every Sunday. For more information, call (734) 422-1470.

Community Bible study

Studying the Book of Proverbs, break fast 7 a.m. or Bible study 8-9 a.m. at the American Table, Eight Mile Farmington. Come when you can leave when you must. For more information, call (248) 924-2779.

Contemporary service

New informal service in a casual environment, 6 p.m. Sunday at Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt south of Ford. Fellowship hour after services including 10 a.m. traditional. Call (734) 421-7620.

Bible Study for Parents

For Parents with Young Children, 6 p.m. Sundays at Trinity Episcopal Church, 11575 Belleville Road, four miles south of Michigan Avenue, Belleville. Child care available. Call (734) 699-3361.

Trinity Episcopal Church

Sunday worship, 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Bible studies, Sundays at 8:50 a.m. and Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. at the church, 11575 Belleville Road, 4 miles south of Michigan Ave., Belleville. Call (734) 699-3361.

Orthodoxy 101

Explore issues of faith and morals in a course entitled "Orthodoxy 101." It meets weekly, 7 p.m. Wednesdays at Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church, 36075 W. Seven Mile Road between Farmington and Newburgh roads.

Livonia. The course is open to the public and there is no cost involved. The Rev. Michael Matsko will be the instructor and will lead the discussion. Please invite your friends and as Philip told Nathaniel, "Come and see." If you have any additional questions, call Beth at (248) 348-8631.

Support group

Provides spiritual, social and educational support for divorced and separated Catholic men and women, 7:30-9:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month at St. Andrew's Parish Center, 1400 Englewood, Rochester. For information, call (248) 652-9173 or (248) 652-3860.

Grief support programs

At Hope Lutheran Church, 3640 Madison at Carlisle, Dearborn. Families are encouraged to attend together as age-specific groups are offered within one convenient location. All are welcome. Six-week series for ages 13-17 began 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 21. Adult six-week series began 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 21. To register, call Howe Peterson Funeral Home, (313) 561-6163.

Bible studies

Birmingham Bible Institute began its fall semester, Sept. 21, with classes on 12 Tuesday evenings through Dec. 7. 22 courses will be taught at Grace Baptist Church, 280 East Lincoln, Birmingham. Students receive certificates for courses successfully completed. For information, call (248) 646-2000.

New contemporary service

Began 9 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 26. New contemporary service will be held the last Sunday of the month at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard, Livonia. A group of church members present a short drama on a theme relevant to the season, a church event or current newsworthy situation. Sept. 26 drama is a look into the problem of being overloaded with requests for our time and abilities. For more information, call (734) 422-0494.

Prayer group

Join us 7 p.m. Thursdays for music, singing, prayer and friendship at St. Edith Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Come to the back of the church, enter entrance No. 2. For more information, call Grace at (734) 464-1896, Shirley (734) 464-3656 or Geri (734) 464-8906.

Stronger Women

Walking group, jogging, aerobic exercise, crafts, speakers, coffee, social fun and fellowship continues, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Thursdays through Nov. 18 at Faith Covenant Church, 35415 W. 14 Mile Farmington Hills. Registration fee \$25, walk-ins \$5. Baby-sitting \$2 per child, \$4 per family per session. For more information, call (248) 661-9191.

Women of the Word

Tuesday Ladies Bible Study, Women of the Word, studies the Book of Luke, entitled "Grace Under Pressure," 9:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesdays at Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty north of Eight Mile. \$15 registration fee includes interdenominational study materials, childcare available for children through age 5. For more information, call (248) 348-7600.

Worship schedule

Resumed regular Sunday worship schedule beginning Sept. 12 at Antioch Evangelical Lutheran Church, 33360 W. 13 Mile at Farmington Road, Farmington Hills. Services will be held at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. with Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 a.m. A contemporary service called "Praise Forth" is held on the fourth Sunday of each month. For information, call (248) 626-7906.

New modern-style worship

Come be part of something big! Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, (14175 Farmington Rd., Livonia). Just north of I-96, began a new MODERN style worship service on Sunday, Sept. 12. This multi-media service will be informal, using modern and praise music, led by vocalists and various instruments. Dramas led by the members will often be part of this service. This service will be held at 9:45 a.m. each Sunday between the traditional services at 8:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday School, youth and adult Bible classes will also be offered at 9:45 a.m. and 11

a.m. each Sunday. For information, call Linda Hollman, Outreach Director at (734) 522-6830.

New service times

9:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. began Sept. 12 for the fall and winter months at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile Farmington Hills. Call (248) 476-8860.

New Sunday School

Beginning at Heart of the Hills Church, 5085 Orion Road, Rochester, for members of the community who want to increase their biblical knowledge using materials from Scripture Press. The non-denominational program is open to all ages. No charge for the classes, taking place 9:30-10:15 a.m. every Sunday. Service follows at 10:30 a.m. For more information, call (248) 652-7774.

Adat Shalom

Synagogue Services are 6 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Saturday, 7:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. weekdays, and 8:30 a.m. Sunday at Adat Shalom Synagogue, 29901 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills. For more information, call (248) 851-5100.

Welcome to the church

Would you like to know more about the Catholic Church? Are you already baptized Catholic and have been away from the church? Now is the time to inquire about coming into the church or returning to the community of believers. Call Our Lady of Sorrows at (248) 615-5574 for more information.

Self help groups

Local church provides space for self-help groups. Overeaters Anonymous, a 12-step program for eating disorders, meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Alcoholics Anonymous, a 12-step program for alcohol-related problems, meets 8 p.m. Wednesdays and 7 p.m. Saturdays. Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, a 12-step program for co-dependency and destructive relationship problems, meets 7:30 p.m. Mondays at First Baptist Church, 300 Wilhite, one block north of Maple, one block west of Old Woodward. Parking adjacent to church's north entrance.

Addiction No More

Do you have any addictive behavior problems: drugs, alcohol, overeating, gambling, etc.? Come to the meeting, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in Room 202 at Detroit World Outreach, 23800 West Chicago, Redford. For more information, call (313) 255-2222, Ext. 244.

Detroit World Outreach

Non-denominational church with cutting-edge drama productions, contemporary energized music, hi-tech video and lighting, relevant life-changing messages, ministries for all ages. Services times are 8 a.m., 10:45 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday (Sunday school for all ages at 9:30 a.m., junior high serves for grades 6 to 8 at 10:45 a.m.). Wednesday services 8:45 a.m. and 7 p.m. (Family Night) and service for ages 18 to 28 Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at 23800 West Chicago, Redford. Call (313) 255-2222 or visit www.wayofvicinity.com.

Wednesday Evening Prayer

7 p.m. Wednesday. This is not a structured service but an open time of praying silently and aloud together as well as responding to personal requests at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 West 11 Mile Farmington Hills. Call (248) 476-8860.

Single Point Lighthouse Cafe

Single and feeling alone? Come join us. Single Point Ministries invites you to join more than 550 single adults, 11:30 a.m. Sundays in Knox Hall for fellowship and encouragement. The Rev. Paul Clough delivers messages to help equip you to maximize your singleness and relationship with God. Coffee, doughnuts, conversation and prayer are always present. Single Point Ministries has a program and activity for every age group and life situation. For more information or to receive a newsletter, call (248) 374-5920.

Single Point Walking Club

Meets 6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday in the Single Point office at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile Northville. All fitness levels welcome. Single Point Ministries (ages 30 and up) offers 45 ministries for singles, including Men's Fellowship, Women's Fellowship and PACS People Active in Christian Study. Bible study group. Call (248) 374-5920.

AWANA

Every Wednesday night, Faith Bible Church offers an 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

8:30 p.m. For more information, call (248) 426-0096.

Scrapbook and cropping

If you're interested in learning about scrapbook and cropping, Faith Bible Church is offering a place to put it all together, 3:10 p.m. the second Friday of the month at 23414 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. A Creative Moment consultant will be available to everyone from diehard scrapbookers to novices wanting to learn more about it. For more information, call (248) 426-0096.

Sunday Worship service

Abiding Presence Lutheran Church Congregational Praise Team leads the 11 a.m. Sunday Worship Service featuring contemporary style liturgy and music, 1150 Walcott, Rochester Hills. No charge. For more information, call (248) 651-6550.

Worship service

Plymouth Baptist Church has added a second Sunday worship celebration. The new service times are 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Both services feature contemporary and traditional worship music and in-depth Bible teaching. Full nursery and preschool programs are also provided for both services. The church is at 42021 Ann Arbor Trail, west of Haggerty. For more information, call (734) 453-5534.

Contemporary worship service

A contemporary worship service is scheduled at 11:30 a.m. the fourth Sunday of the month at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 422-6038.

Worship services

8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Five Mile and Inkster roads, Livonia. For information, call (734) 422-1470.

Abilize Young Adult Ministries

Presented by Detroit World Outreach, 7:30 p.m. every Tuesday. Using cutting-edge music, high-tech video and lighting drama, multi-media and relevant message that can change lives. Abilize is giving young adults ages 18 to 28 the opportunity to meet friends and hang out with people their age. Evening includes a live band, pool tables, ping pong, basketball and the Motown Cafe in the Freedom Center on the Detroit World Outreach campus, 23800 W. Chicago near Telegraph, Redford. For more information, call (313) 794-0684 or visit the Web site at www.motownministries.org.

COMMUNITY MESSENGER

Community Messenger features faith-based announcements from Oakland County on a space available basis. To submit an announcement, write Beliefs & Values, Observer & Eccentric, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, 48009. Or fax (248) 644-1314.

Kolei Moshe

Kolei Moshe Institute for Lifelong Jewish Learning, located at Cong. B'nai Moshe, 6800 Drake Road, West Bloomfield, co-sponsors three new Adult Hebrew Reading classes with the New York-based National Jewish Outreach Program. Level One (Total Beginner) is 11 a.m. to noon, Sundays starting Jan. 9, taught by Judy Margolin. Level Two (Beginner Plus) is 9:30-10:30 a.m. Mondays starting Jan. 10, taught by Mark Roth. A second Level Two class is 10-11 a.m. Sundays starting Jan. 9, also taught by Roth. Classes are contingent on minimum student enrollment. All may enroll regardless of religious affiliation. There is no charge, but a weekly attendance commitment is expected. Advance registration is encouraged.

On Shabbat, Jan. 8, Kolei Moshe invites adult learners to Stay and Learn after services and Kiddush with community educator Barry Levine. The topic will be a Parasha Preview of the weekly Torah portions that will be read in synagogues around the world during the upcoming new month of Shevat on the Jewish calendar. Stay and Learn on Shabbat is a free drop-in series. Each session begins at about 12:30 p.m. and runs for one hour. Shabbat appropriate attire is requested. All are welcome. For information about NJOP, visit www.njop.org. Cong. B'nai Moshe is a Conservative synagogue. For more information or to register, call Nancy Kaplan at (248) 737-1931 or e-mail koleimoshe@comcast.net.

St. John's Rochester

At 8 a.m. Jan. 8, St. John's Rochester, a member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, will host a free seminar on "Healthy Sexuality: Free Childcare for those who register by Jan. 3." This seminar describes the basic needs that both men and women have. The desire to be heard and known, affirmed, praised, safe, touched, passionately desired. Seminar speakers are Dr. James Jones, psychologist; the Rev. Karl

Galik, senior pastor of St. John and Dr. Mark Laaser, video presenter. St. John Lutheran Church is at 1011 West University Drive, Rochester, (248) 402-8000.

ONGOING

Bethany-South Oakland

Bethany South Oakland offers peer ministry. Newly hurting sessions for the divorced and separated. The drop-in sessions focus on topics relevant to those going through divorce or separation. Sessions are at St. Columban's Catholic Church, 1775 Melton, Birmingham. Call Carol, (248) 541-0007 or Christine at (248) 542-6117.

Cong. B'nai Moshe

Cong. B'nai Moshe, 6800 Drake Road, West Bloomfield, (248) 788-0600, hosts:

- Shabbat Morning Study Groups: Explore the Jewish prayer book (sidur) and the structure and meaning of the Shabbat morning service with Len Wanetik (9:30 a.m.) and/or discuss the weekly Torah portion with Barry Levine (10 a.m.). No knowledge of Hebrew required. Free drop-in.
- Tot Shabbat: From 9:30 a.m. to noon on Shabbat, professionally supervised age-appropriate activities for children age 3 to 5. No charge, no reservations needed. Open to all interested families in the community regardless of synagogue affiliation.

Bethany South Oakland

Bethany South Oakland, a support group for the divorced and separated, holds regular monthly meetings at 7:30 p.m. at St. Columban's Catholic Church, 1775 Melton in Birmingham. For more information, call Carol at (248) 541-0007 or Christine at (248) 542-6117.

Seventh-day Adventist

Each Saturday, Seventh-day Adventist Church, 2775 Crooks Road, Troy, hosts a 9:30 a.m. Sabbath school. 11 a.m. worship service with visitors' luncheon, 5 p.m. Spirit of Prophecy study and 6:15 p.m. songs, prayer and praise for all ages. A Daniel and Revelations Bible study is 7 p.m. Tuesdays, (248) 643-6766.

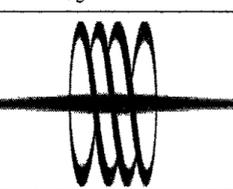
St. Anastasia

St. Anastasia Church, 4571 John R, Troy, offers a separated and divorce support group at 7 p.m. Thursdays, facilitated by therapist Angela Mazura. The session includes a video and time for discussion. (248) 689-8380.



WINIFRED (Winkle) BASSETT

Age 84, passed away Wednesday, December 22, in her home in Birmingham while reading the latest New Yorker. Born Winifred Hutchinson Jones, she married Harry Lewis Bassett and they had two daughters: Connie Lee of Santa Cruz, CA, and Susan Silver of Irvine, CA. Winkle was an avid bridge player in several clubs. She always had a stack of books from the library and read them all. The Memorial Service will be Friday, December 31st at 11:00 a.m. at the Birmingham Unitarian Church.



CHARLES E. "Chuck" COMEAU

Suddenly, December 23, 2004. Age 65 of Bloomfield Hills. Beloved husband of Michaelene Mickie for 44 years. Dear father of Charles Bradley Comeau (Judith) and Lori Pfau (Andrew). Proud grandfather of Michael Katherine Sarah Katelyn and Bridget. Brother of David E. (Yvonne). Uncle of Jacqueline Jeffrey, Mary Ellen and John. Family will receive friends at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu Rodgers & Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward Ave. (btwn 13 & 14 Mile) Wednesday, (Dec. 29) 4:00-8:00 p.m. Prayer service, Wednesday evening, Funeral Mass, Thursday, 11 a.m. at St. Hugo of the Hills Church, 2215 Opdyke Rd., Bloomfield Hills. Visitation begins at church at 10:30 a.m. Memorials to Lourdes Nursing Home, 2300 Watkins Lake Rd., Waterford, MI 48238.

CHARLES EDWARD DWYER

Charlie went home to be with the Lord on December 17, 2004, at age 78. Survived by Mildred Grace Millie (nee Hermsmeier), his beloved bride of 55 years, brother Paul (Barbara) Dwyer, children Diane De La Santos Debra (Dan) Nordquist, Mark (Kim) Dwyer, Daniel (Kim) Dwyer, Karen Dwyer and David (Miranda) Dwyer, along with 14 grandchildren & three great-granddaughters. Born May 11, 1926 in Quincy, Illinois. Charlie served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He graduated from Notre Dame University in 1950, earned his CPA, then worked for Ford Motor Company in Michigan, returning after 33 years. The funeral service was held on Wednesday, December 22nd in Tempe, AZ, followed by burial at Paradise Memorial Garden in Scottsdale. Honorary donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Assoc., 1028 E. McDowell Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85006.

Passages

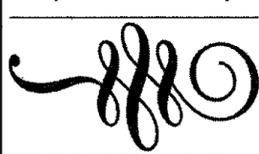
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J RICHARD KROPP

J. Richard Kropp, 94 of Oceanide, CA, formerly of Plymouth, MI and Naples, FL, died Wednesday, December 8, 2004. Mr. Kropp was born in Canton, OH, on August 13, 1910. He graduated from Ohio State University in Metallurgical Engineering in 1934 and spent 40 years in the steel business before returning to Naples, FL, in 1972. Mr. Kropp was preceded in death by his wife of 63 years, Margaret J. Kropp, in May 1996. He is survived by children John Richard Kropp II (Nancy), Vista, CA; James L. Kropp (Martha), San Francisco, CA; Nancy Kosch (Ernie) of Bloomfield, MI; and Cathy Cooper (Jim) of Plymouth, MI. Ten grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. A memorial service will be held on January 8, 2005, at Aegis at Shadowridge, Oceanide. Mr. Kropp's home for the past 18 months. A second celebration of his life is being planned for August 2005 in Plymouth, MI. His ashes will be interred with his wife Margaret at Riverside Cemetery, Plymouth, MI. Memorials may be made to the charity of your choice or Elizabeth Hospice, 150 W. Crest St., Escondido, CA 92025.

JOSEPHINE LEAVENWORTH

Age 88, December 24, 2004 of Westland. Beloved wife of the late John R. Dear mother of Eileen (Michael) Rowland and John B. (Jack) Sondra. Dear sister of Charles Ritter. Also survived by seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. Funeral service was held at R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 31551 Ford Road, Garden City, Tuesday, December 28th at 2:00 p.m.



LOUISE N. LUKOMSKI

Age 87 of Plymouth, died December 26, 2004. She was born April 15, 1917 in Detroit. She is survived by her children Patricia Lefevre, Bernadine Young, Leonard (Beverly) Lukomski, Georgette (Robert) Hatle and Candice (Bill) Paff. Her grandchildren Gregory Timothy, September; Geoffrey Danielle Rebecca Heather and Lynette; her great-grandchildren Caitlin and Claire and her brothers and sisters Joan Edmund, Hilary and Theresa. She is preceded in death by her husband, Leo. Funeral from St. John Neumann Church, 44800 Warren Road, Canton, Thursday, 11:30 a.m. Friends may visit Thursday, 10:30 a.m. at Schradler Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main, Plymouth. Interment at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield.

HELEN D. (nee Kern) MORRIS

December 27, 2004 of Beverly Hills. Beloved wife of the late Peter M. for 50 years. Dear mother of Mary Angela Laurie Papa (Carl) and Julie Badge (Jim) Grandmother of Carl, Rebecca Evan and Erin. Sister of the late Fr. Clement H. Kern. Family will receive friends at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu Rodgers & Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward Ave. (btwn 13 & 14 Mile) Wednesday, (Dec. 29) 2-8 p.m. Rosary 7 p.m. Funeral Mass, Thursday, 11 a.m. at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, 32340 Pierce, Beverly Hills. Visitation begins at church at 10:30 a.m. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial to The Fr. Clement H. Kern Foundation, P.O. Box 85235, Westland, MI 48185. Obituary at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com.

DAVID J TRAINOR

Age 67, December 24, 2004. Beloved husband of Lois Loving father of Christopher (Angela), Scott and the late David P. Dear grandfather of Ashley & Zachary. Brother of James Mary Aitken Tim, Kathleen Macdonald, Terrence Dennis Eileen Brand, Thomas and the late Daniel. Funeral Services at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia, Wednesday, January 5th at 11 a.m. Visitation Tuesday, January 4th, from 1 p.m. with a Scripture Service at 8 p.m. Memorial Contributions may be directed to the American Heart Association or the Charity of your choice. Please sign the online guest-book at www.rgharris.com.

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The first five lines of an obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at \$4 per line. You may place a picture of your loved one for an additional cost of only \$6. Symbolic emblems may be included at no cost (e.g., American flags, religious symbols, etc.).
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Gifts for the bowlers who have everything

Did everybody get what they wanted for Christmas? If not, there are some stores that will exchange gifts for you. One such retailer is the famous Nieman Marcus department store. They are offering a personal bowling center. Four lanes, two plasma scoring TVs, a Karaoke machine and shoes you can keep. All this for only \$1.45 million. Bring back that ugly necktie and get credit towards what you really wanted for the recreation room.

If this item is out of your price range, then try this one: the talking bottle opener, the Red Sox model, every time you use it, radio announcer Jerry Trupiano makes a home run call, find it on www.footballfanatics.com, \$8.95. If you haven't yet gotten that one great gift, this one may be just the thing. A Pete

Weber bobblehead and you can get it for free, just by picking up a coupon at the local bowling center and presenting it at a participating Jackson Hewitt office. Limit one free bobblehead per customer. The coupon is also good for \$10 off on tax preparation if you do it with them. Call 1-800-234-2040 for office locations. Another freebie is available from Banquet Frozen Foods in your local supermarket. There are coupons for free bowling on specially marked packages. Take the coupon to a participating bowling center and bowl free on Banquet. The Community Bowling Centers group are among those participating.

These centers also can fulfill that need for a holiday gift for the bowling enthusiast. They are selling a table-top bowling game complete with a little ball and ten pins. The ball is aimed by a shooting device and the ten pins will topple if hit. Looks like fun for kids young and old, priced at \$29.95.

The centers are also selling stuffed holiday bowling bears, a cute little critter by Holy Bears (similar to beanie babies) and priced at \$7.95.

each. We have searched for holiday gifts from one extreme to the other. If your personal Santa left you with gift certificates or cash, a trip to the local pro shop should top your agenda. They offer the latest styles and colors in new bowling balls, bags and shoes. Even a pro lesson or two can be a great gift, so check it out.

Now that we have taken care of the Christmas holiday, 2005 is just around the corner. I want to wish everyone a happy, healthy and prosperous new year.

The new year also marks the beginning of a new era in bowling, as the United States Bowling Congress officially takes over as the new governance of the sport. The American Bowling Congress, the Women's International Bowling Congress, Young American Bowling Alliance and USA Bowling now will be the U.S.B.C.

The former organizations will not disappear right away, as there will be a gradual phasing out period, and certain activities will retain their old identity.

The national men's and women's ABC and WIBC tournaments shall retain their

old identity for the time being. The Bowling Proprietors Association of America will be more closely affiliated with the USBC and by working together, a lot more can be gained than in the past. With the unification, the sport of bowling will have a better chance to become an Olympic event.

The leagues at Woodland Lanes in Livonia enjoyed a slew of honor scores in the closing weeks of 2004. Perfect games were bowled by Lee Snow in the Grandale League, Rusty Marwede in the Wednesday Trio, Brian Guzowski of Catholic Central, Larry Bendell of the Thursday Nite Men, Ken Red Lynch of St. Edith, Jim Sterbenz in the Ford Parts league and Dan Bollinger in St. Linus. Eight-hundred series were also recorded by Paul Finch in the West Chicago league and Tom Fix of the Saturday Kings & Queens. Let's see those great games keep coming in the new year.

Al Harrison is a resident of Livonia and a director and life member of the Greater Detroit Bowling Association. He can be contacted at (248) 477-1839. If you have any league high scores call them in

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Cell tower construction can be stopped

Our subdivision is fighting with an owner of a lot who wishes to provide for the construction of a cellular tower within our single family subdivision. Do you think we have any recourse to stop it?

To the extent that the single family home restriction has not been waived, you should be able to enforce it against the construction of a cellular tower. In a similar case out of Arizona, the construction of a cellular tower on church property within a single family subdivision was deemed to violate the restrictive covenants that prohibited construction of anything other than detached single family dwellings. There also may be a provision in your documents that prohibits commercial and/or business activities which might also be supportive of the association's position. You are best advised to consult with an attorney to seek the appropriate remedies against the cellular tower company and owner of the subdivision lot before construction begins.

I understand that there is a new statute in Michigan regarding judgment liens which I obtained against a homeowner in a condo. I did check the title and found that the association of homeowners filed a lien against the unit. Do I have a priority to that lien?

While a judgment lien has priority over a lien recorded with the register of deeds after a notice of the judgment lien is recorded, there are a number of exceptions including a lien for unpaid assessments or charges due to a condo association, homeowners' association, or property owners' association that arises from or pursuant to recorded restrictions that run with the land. Therefore, your judgment lien would not take priority against the association's lien. You should consult with an attorney to determine what remedies you have with respect to your judgment lien.

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 \$995 plus \$2 shipping and handling. For more information call (248) 644 4433 or visit bmeisner@meisnerassociates.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.



Marge Whetstone, (seated) newly elected president of the Western Wayne Oakland County Association of Realtors and Alissa Nead, the group's Realtor of the Year review the schedule of upcoming programs

Buyers ruled in '04: They could be picky

BY KEELY SCHRAMM
STAFF WRITER

With so many houses on the market, buyers could afford to be choosy, and they were in 2004, according to Alissa Nead of Coldwell Banker Preferred in Plymouth.

You could look for a home that matched your furniture and some people did, said Nead, who was recently named the Western Wayne Oakland County Association's Realtor of the Year. Buyers were looking for homes they didn't have to do anything to.

This was a great year, said Chris Courtney, WWOCA's 2004 president. "But it was definitely a buyer's market. Some houses are sitting on the market. In the past, houses would sell within hours or days of being listed. It's been a problem for people who buy a new house before selling the old one. They face having to pay two mortgages."

CAUTION URGED

His advice? If you're thinking about moving, sell your house before you buy a new one. He believes some of those houses on the market will begin to move in 2005. "Rates staying low is a good thing, he said. 'If rates stay low, below 9 percent, and I don't see them hitting there, that's a good sign for real estate.'"

Nead said it gives her an ulcer when buyers have two houses - the one they just bought - and the one they're trying to sell. "With low interest rates a lot of people refinanced and rolled their credit into their mortgage," she said. "Your home is your biggest asset."

Her fear is that some people will use the equity to pay creditors and be left with little or nothing when they decide to sell their house.

There were a lot of foreclosures in southeast Michigan this year. Lois Maljak, foreclosure specialist at Home Savers Inc., a Warren-based agency specializing in providing counseling services to individuals facing home foreclosures, estimates that 10-15 percent of homeowners in the country are barely able to make their monthly payments. "What we find our families struggling to make ends meet through credit cards and loans, and in turn, set themselves up as a prime candidate for foreclosure," she said.

Buyers were cautious. "People were uncertain about their jobs," said Nead. "With interest rates so low we should have had buyers coming out of the woodwork."

Sellers, anxious to move on, invested in landscaping, paint, and other quick fixes to give their homes more curb appeal. "Your house is such a personal part of you, said Nead. It hurts sellers' feelings when they hear negative comments about their home. But there were so many homes on the market. By the end of the year, sellers understood they had to do updates and make repairs.

Schools were the No. 1 thing buyers considered in making a home purchase. They mention it even if they don't have children, said Nead. "Good schools are too important for resale."

Consumers are a lot more informed and do their homework.

They are more demanding. They know what they want, said Marge Whetstone, newly elected president of the Western Wayne Oakland County Association of Realtors. "More and more Realtors are advertising on the Internet."

Realtors are also taking on more of a consultant role. "We coordinate the sale and guide them right up to closing," said Whetstone. "A lot of things need to be explained - title work, city ordinances, pricing. Pure numbers don't help you sell a house unless you know what's going on in the neighborhood."

People move a lot more than they used to. "People's jobs change, they don't stay in a job forever," said Whetstone. "You used to see someone stay in a house for 10 years, not anymore."

"There were a lot of first-time buyers because of low interest rates and that's a plus," said Whetstone. Some of those first-time buyers were couples.

DEFINITION CHANGING

Duo family income is changing the definition of "starter house."

"Couples used to look at what they thought they could afford," said Whetstone. "Now they're looking at new construction. They're marrying later, and are already through school and have a career."

Homebuyer needs are changing too. "I noticed more buyers didn't care about a formal dining room," said Nead. A first

floor laundry room, and library/office was important. Master suites that offer a little privacy and a three-car garage are important.

Whetstone has also noticed that more retirees are moving back to Michigan to be with family. Homes with two master suites, one for the homeowner, and one for aging parents, are becoming more popular.

Stronger than expected home sales and higher median prices have caused the National Association of Realtors to revise upward its year-end forecast. Existing-home sales are expected to jump 7.9 percent to 6.58 million in 2004, well above last year's record. For 2005, NAR projects 6.38 million sales, which would be the second highest level on record.

The national median existing-home price is projected to rise 7.9 percent to \$182,500 for the year. The median new-home price should increase 8.9 percent to \$214,600.

New-home sales will rise 8.9 percent to 1.18 million this year and 1.13 million are forecast for 2005, just shy of the record expected this year. Housing starts are seen at 1.95 million this year, the highest level since 1978, housing construction is projected at 1.87 million units in 2005.

David Lereah, NAR's chief economist, said that some of the backup in housing demand is being met. "We're setting our fourth consecutive record year for existing-home sales, and even with strong fundamentals such as household growth, low interest rates and an improving economy, we simply can't set records every year," Lereah said. Given the sharp rise over last year's record, a lot of buyers have found the home they've been looking for and we can expect a bit of a breather in 2005, which will remain a historically strong year.

Lereah predicts the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage should rise slowly but average only 6.4 percent next year. In 2005, he expects the median existing-home price to rise 5.0 percent and the typical new home price to grow by 5.8 percent.

Whetstone is hoping the economy strengthens in 2005. Nead believes housing prices will stay stable, and there won't be huge increases. "That will be good in the long run," she said. "You get the big jump, then the big fall. Slow and steady will win for consumers."

Mortgage
Bits



Timothy
Phillips

A loan for every season

As I have seasoned as a mortgage loan officer, I have learned to treat my clients in much the same way as professional asset managers treat theirs. In fact, I now view myself as more of a debt manager than a mere mortgage broker. As a result of this professional evolution, I take more time at the beginning of the mortgage application process to truly comprehend my clients' long- and short-term goals.

The mortgage selection process is certainly not a "one size fits all" proposition. Choosing the correct fit for a borrower's situation is as critical on the debt side of the house as is choosing the correct investment vehicle for money managers on the asset management side.

Because different borrowers require different strategies to manage their debts - the most sizable of which is usually their mortgage - I will be spending the next several weeks providing specific insights and strategies that borrowers can use during the different stages of their lives.

To metaphorically explain these phases, I will break down my four different categories according to the seasons: Spring, summer, autumn, and winter. Phase one - spring, represents the first time homebuyer purchasing a property and setting up a home. Summer, the second phase, includes those homeowners who are actively building a family and facing all the cash-flow issues related therein. Next, autumn involves borrowers who are rapidly accumulating assets and equity. And the final, winter, is characterized by equity and asset conversion to cash flow.

"Spring" homebuyers, or first-timers, almost never have an abundance of cash with which to make a down payment. Additionally, they often have very little to show by the way of work experience and credit history. The sum of these risk factors, combined with the need to properly educate the young borrowers along the way, often makes for a good amount of work for the conscientious mortgage loan officer.

This is the first part of a five-part series. After the fifth weekly column publishes, readers may download the entire merged series online at www.PhillipsHQ.com. Timothy Phillips is a mortgage banker and newspaper columnist. You may access his Wealth Academy archives at www.PhillipsHQ.com or phone him toll free at (866) 369 4516. Home buyers should always consult a professional for guidance specific to their situation. Look for part two on Jan. 6.

Adjustable mortgages down, 15-year rates show rising trend

BY JEANNINE AVERSA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

The mortgage rate picture was mixed. Rates on 30-year and 15-year mortgages went up, while rates on one-year adjustable mortgages went down.

Freddie Mac's weekly survey released Wednesday, Dec. 22, showed rates on 30-year, fixed-rate mortgages increased to 5.75 percent, compared with 5.68 percent the previous week.

Rates on 30-year mortgages hit a high this year of 6.34 percent the week of May 13. They slowly drifted

downward as the economy hit a late spring-early summer soft spot. Recent economic data suggest the economy is expanding at a solid pace.

Rates on 15-year, fixed-rate mortgages - a popular option for refinancing - rose to 5.18 percent, up from 5.11 percent.

Thirty-year and 15-year rates were the highest since the beginning of December. Long-term mortgage rates have remained well behaved even as the Fed boosted short-term interest rates five times this year. That's because inflation, while creeping higher, is not currently viewed as a

danger to the economy, analysts say.

One-year adjustable rate mortgages, meanwhile, dipped slightly to 4.17 percent, compared with 4.18 percent the previous week.

The nationwide averages for mortgage rates do not include add-on fees known as points. Each loan type carried a 0.6 point fee.

A year ago, rates on 30-year mortgages averaged 5.82 percent with 15-year mortgages at 5.14 percent and one-year ARMs at 3.77 percent.

Low mortgage rates have supported home sales, which are expected to

hit record highs for all of 2004. Sales next year should also do well, according to the National Association of Realtors.

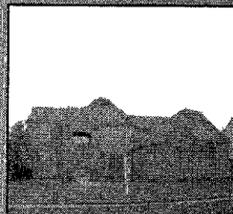
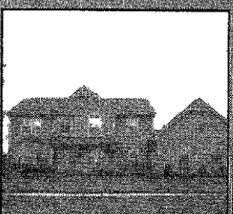
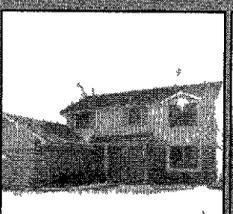
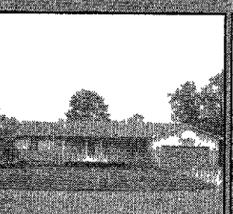
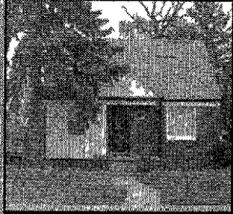
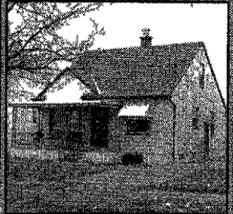
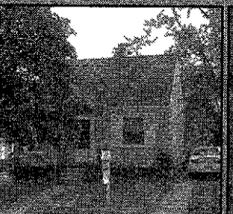
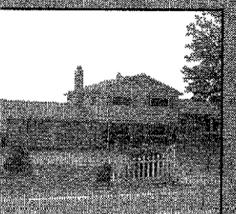
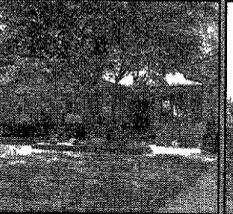
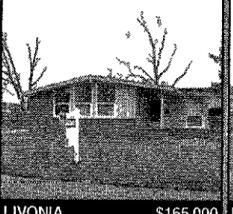
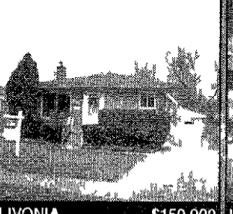
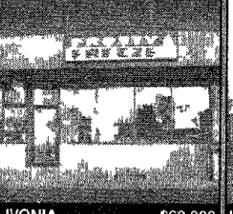
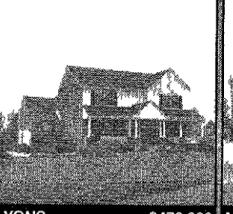
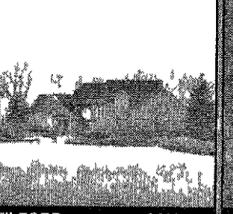
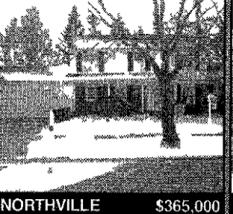
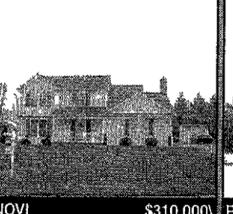
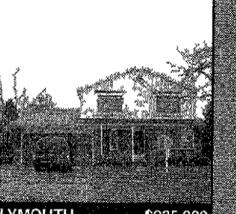
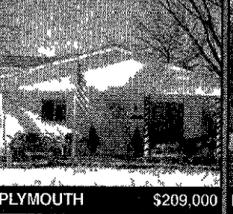
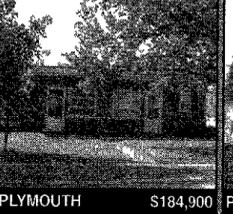
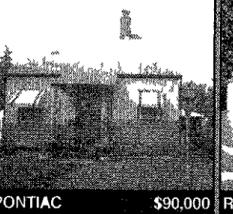
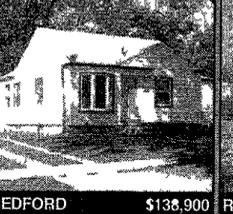
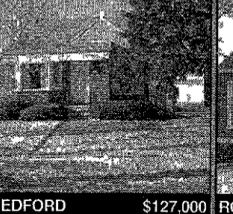
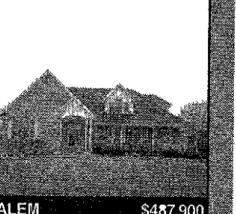
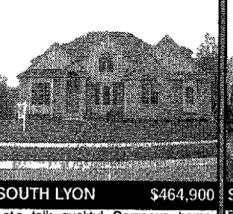
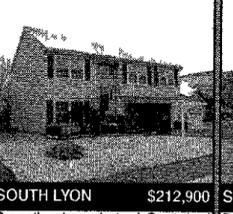
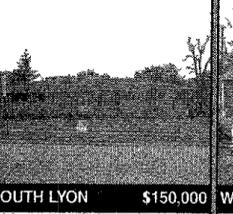
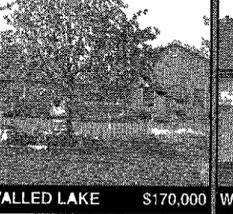
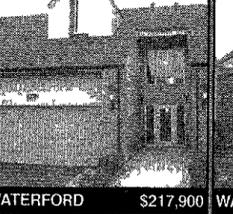
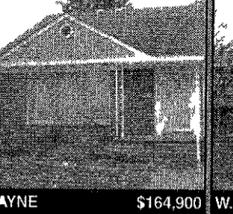
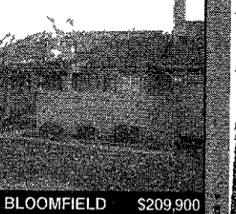
The association's chief economist, David Lereah, predicts rates on 30-year mortgages will slowly rise next year to around 6.4 percent, still fairly low by historical standards.

The Mortgage Bankers Association, meanwhile, reported that refinancings accounted for 48.9 percent of all mortgage loan applications filed last week, up from 46 percent.

One-year adjustable rate mortgages, meanwhile, dipped slightly to 4.17 percent, compared with 4.18 percent the previous week. The nationwide averages for mortgage rates do not include add-on fees known as points.

COLDWELL BANKER **SCHWEITZER REAL ESTATE**
Residential Real Estate

#1 Coldwell Banker in Michigan

 <p>CANTON \$449,900 Upgrades galore Gourmet kitchen nook w/HWDD floors oversized island double oven & glass cooktop 2 way fireplace Master w/vaulted ceiling fashion bath & oversized jacuzzi tub Interior exterior freshly painted (OEP09STO) 734-453 6800</p>	 <p>CANTON \$418,900 Beautiful Home On A Lot Backing To Trees And Stream Sunny Gourmet Kitchen Study W/french Doors Includes A 2 way FP to FR H/W Flrs In Foyer Kit & Nook Luxurious Vaulted Master Suite Finished Basement (OEL38SAN) 734-591 0333</p>	 <p>CANTON \$409,900 Beautiful 4 bedroom 2 1/2 bath colonial w/3 car side entry garage Backs to woods Spacious kitchen nook w/island Family room w/gas fireplace 1st floor study Fabulous master w/gigantic w/c & fashion bath Must see! (OEP00GLE) 734-453 6800</p>	 <p>CANTON \$409,500 Fabulous Home On Superb Lot Professionally Fin Lower Level W/3rd Full Bath Den/office & Add'l Family Rm Beautiful Hdwd Flrs In Entry & Through Kitchen & Nook Great Open Fr Plan bridge Overlooking Fam rm W/frpl (OEN55HEN) 248 347 3050</p>	 <p>CANTON \$279,900 Pristine 4BR 2.5BA colonial in sought after sub backing to wooded common grounds Updates furnace & ac(03) roof & w/in(95) sliding gar & ext doors(02) new crpt baths Remodeled grmt kit w/cer floor opens to fr (OEP25KIR) 734-453 6800</p>	 <p>COMMERCE \$279,900 Spacious 3 br 2 1/2 bath ranch w/2car garage on private road Move in condition Updates include Granite counter and ceramic tile in kitchen crown molding spectacular finished bsmt w/notty osdar walls bar and more! (OESLY50MAT) 248-437 4500</p>	 <p>DEARBORN \$149,900 Sharp Bungalow 3 Bdrm 2 Full Baths Updated Vinyl Windows-Finished Hdwd Flrs On 1st Floor New C/A & Hwh Copper Plumbing 100 Amp Breakers Most Appliances Oak Cabinets In Kit Glass Blk In Fin LL Huge Wrap Arnd Porch (OEL69EDG) 734 591 0333</p>
 <p>DETROIT \$94,700 3 Bdr Bung W/Kit Form DR Bath Lvg Rm & Full Fin Bsmt Beaut ful HW Flrs T/O Mstr Bdrm Has 2 WI Cedar Closets New W/nc Circuit Brkr's Bath Tiles And Other Updates Bsmt Has Wet Bar Kit Has New Sink Fl & Counter (OEL18FRE) 734-591-0333</p>	 <p>DETROIT \$89,900 Clean 3 Bdrm Bungalow Updates 100 Amp Breaker Box 04 Carpet In LR & Hall 04 Roof 03 C/a 03 HWH 03 Vinyl Side & Wndws Newer 2.5 Car Garage & cement Wash & Dryer Incl Work Bench In Bsmt Selling "as is" (OEL44BRA) 734-591-0333</p>	 <p>FARMINGTON HILLS \$350,000 Spectacular Detached Condo With Lovely Private Setting In Prestigious Gated Community Dramatic 18 Ft Ceilings Hardwood Floors In Entry Kitchen Family Room & 1/2 Bath Cozy Family Rm W/fireplace (OEN15TAN) 248-347 3050</p>	 <p>FARMINGTON HILLS \$284,900 To Be Built & Completed In 4 Months Brand New Cape Cod On Huge Corner Lot! Hdwd Floors In Foyer kitchen & Nook central Air Unfinished Basement W/bath Rough ins 1st Floor Master Suite (OEN655PR) 248-347 3050</p>	 <p>FERNDALE \$129,900 Great 3 bedroom bungalow w/ull basement Separate dining room Huge master bedroom All A/C windows cooling stay Newer Wallside windows 12/03 All appliances stay Cute home very neat Imm possession available (OESLY54PIN) 248-437-4500</p>	 <p>GREEN OAK \$175,000 Beautifully updated home in Green Oak Township The perfect home for a growing family Beautiful main bath with Jacuzzi tub glass shower and ceramic tile Nicely updated kitchen (OESLY09STE) 248 437 4500</p>	 <p>HIGHLAND \$229,900 Unbelievable tr level on over 1 1/2 acres of fabulous fenced yard! 3 or 4 bedrooms 2 1/2 baths 2.5 garage New kitchen windows roof garage door carpet paint and Florida room w/6 man hot tub Fam rm w/walkout (OESLY15MIL) 248 437-4500</p>
 <p>INKSTER \$118,500 Spacious brck ranch! Many updates include kitchen bath windows and more Beautiful newly finished full basement Large fenced yard w/lovely landscapng Move in condition 3 bed rooms (OESLY49CHE) 248-437 4500</p>	 <p>INKSTER \$35,000 Handyman Special Brng Your Investors Needs A New Roof And Some Repairs But Would Be Instant Equity Enclosed Front Porch Lots Of Potential This Is An As Is Sale (OEL08SPR) 734 591 0333</p>	 <p>JOSCO \$264,900 Peaceful and serene Outstanding 1900 sq ft Cape Cod on 10 acres 3 bedroom 2 bath basement and 48 X 24 pole barn w/220 line Wood burning stove in living room Newer furnace and central air w/windows etc (OESLY01ROB) 248 437-4500</p>	 <p>LIVONIA \$279,900 Well Maintained 3brdm 2.5 Bath Colonial Lr Formal Dr 1st Flr Den & Fam rm W/frpl Spacious Eat & Kitchen White Cabinets Micro & Dishwasher 2 Doorwalks To Mult level Deck Enjoy Park like Yard (OEN8BVAC) 248 347 3050</p>	 <p>LIVONIA \$275,000 Awesome 3br Brck Ranch On Cul de sac Backs To Woods 2.5 Baths Beautifully Updated Kitchen Light Cabinets Counters Flooring Appliances Recessed Lighting & Crown Molding T/O Prof Decorated (OEN77VEN) 248-347 3050</p>	 <p>LIVONIA \$269,900 Sharp Sunset Park Colonial Backing To Woodlands! Sidewalks In Sub New Roof Shingles(04) Deck 1st Floor Laundry Hardwood Floors In Foyer & Half Bath New Hwh(01) C/a Family Room Off Kitchen (OEN42BRO) 248 347 3050</p>	 <p>LIVONIA \$232,900 Bright & Airy Livonia Condo Pvt Entrance Courtyard Large Liv/din Area W/brck Gas F/p & Doorwa! To Deck Backing To Commons Eat in Kitchen 1st Flr Laundry 2 Full Bedroom Stes W/pvt Baths Walkin Closets (OEN20LAI) 248-347 3050</p>
 <p>LIVONIA \$172,500 Completely Updated Ranch Turn Key & Move Right In Bright & Airy neutral Tones T/o Updates include newer Roof (tear Off) high Efficiency Furn & C/a remodeled Kit W/new Cabs cntrs fr & Apps New Bath & Half Bath (OEN47GRA) 248-347 3050</p>	 <p>LIVONIA \$165,000 You Will Be Proud To Call It Home! Exceptionally Well Maintained And Tastefully Updated New Kit W/mable Cabs Tile Backsplash New Appl Stay & Beautiful Slate Flr (03) New Copper Plumbing & Drain Lines (03) (OEN39VAR) 248-347 3050</p>	 <p>LIVONIA \$150,000 Beautiful 3 Bedroom Home In North Livonia Updates Galore Furnace Central Air V nyl W ndows (1993) And Newer Kitchen Cabinets Beaut ful Hardwood Floors Glass Block Windows And Copper Plumbing 2 Car Garage (OEL64ANT) 734-591 0333</p>	 <p>LIVONIA \$60,000 Turn Key Operation Store Completely Remodeled Store Broke Even In 1st Yr Even With The Unseasonably Cool Weather In Summer 2004 Business Is Ready To Take Off Most Of Equipment Is New Or Refurb shed 2004 (OEL65PLF) 734 591 0333</p>	 <p>LYONS \$479,900 Awesome Backyard Landscaped To Perfection! Over \$120,000 In Upgrades extra Deep Finished Lower Level Walkout(03) Full Bath W/air Tub new Huge Deck Hardwood Floors In Foyer Dining Room & Kitchen (OEN64WIN) 248 347 3050</p>	 <p>MILFORD \$489,900 Pristine Best Describes This Stunning 2 Story Contemporary That Sits On 1.62 Acres Backs To Woods 4 Brs 3 1/2 Baths & 1st Flr Mstr Ste W/sky Lights & Plenty Of Privacy Fin Bsmt Providing An Add'l 1400 Sq Ft (OEL67HER) 734 591 0333</p>	<p>Vacant Land</p>
 <p>NORTHVILLE \$365,000 Charming home s located in one of the nicest areas of Northville w/winding streets & large commons area Many updates in the past few years include w ndows furnace AC alu m num siding & gutters (OEP68MOR) 734 453 6800</p>	 <p>NOVI \$339,900 Luxury condo living at Island Lake of Novi Beautiful 3 bedroom 2 1/2 bath unit w/greenhouse kitchen formal dining gorgeous master suite 2 car garage and full basement (OESLY84ISL) 248-437 4500</p>	 <p>NOVI \$319,900 Quiet setting w/updated features in almost new 3BR home Mstr ste w/huge 16ft closet J&J full BA open to all other BRs HDWD flrs in kit 42in f n cabinets Frnt cvrd porch & rear screened porch 2car back entry gar (OEP69EME) 734-453 6800</p>	 <p>NOVI \$310,000 3BR 2 1/2BA cape cod Great prct! Lux 1st floor master w/cathedral ceiling Open great room w/fireplace & soaring ceilings Spacious kitchen & nook Formal dining room 1st floor study Neutral Must see! (OEP60GAL) 734-453 6800</p>	 <p>PLYMOUTH \$664,900 4 bedroom 4 1/2 bath cape cod backing to woods Gourmet kitchen w/granite countertops oversized island & built in appliances Stunning great room 1st floor master Prof fin walkout Heated 4 car att garage Hurry! (OEP03MAP) 734 453 6800</p>	 <p>PLYMOUTH \$569,900 Beautiful 4 bedroom 3 1/2 bath colonial Dual staircase Gourmet kitchen w/mable cabinets 2 story family room Lux master suite Guest suite Daylight basement Soft neutral colors Estate size lot (OEP65PLY) 734 453-6800</p>	 <p>PLYMOUTH \$235,000 Lovely Brck & Vinyl Colonial In Desirable Hidden Heights Sub Walking Distances To Miller Park Natural Fireplace In Living Rm Updated 1/2 Bath Newer Windows Beautiful Family Room W/gorgeous New Pergo Floor (OEN16CHE) 248-347 3050</p>
 <p>PLYMOUTH \$209,000 Wow Charming 3 BR 1 1/2 BA recently remodeled w/newer kitchen HDWD floors & oak cabinets Newer carpet & blinds! Updated bathrooms newer vinyl s ding driveway & oversized 2 car garage Close to downtown (OEP47BUT) 734-453 6800</p>	 <p>PLYMOUTH \$184,900 Great Duplex Priced Right! Investors Take Notice! Wonderful In Town Location Near Schools Shopping Churches This Duplex Is In Great Condition Newer Roof 2 Bedroom Each Side don't Snooze On This One! (OEN99ADA) 248 347-3050</p>	 <p>PONTIAC \$90,000 Beautiful 3 Bdrm Home With Detached Garage Finished Basement With Full Bar Newly Remodeled Kitchen With New Countertops New Cabinets & Floors Many Newer Windows Newer Furnace And Hot Water Heater (OEL08LUT) 734-591-0333</p>	 <p>REDFORD \$138,900 Nice Ranch On A Double Lot Updates Inc Kit & Bath Furnace & A/C Roof & Glass Block Windows Basement Has A Bonus 4th Bedroom Full Bath In Basement Lg FR W/doorwall Leading To Yard The List Goes On & On (OEL97WAK) 734-591 0333</p>	 <p>REDFORD \$127,000 Well Cared For Brick Bungalow Bay Window In Dining Room Over Looks Golf Course Newer Windows Newer Kitchen Floor Partially Finished Basement Appliances Stay This Is A Great Value Florida Room 13x13 (OEL21GLE) 734 591 0333</p>	 <p>ROYAL OAK \$159,000 Terrific Value In This Hard To Find 4 Bedroom 1 1/2 Bath Royal Oak Bungalow Popular Area Convenient To Everything note Sq Ft Freshly Painted Neutral Decor Interior Full Basement With Plenty Of Storage (OEN66ELL) 248-347 3050</p>	 <p>SALEM \$487,900 Custom 4BR 2 1/2BA on private 2 1/2 acres Grmt kit & nook w/HWDD flrs & sitting rm Lux 1st flr mstr ste w/fash BA Covered porch 900sq ft w/masonry footings wraps 3/4 way around house 3car s/e gar w/12x16 strg rm (OEP89GEM) 734 453 6800</p>
 <p>SOUTH LYON \$464,900 Let's talk quality! Gorgeous home spacious kitchen with granite thru out atrium wet bar 2 story foyer with hardwood floors Large master with jacuzzi and glass show Sprinklers and landscaping included (OESLY00GLE) 248 437-4500</p>	 <p>SOUTH LYON \$212,900 Dramatic price reduction! Quiet dead end street backs to commons area Cathedral gibs to main flr Mstr wlg WIC & bath LLWO FR w/cust masonry FP Office or 4th BR & Indry rm w/cer tile New Wallside wndws (04) (OEP90PRI) 734-453 6800</p>	 <p>SOUTH LYON \$150,000 Brick ranch with loads of potential Large double lot located in charming downtown 2 car attached garage Full bath in basement (OESLY20LOT) 248-437-4500</p>	 <p>WALLED LAKE \$170,000 Recently updated 1476 sq ft ranch w/ a huge kitchen and dining area Beautiful landscaped waterfall/pond in the backyard and lots of room for the kids Sellers motivated (OESLY67PAY) 248 437 4500</p>	 <p>WATERFORD \$217,900 Best lake front location in complex! Closest distance to club house pool and boat slip which is included 2 bedroom 2 bath 2 car garage and fire place Open floor plan Great for entertaining Move in condition! (OESLY40ADA) 248-437 4500</p>	 <p>WAYNE \$164,900 Charming bungalow is located in a quiet neighborhood yet close to schools & shopping Lg LR & DR fin bsmt 3BR & 2 full baths Mstr bath has lg vanity & soaking tub Kit has dbl oven new ss refrigerator & sink (OEP59ELM) 734-453 6800</p>	 <p>W. BLOOMFIELD \$209,900 Clean 3 Bdrm 3 Bath (1 Bdrm & Ba In Fin Bsmt) End Unit Condo W/ 2 Car Att Gar Hrdwd Flrs In LR & DR Ceramic Kit & Baths 1st Flr Lndry Recessed Lighting Cathedral Textured Ceilings With Skylights Aplncs Incl (OEL72GRE) 734 591 0333</p>

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These are the Observer & Eccentric area residential real estate closings recorded the weeks of Aug 16 - 20 at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses and sales prices.

City	Address	Price	City	Address	Price	
Canton	44012 Ardmore	\$195,000	Redford	46356 Rock edge	\$320,000	
	6047 Beaufort	\$227,000		9126 T illum	\$340,000	
	43663 Brandywyne	\$240,000				
	8100 B ooke Park	\$145,000				
	6529 Carriage Hills	\$214,000				
	5843 Castlegate	\$359,000				
	4896 Central Park	\$472,000				
	226 Cherry Grove	\$239,000				
	48072 Deer Tra	\$359,000				
	2825 Denton	\$190,000				
Livonia	49235 Dom n on	\$53,000	Westland	719 Autumn R dge	\$246,000	
	1295 Dundee	\$315,000		32505 Avondale	\$136,000	
	7010 Foxridge	\$257,000		35036 Avondale	\$153,000	
	45673 Graystone	\$173,000		37440 Barkr dge	\$98,000	
	45897 G aystone	\$172,000		36493 Black Oak	\$165,000	
	44579 Heather	\$283,000		39158 Brookf eld	\$149,000	
	1376 He tage	\$167,000		39166 Brookf eld	\$133,000	
	48540 nveraray	\$382,000		39198 B ookf e d	\$131,000	
	44431 James	\$223,000		375 Ca son	\$214,000	
	42581 Lilley Po nte	\$131,000		455 Carson	\$185,000	
Plymouth	42713 L ey Po nte	\$119,000	Wayne	29006 Cu er	\$124,000	
	45591 M chael	\$225,000		29051 Curr er	\$129,000	
	45591 Michael	\$229,000		2501 F Rhead	\$188,000	
	1404 M brook	\$315,000		8344 Emera d	\$228,000	
	8552 N Canton Center	\$105,000		6443 Harmon	\$168,000	
	673 Pr ncess	\$205,000		33560 Haze ood	\$4,000	
	45022 Duake Hill	\$255,000		32213 H illda e	\$96,000	
	4259 S Cor ne	\$35,000		7309 Manor	\$92,000	
	42508 Sa tz	\$222,000		366 Mar goll	\$154,000	
	352 Sheff eld	\$224,000		29645 Ma shall	\$217,000	
Garden City	47204 Sherstone	\$285,000	Westland	32864 Mecoste	\$92,000	
	7115 Stonebrook	\$389,000		5945 N Dow ng	\$116,000	
	7622 Sussex	\$230,000		7725 R vergate	\$60,000	
	1253 W Franciscan	\$193,000		780 R ve gate	\$158,000	
	6626 Weather f eld	\$295,000		8435 Sha	\$155,000	
	6785 Woonsocket	\$267,000		\$262,000	\$90,000	
				2380 W Rhead	\$132,000	
				35251 Webste	\$70,000	
				365 Woody e w		
				\$325,000		

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WELL MAINTAINED Garden City Ranch with 3 bedrooms formal dining family rm With fireplace appliances newer windows & doorwall new carpet and décor 2.5 car garage and a large floor plan \$159,900 (359AL)

CONDO WITH CONVENIENCES! End unit with private entry & convenient parking 1st floor laundry eat in kitchen and separate dining room for more formal entertaining Full basement open floor plan and priced right! \$129,900 (831AR)

PLYMOUTH COLONIAL Three beds & 1.5 baths Updates incl new hardwood floors kitchen cabinets & counters newer carpeting & updated electrical Family rm Fireplace & finished basement Florida rm leads to a large fenced yard \$224,900 (380AS)

THE SEARCH IS OVER Great condo w/custom paint upgraded lighting soaring ceilings great room w/fireplace hardwood entry den nice kitchen w/appliances & serene view For sale or lease \$249,000 or 1,400 Lease (886CH)

STOP RENTING! Start building equity in this affordable home on a double lot Numerous updates include the kitchen bath carpeting cement work and more Fenced yard and a 2 car garage! \$81,500 (266CO)

GREAT STARTER Dearborn bungalow with 3 bedrooms New roof furnace air and carpeting Walking distance to the community center shopping & Ford Headquarters Immaculate move in condition \$119,500 (281CU)

SUPER CANTON BEAUTY Well cared for 4 bdrm colonial featuring a family room w/ fireplace formal living & dining partially finished basement & Florida room Nice landscaping & attached two car garage \$224,900 (214DU)

WALK TO TOWN - From this great condo in town on a quiet cul de sac Hardwood floors in the kitchen ceramic tile in the bath newer furnace and air 1 car garage Great opportunity for first time buyer \$104,900 (500FO)

PRESTIGIOUS ADDRESS Space & privacy on an ex lg lot backing to the woods in one of Canton's most prestigious communities 9 ceilings and immaculately kept 4beds 3 car garage & daylight basement \$529,900 (676FL)

ROCHESTER HILLS COLONIAL Cross Creek sub w/award winning schools Impressive entry bridged family room w/ fireplace & adjoining solarium WIC in bedrooms den w/built in library dining room w/butter's pantry & 3 car garage \$445,000(237CR)

ENVIED SETTING Beautifully landscaped & wooded 1.5 acre lot 3BR/2BA a finished walkout CA two fireplaces kitchen w/appliances and doorwall to deck w/wildlife views Close to Kensington Park & Camp Dearborn \$269,900 (614MI)

SO MANY AMENITIES! Beautiful cul de sac location on a tree lined lot oak kitchen Andersen windows all newer big ticket items 2 tiered deck family room fireplace crown moldings new gutters and freshly painted trim Really nice \$247,500 (363WA)

STEP BACK IN TIME - In this charming Cherry Hill Village condo with over 1600 sq ft open great room with volume ceilings a study veranda serene setting and friendly neighborhood You couldn't ask for more! \$224,900 (093MO)

HOME IS WAITING! 3BR colonial in the back of a quiet sub on a wooded lot Offering a cozy nat fireplace formal dining w/bay master w/huge walk in closets all kitchen appliances and Livonia Schools! \$218,500 (353SO)

ABSOLUTELY ASTOUNDING Ceramic fireplace in the great room w/recessed lighting & volume ceiling 4BR/3BA hardwood floors C/A Sunburst bi fold door & drywalled 2.5 car garage All of this on a large treed lot \$214,900 (411GL)

NOVI'S COUNTRY PLACE Sharp end unit Living room w/ fireplace dining room spacious kitchen w/doorwall to fenced patio Master w/private bath & WIC Basement garage & updated windows Pool clubhouse tennis & ball field \$144,900 (348GL)

BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME! Splits available on the wooded/ravined 10 acre parcel in Salem Township Great location - close to M 14 and surrounding cities Nestled amongst upscale homesites \$259,900 (000FO)

LARGE BRICK BUNGALOW Huge floor plan with 4 bedrooms and 2 full baths Updated roof 2.5 car garage and a basement Located on a nice tree lined street close to all the conveniences \$151,900 (656HA)

FUSSY BUYERS WELCOME!! New Wallside windows 2 car garage neutral carpet bay windows oak kitchen w/appliances and a finished basement All big ticket items are newer Fenced yard w/deck patio retractable awning & sprinklers! \$164,900 (234HI)

GET READY! To move right into this four bedroom brick home Professionally finished basement with kitchen and bath Complete roof tear off newer windows furnace ac hwh and cement work \$169,900 (025KI)

GREAT BUY! All brick ranch with 3 beds and 2 baths Beautifully remodeled kitchen & baths finished lower level with a fireplace and wet bar Newer vinyl windows central air and ceiling fans for energy efficiency There's more! \$144,900 (260LA)

55+COMMUNITY Beautifully updated condo with 2 beds 1.5 baths Eat in kitchen plus formal dining all updated big ticket items Pool clubhouse and many senior activities Close to carport and parking \$134,900 (847NE)

CANTON CONDO Circle this one! Two bedroom townhouse featuring a finished basement large master bedroom brick fireplace wood deck crown moldings clubhouse pool and more Call for details \$137,000 (109NO)

WHAT YOU VE BEEN WAITING FOR! Truly a home with nothing to do! Just move in and enjoy 3BR/1.5BA brick bungalow Master w/half bath completely updated with lots of amenities and close to the park \$114,900 (344PA)

UNIVERSITY DISTRICT Beautiful updates make this one a must see Updated windows roof and central air Hardwood in the living & dining rooms oak kitchen w/appliances and a security system \$139,900 (145QU)

REASONABLY PRICED This fabulous ranch condo backs to the woods and is in excellent move in condition Private deck cathedral ceilings skylights and neutral decor are just some of the comforts you will enjoy here \$124,900 (589SH)

TERRIFIC STARTER Three bedroom bungalow in great condition and perfect for first time buyers 2.5 baths finished basement 2 car garage great location right across from the elementary school and affordably priced! \$99,900 (381TE)

GREAT INVESTMENT Enjoy earning income off of this brick ranch duplex with many updates Roof copper plumbing ceramic baths appliances and much more Hurry this one wont last \$118,000 (800TI)

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3290	Livonia	3680	Westland
3300	Livonia	3690	Westland
3310	Livonia	3700	Westland
3320	Livonia	3710	Westland
3330	Livonia	3720	Westland
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floors Replacement win
dows New roof 2 car
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Cape Code w/wooded lots
& Oak floors Unique arch
way btwn 2 entry eve
bed rms w/adjacent bath F n
shed bsmt Replace ment
windows \$299 900 (SA187)

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4 Bdrm 4 5 bath home Great
room w/fireplace kitchen
w/island 1st floor laundry
attached 3 car garage & fin
ished basement! \$584 990
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Move in ready
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cul de sac backing up to
woods 4 bedrooms 2 5 baths
1st floor laundry casement
windows daylight basement 3
car attached garage Hartland
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& Oak floors Unique arch
way btwn 2 entry eve
bed rms w/adjacent bath F n
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CUSTOMER BUILT
4 Bdrm 4 5 bath home Great
room w/fireplace kitchen
w/island 1st floor laundry
attached 3 car garage & fin
ished basement! \$584 990
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MOVE RIGHT IN & DOWN
Clean 3 bdrm updated brick
ranch Finished bsmt w/full
bath Oversized garage Imme
diate occupancy \$172 000
Leah Gawthrop
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734 464 7111

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4 Bdrm 2 5 bath colonial
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dry full bsmt Lots of major
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SMOKER TRUESDALE SUB! Great family home with loads of updates 4 bedrooms 1 5 baths New maple kitchen with ceramic floor cul de sac location Home warranty at closing (P99WAL) \$199 900

CANTON

CAVALIER VILLAGE SOUTH SUB Lovely 4 bdrm 2 5 bath Colonial deep in the sub Professionally landscaped Backyard s fenced n/w/maint free vny fencing perfect for a dog or kids play Newer roof furnace and A/C Household intercom! Motivated Sellers! (P55PAL) \$229 900

NORTHVILLE

NORTHVILLE ESTATES HALF ACRE SITE! This spacious tr level features 2865 sq ft 3 huge brms 2 5 baths updated kitchen & a walk out family rm Private wooded lot All th s for \$299 000 (P65SUM)

PLYMOUTH

LAKEPOINTE SUBDIVISION! Quietly located yet convenient to everything! 3 BRM 1 5 bath home w/ covered ceilings h/wd flrs Liv rm din rm oak kit Large family rm w/ice Spacious deck mature trees Call Today! (P24CLE) \$232 000

CANTON

GREENBROOK VILLAGE SUB NO 1 Beautiful new kitchen w/ cor an counters & cabs Open to a larger family room 3 bdrm 2 5 baths finished bsmt that makes a great rec room Walk out to landscaped yard that everyone will envy Much more (P78RUD) \$228 900

WESTLAND

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS! 3 BRD brick Ranch 4th BRM n bsmt Oak kit w/Pergo flr updated carpet & windows Dining area in iv rm Roof replaced w/tea off Ove sized garage Just a great house (P59BEE) \$149 900

PLYMOUTH

WALK TO SCHOOL NEIGHBORHOOD 3 bedrooms w/brick ranch 4th BR n bsmt Oak kit w/Pergo flr Updated baths new furn & gar d Priv fenced yard has under ground sprinklers lush perennials & mature trees Du ck occupancy available (P19FAR) \$239 900

PLYMOUTH

BREATHTAKING PLYMOUTH RANCH CONDO Exclue w Eaton Estates Finished walkout Master suite with jet tub and separate shower 2 fireplaces 3 baths oak kitchen with island & 2nd kitchen in lower level Priced below SEV (P88EAT) \$379 900

ROMULUS

FAIRWAYS AT GATEWAY SUB! 3 bdrm 3 5 bath 1st fl laundry 1st fl master suite & finished bsmt great w/ice Mot vated Sale! Must see (P23CRV) \$219 999

ROMULUS

LIKE NEW! 3 bdrm ranch w/ nothing to do but pve on! New roof 04 Brand new k t w/oak cabs dishwasher and ceramic tile Partly finished bsmt fresh paint and new carpet Immediate occupancy! (P88SAN) \$129 999

WESTLAND

COUNTRY IN THE CITY! This must be the place spacious 4 bedroom 2 5 bath colonial s thing on just about an acre W th over 2 300 sq ft custom built Family room (32x20) 1 s gorgeous Oak kit formal dining room & finished basement add to the 1st MUST SEE! (P27COW) \$285 900

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EXCEPTIONAL VALUE!
4 bedrooms 2 5 baths Family room with fireplace Walled windows Andersen door oak kitchen new furnace central air hot water heater roof gutters and trim Hardwood floors private lot \$279 000
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LIVONIA
3 bedroom 2 full baths 1400 sq ft ranch with numerous updates Large 75x135 lot Updates include complete tear off roof windows kitchen and bath Custom design ceilings in living room and family room \$179 900
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734-525 9600

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On a tree lined street with a walk up attic space plus a full basement Updated & neutral throughout Newer include windows siding cement work roof floor coverings light fixtures & more \$164 900 (345EA)

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Redford 3350

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A HOME FOR YOU!
3 Bdrm brick ranch w/neutral decor & hardwood floors. Separate dining room. Bsmt 2 car garage. Private fenced wooded yard. Newer roof driveway. Furnace & C/A \$144,900 (LE174)

JUST LISTED!
A HOME FOR YOU!
Country setting for spacious 3 bdrm 1.5 bath brick ranch. Dining room updated kitchen. Florida room. C/A Bsmt Garage. Newer roof \$168,900 (SA143)

JUST LISTED!
A HOME FOR YOU!
Mint condition 2 bdrm 1 bath ranch has updated roof furnace C/A Hot water heater & concrete drive. Living room w/fire place. Florida room over looks fenced yard. Bsmt Porch 2 car garage \$140,000 (TE914)

JUST LISTED!
A HOME FOR YOU!
Updated ranch w/3 bdrm & 1.5 baths. Newer kitchen. Hardwood floors. Living room w/fireplace. Furnace C/A roof & more! Fin shed bsmt Deck 2.5 car garage \$153,900 (NA127)

JUST LISTED!
A HOME FOR YOU!
Downtown Royal Oak! Updated 3 bdrm 2 bath brick bungalow. Living room w/fireplace. Dining room family room kitchen granite & appliances. Finished bsmt w/wet bar 2 car garage. Nice yard. Scaped lot w/privacy fence \$235,000 (CA160)

JUST LISTED!
A HOME FOR YOU!
Downtown Royal Oak! Updated 3 bdrm 2 bath brick bungalow. Living room w/fireplace. Dining room family room kitchen granite & appliances. Finished bsmt w/wet bar 2 car garage. Nice yard. Scaped lot w/privacy fence \$235,000 (CA160)

JUST LISTED!
SOUTHFIELD
Well maintained 3 bed room 1.5 bath Colonial. Formal living room family room with fireplace kitchen w/breakfast area & 1st floor laundry. Updates include windows furnace central air garage door w/opener & more \$194,900 (TA282)

JUST LISTED!
SOUTHFIELD
SUPER STARTER HOME! Super lot! Super clean! Super size rooms! 2 bdrm 1 bath ranch. Eat in kitchen. Appliances & some furnishings stay. C/A Patio porch 2 car garage. Fenced yard. Newer roof & furnace \$109,900 (SH271)

JUST LISTED!
SOUTHFIELD
SUPER STARTER HOME! Super lot! Super clean! Super size rooms! 2 bdrm 1 bath ranch. Eat in kitchen. Appliances & some furnishings stay. C/A Patio porch 2 car garage. Fenced yard. Newer roof & furnace \$109,900 (SH271)

Waterford 3423

JUST LISTED!
ONLY \$159,900!
Open & airy 3 bedroom contemporary living room w/hardwood floors. Nice sized laundry room & plenty of storage space. Updated kitchen & bath. Newer windows & ceramic flooring (LA104)

JUST LISTED!
A HOME FOR YOU!
Spacious 4 bdrm 2.5 bath colonial. Circular staircase. Family room w/fireplace. Kitchen w/breakfast room that overlooks lovely yard. Master bedroom suite. Nicely finished lower level w/private office 2 car garage \$309,900 (AP554)

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Immediate occupancy. On private lot w/mature trees well maintained 2,668 sq ft. 4 bdrm 2.5 bath brick colonial. Living room for dining room family room w/fireplace library. Kitchen w/breakfast room & 1st floor laundry. Breeze way Deck 2 car garage \$399,000 or \$2500/mo (AP432)

JUST LISTED!
IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY
2,270 sq ft 4 bedroom 2.5 bath brick home w/many updates. Hardwood floors & central air. Living room formal dining room family room w/fireplace & kitchen with breakfast room. Walk out lower level. Patio 2 car garage \$244,000 (TA688)

JUST LISTED!
IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY
2,270 sq ft 4 bedroom 2.5 bath brick home w/many updates. Hardwood floors & central air. Living room formal dining room family room w/fireplace & kitchen with breakfast room. Walk out lower level. Patio 2 car garage \$244,000 (TA688)

JUST LISTED!
IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY
Upper Strata. Ake prv eyes come with 2,544 sq ft 4 bdrm 3 bath Colonial. Great room w/fireplace formal dining room & library. Hardwood floors. Finished basement. Deck w/hot tub & more \$404,900 (RO440)

JUST LISTED!
LOVELY COLONIAL
Shenandoah Lake In The Woods Sub 4 bdrms 3.5 baths living & dining rooms family room w/fireplace kitchen w/breakfast room 1st floor laundry finished bsmt Deck 2 car side entry garage. Many updates. Huge lot \$299,900 (GL591)

JUST LISTED!
ONLY \$158,500!
All brick 3 bdrm 1.5 bath ranch. Living room & family room. Newer kitchen w/all appliances adjoins deck. Loads of storage space. Ceramic floors thru out. Central air many updates 2 car garage. Beautiful yard w/gardens (PE261)

JUST LISTED!
ONLY \$158,500!
All brick 3 bdrm 1.5 bath ranch. Living room & family room. Newer kitchen w/all appliances adjoins deck. Loads of storage space. Ceramic floors thru out. Central air many updates 2 car garage. Beautiful yard w/gardens (PE261)

Westland 3445

AFFORDABLY YOURS!
FHA/VA terms Updated 3 bdrm 2.5 bath ranch w/finished bsmt Two car garage 1925 sq ft deck over looking large fenced yard \$169,900
CENTURY 21 PREMIER (734) 453-4300

JUST LISTED!
LIVONIA SCHOOLS!
3 Bdrm brick ranch in desirable sub. Finished basement oversized 2.5 car garage. Updated windows kitchen furnace & more.
PAT PUNINSKE (734) 267-5000 CENTURY 21 ROW (734) 464-7111

JUST LISTED!
LOTS TO OFFER!
3 bdrm brick ranch w/party finished bsmt 2 car garage. Newer windows & roof. Home protection plan \$189,900 (05dar)
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Wixom-Commerce 3480
COMMERCIAL For Sale by Owner. Quad level Great Area needs work 2053 Pauls Way \$240,000 (248) 668 0109

Washienaw County 3560
WILLIS 9771 BUNTON RD Completely renovated brick farmhouse on 4.68 acres. Built in 1848. 3200 sq ft. Asking \$574,900.
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CONDOS 3720
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CANTON
IMMACULATE CONDO
Enjoy the luxury of a full basement hardwood floors updated neutral carpet fresh paint skylights patio and private entry not to mention the wonderful open floor plan & award winning schools \$142,900 (99ARB)

CONDOS 3720
CANTON
IMMACULATE CONDO
Enjoy the luxury of a full basement hardwood floors updated neutral carpet fresh paint skylights patio and private entry not to mention the wonderful open floor plan & award winning schools \$142,900 (99ARB)

Condos 3720

JUST LISTED!
LIVONIA
Spacious 1 bdrm 1 bath condo w/neutral decor. Living & dining rooms. Oak kitchen w/appliances. In unit laundry. Private balcony. Carport. Pool. Tennis & clubhouse in complex \$88,900 (E1338)

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Private entry end unit ranch condo in walking distance of downtown. Great room w/fireplace. Dining room. Kitchen w/nook 2 bdrms. master bdrm w/doorwall to patio 2.5 updated baths. Fabulous finished bsmt. Hardwood floors. New window treatments and freshly painted. Pool & clubhouse. Immediate occupancy \$199,900 (W0124FS)
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SOUTHFIELD
2 Bdrm 3 1/2 bath end unit townhouse. Living room dining room. Finished bsmt w/full bath. Private courtyard & balcony 2 car attached garage w/extra long driveway. Pool & club house \$175,000 (SH250)

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SOUTHFIELD
Go geous 2 bdrm 2.5 bath townhouse condo w/finished bsmt & lots of storage. Large master bdrm. Updated kitchen w/new counters & appliances. In unit laundry. Great locat on \$134,900 (W0250)

WESTLAND - SEEING IS BELIEVING!
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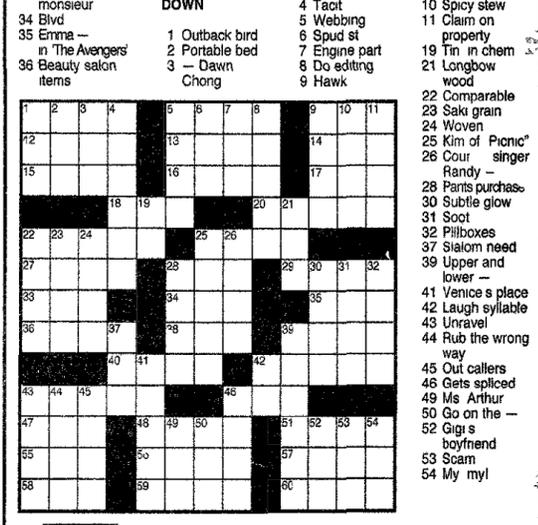
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16 Likewise
17 Recline
18 Bonfire remains
20 Dnp dry fabric
22 "Chicago" Hope star
25 Bump or knot
27 Warm hearted
28 Wham!
29 Do the laundry
33 Here for monsieur
34 Blvd
35 Emma - in "The Avengers"
36 Beauty salon items
38 Mr Woosnam of golf
39 Dry as champagne
40 Star Trek captain
42 Warm up
43 Cherry or lime
46 Kids card game
47 Tire support
48 Skilled
51 Savor fare
55 Jungfrau or Eiger
56 Guide
57 MD employers
58 Questionnaire answer
59 Sweet potatoes
60 Plummet
DOWN
1 Outback bird
2 Portable bed
3 Dawn
4 Tact
5 Webbing
6 Spud st
7 Engine part
8 Do editing
9 Hawk
10 Spicy stew
11 Claim on property
19 Tin in chem
21 Longbow wood
22 Comparable
23 Saki grain
24 Woven
25 Kim of Ponic
26 Cour singer
28 Pants purchas
30 Subtle glow
31 Soot
32 Pillboxes
37 Sialom need
39 Upper and lower -
41 Venice s place
42 Laugh syllable
43 Unrave!
44 Rub the wrong way
45 Out callers
46 Gets spliced
49 Ms Arthur
50 Go on the -
52 Gigi s boyfriend
53 Soam
54 My my!



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4000 Farmington Hills Heat included! 1 bedroom \$505 Appliances carpeting 9 Mile Middlebelt 248 478 7489

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4000 FIVE FIVE FIVE ONE MONTH FREE To Qualif ed Applicants Studios 1 & 2 bedrooms available n town Birmingham 555 S Old Woodward Call Mari (248) 645 1191

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Spacious 1 & 2 bedroom central air Carpet Walk to shopping \$555 \$655
2 Months Free Rent with approved credit
Call (734) 453 8811

PLYMOUTH 1 bdrm hard wood floors upper newer kitchen storage laundry \$675/mo 734 462 4057

4000 Apartments/Unfurnished

PLYMOUTH SQUARE APTS
50% OFF
FIRST 3 MONTHS RENT
1 & 2 bedroom central air pool From \$580
734 455 6570

PLYMOUTH Spacious 1 bdrm V lla Apts 13 x 18 living room Quiet courtyard Heat & water incl all appliances \$630/mo 1 y lease Non smoking Cable ready 734 453 0885

REDFORD COZY COMPLEX
1/2 OFF 1ST MONTH'S RENT
2 bed 1 1/2 bath \$685/mo incl water C/A secured entrances park like setting Near Joy/Inkster (313) 937 3319 EHO
www.cormoranco.com

ROYAL OAK Between 12 & 13 Mile off Coolidge 1 bed room apt newly redecorated carpet \$540/mo Heat & water included (248) 488 2251

Picture Can Make A Difference!

California Style Apts
• 1 bedroom from \$565
• Heat & water included
• Cathedral ceilings
• Balconies
• Carport
• Fully carpeted
• Vertical blinds
• Great location to malls
• Luvonia school system
(734) 261 5410

Westland Park Apts
FREE RENT
1st Month Free
2nd Month \$350
2 Bedroom, 1 1/2 bath (936 sq ft)
1 Bedroom (700 sq ft)
Rents from \$575
Security Deposit \$200
(New residents only with approved credit & 1 year lease)
Heat & Water Included
Very clean apartments
Central air intercom
Appliances include dishwasher
No pets
(734) 729-6636

Westland

WESTLAND PLAZA
Succulent 1 & 2 Bed Apts
Mon Fri 9-5 & Sat 11-5
(734) 421 1897

CONDO/TOWNHOUSES 4020

BIRMINGHAM 1 Bdrm near town sharp \$875/mo including carport heat water air & appliances 248 855 9655
ShareNet Realty 248 642 1620

BIRMINGHAM DOWNTOWN 2 bdrm 1 1/2 bath hood f u o o u b s v s h e i y e a o v e w a k o p e t s 1230 248 40 1643

CANTON 3 bedroom/loft 2 1/2 baths 2000 sq ft res w n 2004 2 car garage many upgrades \$3 000/mo (734) 844 3332

CLAWSON 841 Broadacre
North of 14 Mile East off Crooks Spacious 2 bed 1 1/2 bath townhome features pretty updated kitchen w/ tile hard wood floor full basement private entrance cute yard carport Minutes to Somerset downtown Birmingham \$965 with any days in December rent free One cat OK with fee EHO Call weekdays for appointment
The Benelke Group (248)642-8666

FARMINGTON HILLS
1600 sq ft 2 bedroom 3 bath finished bsmt no pets \$2000/mo \$3000 security 248-477 0189 248 489 3938

MILFORD Brand new luxury w/appliances 1700 sq ft 3 br \$1 150/mo 12 mo lease 248 681 7122 248 396-4036

ROYAL OAK Cute updated 2 bdrm condo All appliances included Private bsmt \$875/mo (313) 585 6119

Westland ESTATES

"WOW" \$199 total move-in!

No fine print in this ad!
Heat/Water included
\$25.00 Applicat on Fee
New Resident's Only
734-722-4700

Westland

WESTLAND HOLIDAY SPECIALS
Call For Details
FOUNTAIN PARK
• Washer/ Dryer
• Private Entrance
866-365-9238
Newburg and Va e o n a parka d men s

Westland

WESTLAND PLAZA
Succulent 1 & 2 Bed Apts
Mon Fri 9-5 & Sat 11-5
(734) 421 1897

Westland

WRAP UP THE SAVINGS

\$199 Move In

1 bedroom from \$499
2 bedroom from \$645
Free Heat & Water

*LIMITED TIME APPLY NOW!

WESTERN HILLS APTS (734) 729-6520
Mon Fri 8-6pm Sat 12-4
* CONDITIONS APPLY

WESTLAND CAPRI WINTER SPECIAL

FIRST MONTH RENT FREE

California Style Apts
• 1 bedroom from \$565
• Heat & water included
• Cathedral ceilings
• Balconies
• Carport
• Fully carpeted
• Vertical blinds
• Great location to malls
• Luvonia school system
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FREE RENT
1st Month Free
2nd Month \$350
2 Bedroom, 1 1/2 bath (936 sq ft)
1 Bedroom (700 sq ft)
Rents from \$575
Security Deposit \$200
(New residents only with approved credit & 1 year lease)
Heat & Water Included
Very clean apartments
Central air intercom
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4030 Duplexes

NORTHVILLE COZY 1 br all appliances walk to downtown Non smoker no pets Immediate occupancy \$600 plus secur ty (248) 345 6500

ROYAL OAK Near downtown 1 bdrm central air refrigerator to & range private parking \$690/mo 248 542 3486

WESTLAND 2 Bdrm 1 bath \$600/mo plus sec move n cond Available immed (734) 261 3434

WESTLAND
1 bdrm /\$450 & 3 bdrm /\$700 Freshly painted Section 8 okay Call 734 641 8327/ 248 939 1491

Westland 2 bedroom Full basement Clean & neat Quiet neighborhood immediate occupancy From \$645/mo Call Jamie 734 721 8111

4030 Homes For Rent

DEARBORN HEIGHTS
2 Bdrm Small pets OK \$1000/dep \$900/mo Ready now (248) 231 2142

Dearborn Heights 2 bed room 1 bath Pay utility as & water \$750 a month \$2350 moves you in 734 946 5897

DEARBORN HTS 3 bdrm air appliances deck pets OK \$750 Small fee RENTAL PROS 734 513 RENT

DEARBORN HTS 3 bdrm ranch garage \$700 2 bdrm ranch garage \$600 Option avail on both 248 788 1823

DEARBORN HTS 3 Bdrm 1 1/2 bath move in condition \$1100/mo plus sec (734) 261 3434

FARMINGTON 3 bdrm finished bsmt appliances 2 car gar pets OK \$950 Small fee RENTAL PROS 248 356 RENT

4040 Flats

FERRDALE 3 bedroom - den lower updated hardwood floors Pets neg \$895/mo Great location! 248 954 3292

KEEO HARBOR 2 Bdrm 1 1/2 bath lower flat washer/ dryer lake privileges \$700/mo ShareNet (248)642 1620

NOVI 3 bed large family room living room dining room bsmt garage appliances \$225 000 Call 248 225 3600

4050 Homes For Rent

PLYMOUTH LARGE UPPER
1 bed porch deck heat water stove fridge new carpeting \$600 + sec 734 453 0975

WESTLAND/CANTON 2 Bed upper Washer/dryer in unit all new Air Nice area \$750/mo 734 341 6203

4050 Homes For Rent

ALL NEWLY REMODELED
REDFORD 3 Bdrm 1000 sq ft 20411 Kinloch \$900
WARREN 3 Bdrm 1000 sq ft 3860 Bart Ave \$875
DETROIT 4 Bdrm 1400 sq ft 2 bath fireplace 18610 Tiramam \$825
Rob (248) 521 5705

4050 Homes For Rent

BEVERLY HILLS 3 bdrm appliances fenced for pets \$850/mo Small fee RENTAL PROS 248 373 RENT

BEVERLY HILLS 3 bed all appliances fenced yard new windows Shed \$550/mo 15885 14 Mile 248 478 9481

4050 Homes For Rent

BIRMINGHAM 2 bdrm bun galow bsmt fenced yard \$725/mo Small fee RENTAL PROS 248 373 RENT

BIRMINGHAM 2 bdrm garage washer/dryer On Bernavie Non smoking pets \$100/mo 248 299 4742

BIRMINGHAM 3 bdrm 999 sq ft 3 bed n 2 bath 600 sq ft open ha rd and gran te 2 car \$1550 248 788 3676

BIRMINGHAM Charming updated n town 3 bdrm 1 1/2 bath fireplace air arm family room bsmt deck 2 car garage \$2150/mo 248 646 2000

4050 Homes For Rent

CANTON 720 Scottsdale 2300 sq ft brick colonial 4 beds 3 1/2 baths family room w/replace Finished bsmt 2 car garage Patio Appliances Shed \$1495 Shown by appt only Office 248 593 0064 Mobile 313 920 5966

CANTON AREA (1 mi W)
CANTON 6 ml E (Ann Arbor) BRAND NEW EXEC 4 bdrm 2 1/2 baths approx 2000 sq ft 2 car attached garage full bsmt community pool include buy \$1595/mo w/option to buy 734 516 4395 734 981 6972

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5000's Jobs and Careers

5000 Help Wanted General	5300 Help Wanted Entertainment
5010 Help Wanted Computer/Info Systems	5320 Students
5020 Help Wanted Office Clerical	5340 Jobs Wanted Female/Male
5030 Help Wanted Engineering	5360 Childcare Services Licensed
5040 Help Wanted Dental	5370 Childcare/Babysitting
5060 Help Wanted Medical	5380 Childcare Needed Elderly Care & Assistance
5080 Help Wanted Food/Beverage	5400 Elderly Care & Assistance
5100 Help Wanted Health & Fitness	5420 Nursing Care & Homes
5110 Help Wanted Professional	5440 Summer Camps
5120 Help Wanted Sales	5600 Educational Instruction
5200 Help Wanted Part Time	5620 Business & Professional Services
5240 Help Wanted Domestic	5700 Attorneys/Legal Counseling
5260 Help Wanted Couples	5720 Help Wanted Tax Services
	5740 Business Opportunities

1-800-579-SELL

Help Wanted-General 6000

AUTO TECHNICIAN
Transmission shop needs experienced installer. Must have own tools. Top pay/benefits/honors. Call Rob (810) 229-7878

AUTOMOTIVE BODY TECHNICIAN
Immediate opening for a Body Technician in one of the fastest growing collision shops in SE Michigan. Must have a minimum of five years experience with proven quality work skills. Extremely busy shop with all new latest technology equipment. Excellent pay plan and benefits package. Contact Ron Richards to arrange an interview. Equal opportunity employer.
Dick Scott Collision
Plymouth MI
(734) 451-2555

Help Wanted-General 6000

COMMUNITY MANAGER

Seeking experienced qualified candidates for Community Manager in the Detroit metropolitan area. The Community Manager administers and maintains all phases of apartment community operations under the direction of the Director of Property Management and Acquisitions. Areas of responsibility include human resources, maintenance, monitoring market conditions and advertising budget development and control, leasing and resident relations. High school diploma or equivalent required. College degree or related course work preferred. A minimum of three years residential or commercial property management experience required. Section 8 helpful must also be able to use computerized property management/accounting software. Successful candidates must possess excellent communication leadership and budgeting processes. If interested please fax resume with cover letter to: Community Manager at Berger Real Estate Group (248) 905-5511 or e-mail to: hrnewsnew@hotmail.com
Equal Opportunity Employer

Help Wanted-General 6000

DELIVERY DRIVER LOCAL - WANTED

Must have CDL B Hazmat endorsement a plus! Mechanically inclined and have customer service skills with knowledge of the metro area. Mail or Fax resume to 13455 Stamford Ct Livonia MI 48150 Fax (734) 427-4493

Help Wanted-General 6000

GARDEN CITY SCHOOLS NEEDS PART TIME TEACHERS

SECONDARY
Art Child Development Food Management Health Math Medical Insurance Billing Music Networking Physical Education Science Spanish and Veterinary Assisting
ELEMENTARY
Art Computers Music Physical Education and Spanish
Please contact Jack Pelon Director (734) 762-8430 (734) 762-8534

Help Wanted-General 6000

Loan Officer

Choose a new career path in 2005. Unlimited income potential. benefits comprehensive mortgage training. Fax resume to 248-746-1297 or email to careers@haminmortgage.net

MAILING
Printing firm looking for person to manage direct mail department. Experience with mailing equipment a must. Call (734) 427-2887

MAINTENANCE PERSON
Full time experience. Must be reliable and have dependable transportation. Immediate opening. 248-357-1592

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN
Full time experienced for Canton apt community. Great opportunity for night person. Please call 734-397-1080

MARKETER NEEDED
Earn income marketing to other local businesses. Call 248-756-2246 or 248-756-2246. Novi 248-756-2246. Westland 734-421-2775

MECHANIC (small engine)
Repair & perform regular maintenance of equipment including blowers, walk behind mowers & snow blowers. Must be able to perform routine car & light truck maintenance. Fax resume to 734-397-5909

MECHANIC/EXPERIENCED
All phases auto & truck Certification helpful. 313-532-5210

NATIONAL TITLE INSURANCE CO
looking for people at our Livonia office for all aspects of title work. Great benefits full time. Please fax resume to 866-276-7197

Help Wanted-General 6000

SERVICE SHOP MANAGER

Responsible for managing vehicle service shop. Must be able to set & monitor maintenance schedule, set priorities & find and order parts. Experience & CDL a must. Fax 734-357-5909

SERVICE TECHNICIAN
Hydraulics pneumatics and computer integration. Fax resume to (248) 735-8868

SNOW REMOVAL
Company looking for 1 plow driver. Also multiple sidewalk positions. Possible long term employment through summer months. Call Scott 734-667-2476

TAX PREPARERS NEEDED
Convenient Times & Locations
Training provided starts 1/3/05
Garden City 248-756-2246
Livonia 248-921-9959
Novi 248-756-2246
Westland 734-421-2775

TELEMARKETERS
Part time evening work. Hourly plus bonus. 734-207-0255

TELEMARKETERS
Part time or full time for CPA firm. Experience necessary. Call Bruce 248-417-4095

TRUCK DRIVER
for local car hauling. Must have CDL A. Excellent pay. Call 734-216-4576

Help Wanted-General 6000

WAREHOUSE MANAGER

Shipping receiving counter sales. Full time Oak Park location. (248) 399-7901

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
For fast growing News Talent Agency/PR Firm. Hours 8:30-5:00 pm. Will pay \$12/\$14. Huntington Woods. Call (248) 545-2222

CLOSING DEPARTMENT
Needs exp Processors. Full time. Good benefits. Fax resume to 866-276-7197

CUSTOMER SERVICE REP
Service inbound/outbound. phone calls. good communication skills. Hourly salary bonus. Call (734) 513-6110

DATA ENTRY Could earn \$15/hour and up! Medical billing. Training provided. Required! Call 7 days. 1-800-935-1311 ext 308

LEASING CONSULTANT
Aarbors of West Bloomfield Apartments is seeking to fill immediate PART TIME position. Must be able to work weekends. We offer competitive wages & commissions. EEO. Call 248-661-5870 for more information or fax resumes to 248-661-9290. Attention Vanessa

This Classification continues in Section G

Help Wanted-General 6000

APARTMENT MAINTENANCE

Maintenance Tech needed. Must be HVAC qualified. Have previous Apt Maintenance experience on call position.

FREE HOUSING
Great Pay and Benefits. Drug test required. Openings in Dearborn. Apply in person at Windsor at Fairlane Meadow. 4900 Heather Drive or fax resume to (313) 336-9393

APARTMENT MANAGER
Needed for 150 unit Canton Township Apartment Community. Must be experienced. Free home excellent salary and benefits. Fax qualifications and experience to (248) 357-9654

ASSISTANT MANAGER
Oakland County American House Senior Living Residence. Must have a business/accounting background and enjoy working with senior citizens. Fax resume to 248-203-2929

College Students \$12.50 base-apt
1-5 weeks part time flexible schedule. customer sales/service conditions apply. ages 18+. (248) 425-0633

Auto COLLISION REPAIR SHOP MANAGER
Experienced in around nd vidual customer satisfaction on and employee retention. Must reside within 20 miles drive time from city of Livonia. Please send to Box 1028 Observer & Eccentric Newspaper 36251 Schoolcraft Rd Livonia MI 48150

Help Wanted-General 6000

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Help Wanted-General 6000

CAD OPERATOR/PROCESS ENGINEER

State of the art Tool & Die related Company is in need of entry level or experienced CAD operators. Ambitious individual should have CAD experience and general machining knowledge. Position includes full benefits package. 13 paid holidays and great career and advancement opportunity. EOE

Mail fax or email resume to: Moeller Manufacturing c/o Engineering 43938 Plymouth Oaks Plymouth MI 48170 Fax (734) 416-2200 E-mail nlynn@moellerpunch.com www.moellerpunch.com

CAREGIVERS in home care agency needs dependable people to care for the elderly in Plymouth Canton Belleville & Westland. 248-477-5680

CARPENTERS ROUGH FRAME
Exp only Westland area. Leave Msg (734) 667-2372

Help Wanted-General 6000

CONSTRUCTION LABORER

Established residential builder in Canton and Wixom has an opening for a full time hardworking and dependable person. Must have reliable transportation. General clean up and laborer responsibilities. Starting at \$11/hr. benefits available. Call Peter at (248) 905-5511 or e-mail to hrnewsnew@hotmail.com

DRIVER
Needed for 5 state area of Michigan. CDL A and X endorsement a must. Tanker exp required. Pay negotiable. Excellent benefits. Medical prescription 401(k) and vacation. Please email: ljppich@generalolico.com or fax resume to Lynn at (734) 266-6400

DRIVER Tow truck Flat bed/wrecker. All shifts. Must have experience. Excellent future. 248-353-4869

DRIVER CDL NEEDED
Must be flexible and willing to assist in other areas where required. Please fax resume to 734-397-5909

Drivers

\$1,000 Sign On (For Exp d OTR s) PAY INCREASE!

USA TRUCK®

- No NYC & Pay On Delivery Available
- Dedicated & Regional

Owner Op's Teams & Student Grads Welcome
CALL 7 DAYS A WEEK 800-237-4642
www.usatruck.com

Help Wanted-General 6000

HAIR STYLIST NEEDED

Apply at Fantastic Sam's Canton Center at Cherry Hill (734) 812-0587

HOUSEKEEPER
Full time benefits 8.5 per hr. 734-729-4020 EOE

HVAC INSTALLER
Experienced person to run crew. Competitive wages BC/BS & more to ambitious person seeking a career. Dan Wood Plumbing & Heating 248-348-4242

HVAC SERVICE
Are you a top notch technician? Join our group of professionals commercial & residential experience required. Competitive wages BC/BS & more. Dan Wood Plumbing & Heating 248-348-4242

INTERIOR DESIGNER
Looking for a visually talented Assistant. Must be able to do manual work in warehouse and project installations. A wonderful opportunity for the right person. Salary commensurate with exp. No benefits. Please respond by email: mary@designinteriors.com

JANITORS/CLEANERS
\$7.50/hr Part Time M-F eve. Plymouth/Canton. 734-283-6934

LANDSCAPE SUPERVISOR
Responsible for managing all aspects of landscape projects. Experienced & CDL required. Must be willing to assist in winter plowing & salting activity. Fax resume to (734) 397-5909

Help Wanted-General 6000

ROOFERS / CARPENTERS

wanted For fireplace installations (Will train) Full time w/benefits 401K Life & Health insurance Full medical. Ask for Mr Green 248-547-6777
A NICE PLACE TO WORK!

SLITTER HELPER
For Steel Processing. Must have 3 years experience. Full time benefits. Apply in person 13900 Joy Rd Detroit

Help Wanted-General 6000

PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR

Growing medical device manufacturer in Wixom. Ideal candidate will have 3 years supervisory experience in a manufacturing environment. Knowledge of GMP and FDA regulations a plus. Strong organizational interpersonal and math skills required. Fax resume to (248) 960-9119 Attn Plant Manager

Help Wanted-General 6000

TRUCK DRIVER

for local car hauling. Must have CDL A. Excellent pay. Call 734-216-4576

Help Wanted-General 6000

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Help Wanted-General 6000

POLICY

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ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR
For senior apartment complex. Fax resumes to 248-203-2929 or email to: enkaah@comcast.net

When seeking out the best deal check out the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds! 1-800-579-7355

Help Wanted-General 6000

APARTMENT MAINTENANCE

Maintenance Tech needed. Must be HVAC qualified. Have previous Apt Maintenance experience on call position.

FREE HOUSING
Great Pay and Benefits. Drug test required. Openings in Dearborn. Apply in person at Windsor at Fairlane Meadow. 4900 Heather Drive or fax resume to (313) 336-9393

APARTMENT MANAGER
Needed for 150 unit Canton Township Apartment Community. Must be experienced. Free home excellent salary and benefits. Fax qualifications and experience to (248) 357-9654

ASSISTANT MANAGER
Oakland County American House Senior Living Residence. Must have a business/accounting background and enjoy working with senior citizens. Fax resume to 248-203-2929

College Students \$12.50 base-apt
1-5 weeks part time flexible schedule. customer sales/service conditions apply. ages 18+. (248) 425-0633

Auto COLLISION REPAIR SHOP MANAGER
Experienced in around nd vidual customer satisfaction on and employee retention. Must reside within 20 miles drive time from city of Livonia. Please send to Box 1028 Observer & Eccentric Newspaper 36251 Schoolcraft Rd Livonia MI 48150

Help Wanted-General 6000

CAD OPERATOR/PROCESS ENGINEER

State of the art Tool & Die related Company is in need of entry level or experienced CAD operators. Ambitious individual should have CAD experience and general machining knowledge. Position includes full benefits package. 13 paid holidays and great career and advancement opportunity. EOE

Mail fax or email resume to: Moeller Manufacturing c/o Engineering 43938 Plymouth Oaks Plymouth MI 48170 Fax (734) 416-2200 E-mail nlynn@moellerpunch.com www.moellerpunch.com

CAREGIVERS in home care agency needs dependable people to care for the elderly in Plymouth Canton Belleville & Westland. 248-477-5680

CARPENTERS ROUGH FRAME
Exp only Westland area. Leave Msg (734) 667-2372

Help Wanted-General 6000

CONSTRUCTION LABORER

Established residential builder in Canton and Wixom has an opening for a full time hardworking and dependable person. Must have reliable transportation. General clean up and laborer responsibilities. Starting at \$11/hr. benefits available. Call Peter at (248) 905-5511 or e-mail to hrnewsnew@hotmail.com

DRIVER
Needed for 5 state area of Michigan. CDL A and X endorsement a must. Tanker exp required. Pay negotiable. Excellent benefits. Medical prescription 401(k) and vacation. Please email: ljppich@generalolico.com or fax resume to Lynn at (734) 266-6400

DRIVER Tow truck Flat bed/wrecker. All shifts. Must have experience. Excellent future. 248-353-4869

DRIVER CDL NEEDED
Must be flexible and willing to assist in other areas where required. Please fax resume to 734-397-5909

Drivers

\$1,000 Sign On (For Exp d OTR s) PAY INCREASE!

USA TRUCK®

- No NYC & Pay On Delivery Available
- Dedicated & Regional

Owner Op's Teams & Student Grads Welcome
CALL 7 DAYS A WEEK 800-237-4642
www.usatruck.com

Help Wanted-General 6000

HAIR STYLIST NEEDED

Apply at Fantastic Sam's Canton Center at Cherry Hill (734) 812-0587

HOUSEKEEPER
Full time benefits 8.5 per hr. 734-729-4020 EOE

HVAC INSTALLER
Experienced person to run crew. Competitive wages BC/BS & more to ambitious person seeking a career. Dan Wood Plumbing & Heating 248-348-4242

HVAC SERVICE
Are you a top notch technician? Join our group of professionals commercial & residential experience required. Competitive wages BC/BS & more. Dan Wood Plumbing & Heating 248-348-4242

INTERIOR DESIGNER
Looking for a visually talented Assistant. Must be able to do manual work in warehouse and project installations. A wonderful opportunity for the right person. Salary commensurate with exp. No benefits. Please respond by email: mary@designinteriors.com

JANITORS/CLEANERS
\$7.50/hr Part Time M-F eve. Plymouth/Canton. 734-283-6934

LANDSCAPE SUPERVISOR
Responsible for managing all aspects of landscape projects. Experienced & CDL required. Must be willing to assist in winter plowing & salting activity. Fax resume to (734) 397-5909

Help Wanted-General 6000

ROOFERS / CARPENTERS

wanted For fireplace installations (Will train) Full time w/benefits 401K Life & Health insurance Full medical. Ask for Mr Green 248-547-6777
A NICE PLACE TO WORK!

SLITTER HELPER
For Steel Processing. Must have 3 years experience. Full time benefits. Apply in person 13900 Joy Rd Detroit

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PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR

Growing medical device manufacturer in Wixom. Ideal candidate will have 3 years supervisory experience in a manufacturing environment. Knowledge of GMP and FDA regulations a plus. Strong organizational interpersonal and math skills required. Fax resume to (248) 960-9119 Attn Plant Manager

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TRUCK DRIVER

for local car hauling. Must have CDL A. Excellent pay. Call 734-216-4576

Help Wanted-General 6000

WAREHOUSE MANAGER

Shipping receiving counter sales. Full time Oak Park location. (248) 399-7901

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
For fast growing News Talent Agency/PR Firm. Hours 8:30-5:00 pm. Will pay \$12/\$14. Huntington Woods. Call (248) 545-2222

CLOSING DEPARTMENT
Needs exp Processors. Full time. Good benefits. Fax resume to 866-276-7197

CUSTOMER SERVICE REP
Service inbound/outbound. phone calls. good communication skills. Hourly salary bonus. Call (734) 513-6110

DATA ENTRY Could earn \$15/hour and up! Medical billing. Training provided. Required! Call 7 days. 1-800-935-1311 ext 308

LEASING CONSULTANT
Aarbors of West Bloomfield Apartments is seeking to fill immediate PART TIME position. Must be able to work weekends. We offer competitive wages & commissions. EEO. Call 248-661-5870 for more information or fax resumes to 248-661-9290. Attention Vanessa

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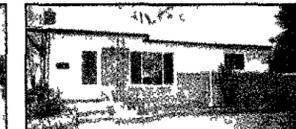
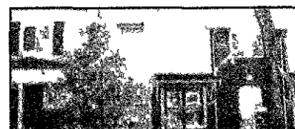
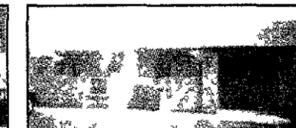
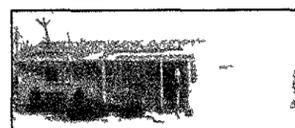


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16 Offices to Serve You

www.CENTURY21Town-Country.com

 <p>BROWNSTOWN You Can Have It All! 3 bdrm 2.5 bath colonial in Dawnshe re Sub offers 2.5 car att garage prof l n shed basement a ge master bedroom w/WIC & bath 1st floor laundry large kitchen leads to large wood deck (01SPR) 734 455 5600 \$202,000</p>	 <p>CANTON Amazing Cape Cod Charming 3 bdrm 2.5 bath home w/gourmet kit w/s and granite counters & tile fir P of fin bsmt w/wet bar WIC & entertainm rm 2 car att gar l eplace n great rm & much much more (20DAN) 734 455-5600 \$354,900</p>	 <p>CANTON Meadowbrook Colonial Spacious 4 bdrm 2.5 bath home w/2 car att garage l u bsmt step up master sta h/wid flrs fam rm w/1st ep ace bay w ndows vaulted ceilings prof landscaped lot (57MYS) 734 455 5600 \$349,900</p>	 <p>WESTLAND Quiet Neighborhood 2BR 2.5BA condo Freshly painted & carpeted Newer appliances stay Gas I replaces in GR w/W/D to deck from DR Partially fenced backyard Full bath n the prof finished LL Extra Room w/closet 1 car garage (E09PHE) 248 349 5600 \$157,900</p>	 <p>NORTHVILLE Historic Northville Downtown location nestled into warm wooded area Close to parking washer & dryer in building Recently renovated newer carpet kitchen and bath cabinets Newer windows roof paint Must see to believe (E25FAI) 248 349 5600 \$100,900</p>
 <p>PLYMOUTH Traditional Colonial Sitting on a tree-lined street with a walk n g distance to downtown Plymouth Fam w/1 eplace overook ng treed back yard + part a y n shed basement & 2 ca att ga all offe ed n ths 4 bd m 2.5 bath home (16HAR) 734 455 5600 \$279,900</p>	 <p>CANTON Sunflower Maintenance Free Co on a loaded w updates Roof approx 6 yrs siding & gutters Wals de v ndows newer tu n 50 gal HWH Kt has newer stove 1 yr DW d sposal & fr ng Updated baths FR w/FP doo wall & part f n bsmt (44BAR) 734 455 5600 \$279,900</p>	 <p>WYANDOTTE Spacious Starter Lg 2 bdrm 2 bath 1.5 c gar w opener updated kit w ndows roof elec plumb roof & s d ng Forma d n ng room eat n kt bsmt w/full bath lg ot all appls & f eshly pa med (405TH) 734 455 5600 \$119,900</p>	 <p>PLYMOUTH Walk to Downtown Desirable P neewood Village condo Newer Barber ca pet & freshly painted Nice oak kitchen cab nets Why rent? Neutral dcor All appliances stay Occupancy s negotiable (E14PIN) 248 349 5600 \$129,900</p>	 <p>NORTHVILLE Timber Ridge Beauty Spectacular brick color on a premium lot backing to commons Lovely ha dwood floors gorgeous wood paneled study great floor plan fully fin LL w/4th BR full bath kitchen area saune game room Won't last (E51SCE) 248 349 5600 \$479,000</p>
 <p>GARDEN CITY Updated Brick Ranch This brick ranch is a gem for you Updates include roof (lea off) tu naca & CA w ndows kitchen cab nets Partly fin basement and nca s d ed lot offe ed n ths 3 bedroom home Appliances negotiable (33BEL) 734 455 5600 \$139,900</p>	 <p>CANTON Absolutely Fabulous kitchen w/ght cak cabs & fr + Cor an counter tops Fam rm w/gas trpic & skylght Parquet n foyer & hallway Updated w ndows roof & more offered n ths 3 bdrm 1.5 bath ranch + part fin bsmt & 2 car gar (54HAN) 734 455 5600 \$227,900</p>	 <p>DETROIT A Wonderful Find 3 bdrm br ck bunga ow w/ eat curb appeal Liv rm w/natural trpic formal d n rm w/chandelier mstr bdrm w/closet part fin bsmt w/lock w ndows & wet bar + all app ances (36PIN) 734 455 5600 \$81,000</p>	 <p>NOVI Elegant Custom Cape Cod A g and entry greets you w/ travertine floor ng circular staircase cherry cabinets and granite T/O Sta mass steel App ances an impressive fn W/O LL w/full kitchen No expense was spared A defin to must see (E64ROB) 248 349 5600 \$849,900</p>	 <p>NOVI Autumn Park Colonial 4BR 3.5BA home on premium wooded lot in one of Nov s finest subs Two story FR 4 season sun room Extra deep bsmt w/skylght w ndows brick bever patio kitchen w/ Maple cabs formal DR 2nd floor laundry (E90SUN) 248 349 5600 \$639,900</p>
 <p>CANTON Shows Like a Model Built n 2002 Stunning 2 bd m 2 bath ranch w/att gar ba cony overooks se ene park setting Open concept w vaulted ce ngs h dwd flrs & ce am c Mst bd m un ke no others DR a perfect 10 (86CON) 734 455 5600 \$218,900</p>	 <p>REDFORD Won't Last Long Beautiful updated ranch offe s 2 car garage w/newe oof n bsmt w dry ba Newe furnace CA kit f oof ng windows 6 panel doors & front porch (28GAR) 734 455 5600 \$119,900</p>	 <p>INKSTER Wonderful Find Br ck home n this local updates incl roof furn W/HW v ny windows CA plumbing d veway & po ch All updates are energy effecent Nice fenced ya d w g eat landscaping (83ARL) 734 455 5600 \$100,900</p>	 <p>NOVI Sunsets on Walled Lake View of Walled Lake from wrap around porch Open floor an neutra dcor & some hardwood 4BR 2 full bath Stove & e ge ator Home warranty Lake prv eges (E02SLA) 248 349 5600 \$229,000</p>	 <p>REDFORD Charming Ranch Brck 3BR home w/ fantastic oak kit spacious LR & DR Maste BR w/ ple closet doors Vinyl w ndows newer concrete f n bsmt w th qlck windows Pat o newer conc etc 2 ca garage Well ma ntained (E90TEC) 248 349 5600 \$144,900</p>
 <p>DEARBORN Sharp Updated Bungalow Cozy 3 bd m 1.5 bath br ck home w great cu b appeal Newer oak cabs n updated kt + updated roof v ny w ndows Spacious mstr bdrm w oots of sto age + fin bsmt w/d y gar & half bath (41COR) 734 455 5600 \$144,900</p>	 <p>GROSSE ILE Wonderful Colonial 4 bdrm 2.5 bath home on wooded offe s mst ste w Jacuzzi tub & vaulted ce ng formal v rm d n ng rm fam rm w/1 eplace FFL fin bsmt 2 car att gar spr nk ars & br ck patio (82BAL) 734 455 5600 \$339,900</p>	 <p>LINCOLN PARK Lincoln Park Ranch 2 bd m 1 bath ranch w th newer HWH s d ng w ndows Central ar 1.5 ca ga age stove & e f g One year home warranty (72GRA) 734 455 5600 \$79,900</p>	 <p>FARMINGTON HILLS Rare Find Fret t me offering 3BR 2BA condo w/beaut ful f n bsmt & ett gar H/wid too s 6 panel doors & many extras FFL Super low ng floor an End unit w/wooded v ew Boisford Commons Condo a 50+ commun ty (E64SYC) 248 349 5600 \$249,900</p>	 <p>NORTHVILLE Walking Distance to Town Contempo a y condo w many upgrades Hardwood floors heated floor n master bath Large WIC fin LL W/O Two Large bedrooms 2 car att gar on a wooded setting All appliances Large deck off din ng room (E0MOMU) 248 349 5600 \$339,900</p>
 <p>COMMFRCE Canal Front Move n Co on 3 BR 2 w ndows many expensive updates sept w el n p w ndows CA & corra leading ng to overszed dec 2.5 car ga sharp f n bsmt w/wc ba + boat laun h S t ng on lg of A must see (86CRY) 734 455 5600 \$208,000</p>	 <p>CANTON Don't Miss This One! New paint n this ove y 3 bd m 1.5 bath colonial condo Kit has ght cabs pantry & breadst bar Spacious rooms din ng oom overooking commons area lg bsmt & carport (74FRA) 734 455 5600 \$139,900</p>	 <p>ALBION 4 BR, 2BA Remodeled Home Enjoy th s updated roomy home Large master w/W C & full bath F rst floor laundry Beautiful LR FR w wood Stove arge deck & 2 ca garage Kitchen app stay Large pantry Fenced yard roof new 02 carpet 03 (E28ALB) 248 349 5600 \$179,900</p>	 <p>DEARBORN Brick Colonial Updated and sh n ng a br ck 3BR 1.5BA home w/new new windows floors paint and carpet n 2004 Breakfast room & forma d n ng Room Near Ford Headquarters & shopping We bu lit and updated (E16WES) 248 349 5600 \$174,816</p>	 <p>MILFORD Custom Built 2001 3BR 2.5BA contemporary shows like a model Two sto y g eat room custom mold ngs library with French doors double oven & cook top newer custom deck Located on approximately 3 acres w/horses allowed (E87HOL) 248 349 5600 \$450,000</p>
 <p>CANTON Outstanding Colonial 4 bdrm 2.5 bath 2 ca att gar fin bsmt fam rm v recessed ghts nat l f eplace & built in entertainm center Newer kitchen ce am c fl s newer w ndows roof s d ng & much mo e (75BEE) 734 455 5600 \$239,900</p>	 <p>GARDEN CITY Absolutely Fabulous You won't find a cleaner more cared for home Newer const w popular sp t ranch 1 plan w/3 bd m s Prof f n lower level nat l dcor newer Barber cct freshly painted v ny windows less than a year Oak kit cabs (21BEL) 734 455 5600 \$164,999</p>	 <p>LIVONIA Cape Cod Lovely cape cod on huge shady ct in wonderfu neighborhood 3BR 1.5BA 2st floor master FFL oof s d ed 2 car garage updated kitchen And bath Lols of barren als (E64DEE) 248 349 5600 \$149,900</p>	 <p>GREEN OAK TWP Briggs Lake Waterfront Beautifully remodeled 3BR 2.5BA home w/Updated kitchen & both baths Finished W/O basement w/replace ba and 6 Person hot tub Andersen windows hardwood floors 2 ave deck and more (E49ACA) 248-349 5600 \$197,900</p>	 <p>SOUTH LYON Colonial Acres Condo Walkout ranch condo Large family room & patio Extra s nk vanity n master dress ng area Bright kitchen w skylght plan and neutral All appliances stay Great pond v ew (E07JEF) 248 349 5600 \$95,000</p>
 <p>DEARBORN HGTS Charming Brick Ranch offe s 3 bedrooms 1.5 baths newer counter tops & top of the ne appliances Ha dwood floors under carpet ga age v ed v 220 Close to go f cou se & H pes Park You won't be disappointed (12CEN) 734 455 5600 \$159,900</p>	 <p>DETROIT Great 1st Home Nca y updated 2 bdrm 1 bath br ck ranch Newer 2003 roof kit v newe oak cabs & vinyl floor 1.5 ca garage Security system Fenced yard (40MON) 734 455 5600 \$79,900</p>	 <p>NOVI Check Out This Beauty 4BR 3.5BA colonial situated deep into the sub w/prof landscap ng 2 te wrap around deck fin W/O Has BR/playroom or sep offe ce full bath large FR or rec area Wh to bay sland kt w/cor an counter h dwd fl s (E82MAR) 248 349 5600 \$479,900</p>	 <p>NOVI Elegant Southern Living 4BR colora to move n Wonderful lot Great kitchen w/arge ca net French doors lead to gorgeous FR Master Suite w/W C Wonderful master bath This s a must see home Looks like A model (E83ASH) 248 349 5600 \$423,000</p>	 <p>WIXOM Amazing Home & Lot 4BR 3BA home on approx 5 acre wooded lot w/huge country kt whearth area 2 story GR 1st flr MBR FFL screened n porch prof landscaped br ck paver w k ways spr nk system plus 1 yr Home Warranty (E64HEH) 248 349 5600 \$399,900</p>
 <p>VAN BUREN End Unit Overlooking Pond Spacious 2 bd m 1.5 bath ranch style condo v off f n bsmt w fam m oak kt w rdwd fl s ceramic tile bath FFL kt appliances doorwal to deck bus att ga age (72HAR) 734 455 5600 \$169,900</p>	 <p>SOUTHFIELD Check Out This One A most new condo w/neut al wa s & ca pet across from park setting w vaulted ce ngs 2 skylghts great rm & 21x13 loft area kit w/white cabs & all appliances and att garage w opens (E08TO) 734 455 5600 \$147,000</p>	 <p>LIVONIA Most Wanted List Th s hot new l st ng s located n the heart of Livonia and has just what you e ooking to Great floor plan w th lg ge LR Updated kitchen FR/DR f n bsmt w/w/ deck fenced yard Attached 2 car garage & 1 s move n ready (E80MER) 248 349-5600 \$174,900</p>	 <p>BRIGHTON Magnificent Home Custom built cape cod w/2 story entry ceram c flooring custom light ng k st floor master w/letted tub Dual sta case overszed 3.5 ca heated garage w/hot and cold water A must see (E38BEA) 248 349 5600 \$579,900</p>	 <p>REDFORD This is a Charmer 2BR ranch with lots of updates Home boasts updated kitchen new w ndows roof furnace and HWH Home s Well ma ntained w th neutra dcor Kitchen has white cab nets Nca yard and overszed 2 car garage (E47FIV) 248 349 5600 \$82,000</p>
 <p>CANTON Oversized Interior Lot offe s ths 4 bdrm 2.5 bath colonial has a g eat archtectura des gn w open fir plan w/spar ng ce lings h/wid flrs & spaciou ms Gourmet kit w/map e cabs open to fam m + 3 ca att ga & bsmt (01FLU) 734 455 5600 \$489,000</p>	 <p>DEARBORN HGTS Sought After Area Metouously ma nt Ranch w FR 1st flr laundry 2 car att gar & gorgeous kitchen w/gran te countertops h dwd flrs & recessed ghts Wll take you b eath away f n bsmt w/bar bath 2nd frep ace (E18IM) 734 455 5600 \$257,000</p>	 <p>SOUTHFIELD Your Search is Over Th s nored ble 4BR 2.5BA Grantbrook V ego co on a s one of the larger models in the sub Offers a newer white kitchen With oak f oos FR w/rp c FFL tread site n sub & more (E95OLD) 248 349 5600 \$259,900</p>	 <p>NORTHVILLE Location Location Great fam ly home w room to spare Spacious LR w/vaulted ce ngs & skylghts Fam m w/cozy pic Large deck off din ng room Updated kitchen furn HWH windows carpet & pant Short walk to downtown (E13ELY) 248 349 5600 \$287,900</p>	 <p>NORTHVILLE Northville Colonial Updated 4BR 1.4 BA home on beautiful treed lot Fresh paint newer carpets & windows T/O Two new door walls 02 Large MBR w/WIC Close to Expressways schools & shopping Home warranty included (E49SCE) 248 349-5600 \$289,000</p>

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Sunday, December 26 Publication

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Auto Display Wednesday, December 22, 5 pm
Recruitment Display Thursday December 23, 10 am
Liner Thursday December 23, Noon

Thursday, December 30 Publication

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Real Estate Display Thursday, December 23, 3 pm
Auto Display Monday, December 27, Noon
Recruitment Display Monday December 27, 3 pm
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you ★ For giving us the opportunity to
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women seeking men

TRY ME!
SF 37 blonde/blue 5'6" mother enjoys bowling pool concerts long park walks cycling must! especially Red Steva 1) more Seeking Macomb man to share happiness with **24404691**

SMOKE-FREE ENVIRONMENT
SBCF grandmother N/S likes dining out moving plays, bowling shooting pool parks traveling cooking Seeking gentleman 45+ sense of humor values knows how to treat a lady No game playing **2479737**

WHERE ARE YOU?
Attractive outgoing honest sexy SBF 32 ISO SM any race 31-37 for relationship I enjoy movies rollerblading come dy clubs bowling etc Serious replies only **2456371**

IT'S ALL GOOD
Cool SBF 31 5'8" N/S likes to bowl fish skate and travel seeks SBF 19 35 N/S to share honest friendship romance quality time together **2476802**

IN IT FOR THE LONG TERM
SBF 30 5'6" loves to get away for the weekend would like to get to know SBF 23 41 w/pass on for travel and life **2509782**

SEARCHING
Sexy attractive SBF 33 5'1 145 lbs. brown complexion curly hair enjoys movies, dining ISO her soulmate a compatible SBF 45-55 possible marriage **2509955**

HAVE FUN AND CHILL
SF 64 250lbs works n medical field seeking a SM who wants to have fun and chill with her **2517112**

LET'S COMMUNICATE
Active, affectionate SBF enjoys din'g out, movies, plays, concerts, traveling Seeking honest good-humored SBF 65 70 warmlier interests for companionship **2413506**

AAA YOUR HEART
Let's keep the New Year right Come into my world. SBF 45 great smile 1 m sure you'll like me **2517340**

NOT INTO GAMES
Petite W/F 60s with herpes w/ing to give it another chance seeks one-on-one relationship w/ SM Race age n important **2405796**

TWO HEARTS ONE LIFE
SBF tall med build who enjoys music, traveling, comedy shows seeks man 45-55 Nikds N/S a loving affectionate stable for LTR **2444748**

SEEKING KINDRED SPIRIT
SM 45 blonde attractive friendly kind comes to date polite seeking a SW/DM 42-62 for friendship possible marriage **2512826**

LIFE IS TOO SHORT
Mature and outgoing SBF 50 years young 5'17lbs thk not fat great leg young interested n meetng mature black man who loves to live spontaneously **2726032**

I LISTEN WITH MY HEART
At actve DWF late 40s Canoe N/S seeks specia n games WM 45+ N/S for carng playful com nited lated hery Lets e eatle spa k and watch hery **2539372**

LOYAL
SWF 43 Leo N/S blonde/blue professional chef green thumb petite enjoys cooking boating seeks compatible SBF 40-50 N/S for dating and possible relationship **2539388**

ROMANTIC NIGHTS
Black BW 42 dark complexion on enjoys movies, dancing quiet romantic n nights seeking a SM 30-45 for dating and possible relationship **2552147**

WELCOME TO MY WORLD
SF 42 med build who enjoys seaeking a spontaneous, honest hard-working sincere SM 36-47 for dating and possible relationship **2552278**

HOMEBODY
SBF 63 5'8" 155lbs red/red (but does work part time) very honest and caring SBF 30-40 N/S for dating and possible relationship **2553674**

ATTN WORKAHOLICS
SWF 39 5'7" 125lbs ISO profess onal male for friendship possible relationship Not just am candy have no nions face n don't want perfection just right person **2410965**

PRECIOUS ONE
SWF very pretty a young 39 med um dark/green works n medical field seeks attractive SWM outgoing honest caring sensitive creative for best friend **2430588**

LOVABLE AND SWEET
SBF 30 5'2" brown/brown 170lbs mother working student Libra N/S seeks independent smart BM 35-75 for friendship possible relationship LTR **2437579**

BIG BOLD BEAUTIFUL
Attractive voluptuous SBF 33 N/S beautiful smile seeks single man 21-60 who is adventurous spontaneous interested in dating **2511305**

MUST HAVE SIMILAR VALUES
SWCF 51 4'11" 115lbs blonde hair two grown children loves animals church children sports Seeking a good Christian man 50-62 for fr endsh p first possible LTR **2530353**

LOVES TO DANCE
Tall brunette very attractive 5'9" long black/brn looking for a available WM 53 70 5'10+ who loves to dance also **2531151**

LOOKING FOR AN ANGEL
in a SBF 38 80 5+ 190+ Must be honest and laid back I enjoys movies going out walkng nice conversation dinng more **2531635**

GET IT TOGETHER
SBF 28 5'5" N/S plus-sized brown brown would love to spend some time with a nice SBF 30-40 N/S who has his life together **2522089**

LOVE AND MARRIAGE
Very romantic and shy Russ an lady 38 5'10" slim, Sagittarius would like to meet an intelligent romantic man with a strict morality who is looking for love possible marriage **2529118**

WANTED: TALL, CLASSY MALE
I am in my early 60's 27 brown/brown I enjoy dancing outdoors and travel Seeking a companion and maybe a relationship Please call **2582305**

LOST IN MICHIGAN
SBPF 29 5'5" 190lbs no children never married very attractive easygoing laid back loves travel Looking for sincere open-minded, laid back male who has his stuff together **2522089**

CUTE AND CLASSY
SBF 56, physically fit enjoys jogging concerts theater go evenngs Seeking attractive gentleman over 50 with similar interests **25130522**

TOO MUCH JOY
Charming SBF 53 loves to have fun in the kitchen catches all the latest movies has good time no matter what ISO like married SBF 40-50 **2527940**

ARE WE A MATCH?
SBF 45 tall pretty enjoys working out theater cooking comedy clubs Seeking tall SWM 42-60 attractive financially secure s m/ta interests **2463446**

LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS
SF 59 likes laughng hanging out havng fun Looking for a sm for SM 38 41 N/S for friendship or more **2510395**

HOPE WE CAN TALK SOON!
I am a 5'2 brunette dark eyes early 60s searching for a tall financially secure gentleman who knows how to treat a lady **24466121**

STILL LOOKING
Attractive 44 N/S business woman Enjys tshng boating movies long walks Seeking 35+ w/same interest N/S **2525043**

SELF-EMPLOYED
Intell gant funny SBF 35 full figured Anny's marriage n med N/S likes jazz music comedy and action movies Seeking man 29-45 **2525351**

WOMAN OF SUBSTANCE
SBF 27 Capconr smoker 5 stable financially secure seeking a SM 25-45 who is stable and knows what he wants in life **2531401**

MERRY CHRISTMAS BABY
Very attractive petite BF 5'3" 118lbs youthful open-minded outgoing loves to have fun seeking a SWM 36-39 who is very open minded and outgoing **2544337**

TAKE A CHANCE
Make me laugh W/F 52 N/S tired of go'ng through life alone enjoys rock music (especially Eric Saptin) and the blues ISO male 48-59 **2547233**

ARE YOU ROMANTIC?
SBF 43 N/S N/D likes travel sports, running, dancing swimming cooking Looking for outgoing goal oriented BM 38 50 **2546448**

LET'S MEET
Tender sensitive SWF 50 works in health care a comfortable in a gown or jeans, enjoys gardening plays concerts arts fans seeking romantic fun SM 45-60 **2575713**

SEEKS PROFESSIONAL MALE
SWFP 5'10 long brown hair looking for an educated man 35 55 who likes poli sci reading and going to movies **2529129**

CUTE GIRL NEXT DOOR
Me 26 48" 155lbs brown-complexioned employed 70 5'9 6'4 190lbs-240lbs single drama free handsome French/pt first, maybe long term later **2471262**

ARE WE A MATCH?
SWF 26 enjoys the outdoors, rollerblading b'king long walks and romantic d'ng you need me **2515139** **2547233**

HONESTY REQUIRED
Beautiful full figured SBF 35 is looking for tall dark, handsome SBPM who is honest and down to earth to spend time with **2401098**

YOU NEED ME
Very attractive young fun figured med BF 30 5'6" searching for love to earth tall responsible mentally/physically/financially secure who needs you as much as you need me **2515139** **2547233**

SEXY REDHEAD/GREAT LEGS
DWF 54 142lbs 5'6" enjoys blues an male gardening homeowner no kids Seeking SM 5'10+ N/S social drinker for LTR **2547233**

TALK TO ME
SF 43 likes movies d'ng shopping the zoo time with my kids Seeking honest good looking s nice e man 38 46 29 1415

FINANCIALLY SECURE
SF 34 N/S health conscious ac ve w h d ve se n ressts cookng for a woman 25 40 who has nteg ty honesty seck ty and fem n nty Race open **2537885**

YOU GOT A FRIEND?
SPF 5 N/S N/D HPTW enjoys go'ng out havng a good time not no bars seeking the right SBF 38-43 for friend sh p first **2531171**

VERY ATTRACTIVE REDHEAD
Beautiful fun female 50 5'6 ft body short hair ookng for a laid back SM 49-61 who likes d'ng dancing havng fun **2537804**

NO NONSENSE
No looking active no-nonsense gal seeks good-looking active no-nonsense guy 35-49 white o Hispanic DWFP young fun n no SF 30-42 **2473931**

CHRISTIAN BACKGROUND
SBCF 30 no children seeks goal-oriented SB 25-37 no children who a respectful, intelligent, intellectual and respects women **2448655**

JUST THE FACTS
SWF 27 full-figured N/S enjoys movies dinner dancing Seeking man 24 35 N/S race unimportant, for friendship possible romance **2520724**

A LOT TO OFFER
Outgoing 24 N/S blonde profes onal employed loves the fun and excitement of festivals enjoys new movies and concerts seeks handsome honest SBF **2529633**

FRIENDS FIRST
SBF 28 Aquarius N/S is looking for a friend SBF 28-38 N/S Must have a sense of humor must be hard-working trustworthy, and goal-oriented **2759073**

SPORTS, EYES AND SMILE
Sports oriented BF 39 two teenage daughters physically challenged loves jazz sports, gospel, pianos amusement parks. Seeking SF 29-45 **222380**

LOOKING FOR GOOD FRIENDS
SBF 38 s looking for SWM/AM who is educated fun outgoing adventurous spontaneous laughng and conversation are good thngs. Must be a gentleman **2526589**

OPEN AND HONEST
SF 35 looking for a woman 25-45 for affection and attention Call lets add some excitement to her **2542595**

QUIET QUALIFIED
SBF 47 N/S attractive shy w/great sense of humor enjoys nature skiing plays music music tries to savor the joyous moment Seeking BM 42 55 **2460494**

THE LITTLE THINGS MATTER
SBF 41 5'4 very outgoing loving honest trustworthy hard working enjoys reading wrtng walks in the park movies concerts seeking hard work trustworthy God-fearing SM 38-55 **2471499**

LET'S HANG OUT
SF 28 5'1 135lbs CNA enjoys movies travel hanging out seeking compatible SM 25 45 who shares similar interests **2547233**

SEARCH NO MORE
Genuine attractive fem n independent SBF 56 140lbs who enjoys jazz romantic dinners quiet evenings plays n ghts n seeking honest independent sincere fem n no SF 30-42 **2473931**

BEAUTIFUL MIND WANTED
Beautiful full figured SBF 35 enjoys comedy and romance bowling walks n the park. Seeking tall dark handsome SM 33 50 **2481291** **2473931**

SECRETARY OF FUN
SWF 38 Leo N/S blonde/green mother of 2 seeks serious hard-working SWM 35 to 35 N/S who s not nlo bars **2498442**

HELLO HOW ARE YOU?
Loving down-to-earth SBF 33 4'11 180lbs, mother N/S enjoys bowling shopping movies live entertainment Seeking SBF 32 35 N/S for friend shp possible romance **2529735**

GET TO KNOW ME!
SF 38 N/S mother of two cooking for working man 28 55 N/S, for friendship first **2431382**

ATTRACTIVE SWEET BF
49 H/W proportionate medium build enjoys cruises conce ts dining out movies traveling Seeking honest pas sionate SM 45 55 w/h similar interests for dating possibly mo e **2134441**

TAKING IT IN
SWF 52 5'2 190lbs youthful looking shoulder engh har brown/brown love motorcycles James Taylor dinng seek ng SWM, 48-59 **2530084**

PETITE AND SEXY
SBF 50 Scorpio N/S petite 5'1 105lbs energetic enjoys fitness movies theater craft shows seeks similar SBF 50 61 N/S who s flt energetic similar interests **2544500**

SEARCHING FOR A REAL LOVE
Full figured African American woman attractive 44 no children ISO African American male 32-38 to spend quiet evenings I m carefree love laughte good times concerts pays spo tng events traveling and quality time **2529167**

ARE YOU THE ONE?
SBF 41 4'5 wishes to meet a kng sized SBF 41+ for fr endsh p and com pan onsh p **2595520**

MIR RIGHT
Are you a tall big handsome man that could be my Mr Right for a SWF 58 attractive ovng and fun lets share life together **2443389**

SWEET SINGLE FEMALE
looking for sweet SM SF 21 dark brown/brwn 5'2 150lbs tattoo/cpiercng ISO commnt m nced ovng kng kind guy interested n friendship happiness and a loving long to m relationship **2452322**

LET'S ENJOY LIFE
No drama no games 45 SBF nte ests, concerts plays movies d'ng and more Enjys havng fun seekng SDM for LTR **2532203**

MAKE ME LAUGH
SBF 45 smoker wants to find friendship, possibly more w/gentleman 40-60 who appreciates music travel spending time outdoors **2460269**

YOU WILL LIKE ME!
Attractive SWF 86 5'5 blonde art sl fun loving seeks well groomed SWM 60+ loves cuddlng d'ng out and sharng life **2726663**

SENSE OF HUMOR A MUST
SF 43 smoker student looking for SM 25 35 N/S who likes studying a good listener and will make me happy **2494338**

BEAUTY AND BRAINS
Hard workng SWF 50 smoker enjoys laughter movies music conversation and more Seeking healthy 1 jstworthy intelligent SWM 45 60 to fr endsh p maybe more **25328511**

SIMPLE REQUEST
Are you honest trustworthy down to earth? SBF 40 N/S seeks SBF 27-57 N/S who knows how to take life one day at a time **243681**

QUIET BEAUTY
SBF 64 shy but loves to laugh enjoys concerts movies seeking good honest SBF 43-50 N/S for LTR **2498245**

FEELING LIKE A LADY
SWCF honest pleasant long har 42 no children Likes nature walks travel cooking children feeling like a lady Seeking honest genu ne mar age mnded SDWCM **2578655**

LET'S BE HAPPY TOGETHER
Pretty sender UK an an age 54 Catho c 10 yea s n the US Seeking kng eld onsh p wth wa m hearted nca penden man who enjoys family, heatre leave **25 2 35**

ARE WE COMPATIBLE?
SBF 60 5'4 150lbs blonde hair ce 16'ed no gas astan N/S seeks BM 61 62 for fr endsh p dating penaps more **2514347**

BEN THERE? DONE THAT?
Take heart DWF young actng 53 5'9" blonde/hazel N/S works n a warehouse Seeking that special romantic WM 49 80 who enjoys an male, campng travelng and music **2517372**

EPITOME OF BEAUTY
SBF 19 5'8 140lbs N/S loves ju nst literature wrtng reading movies Looking for SM 19 34 for possible relationship **2517392**

A LOVE MATCH
SBF 43 travels on business a lot Looking for laid back happy financially secure man 50 60 who needs someone n his life **2526582**

STRIKING
blue-eyed blonde SM sensual rom antic, fun carng seeking attractive fit fun loving male 47-57 Friendsh p LTR I enjoy movies walks mus c hugs laughng quiet times. Let's get to know each other **252232**

LOVELY CULTURED TRIM
Professional with many interests and fine qualities who loves to dance. Seeks tall attractive n only-tu, educated gentleman to share a ovng romantic LTR 63 73 **2508995**

DARK EBONY
SBF 42 5'8 full figured seeks ntel gent man 48 60 5'8 6'2 med um build or heavyset for possible relat on sh p **232593**

AM I LOOKING FOR YOU?
Att active knd hearted SBF 44 5'8 full figured enjoys d'ng out movies playing cards fam ly and more Seeking fam ly oriented ntelgent humorous SBF 40-60 for friendship and com pan onsh p **2328281**

NEW TO WAYNE CO AREA
SBPF 40sh 5'6" petite with children marriage meded smoker oves drama movies, dancing and crossword puzzles Seeking WM 45 60 smoker who enjoys music and spo ts **2245545**

SHALL WE?
DWF 40 5'4 H/W proportionate light brown hair N/S oves golfng suspense movies and travel Seeking active outgoing WM 40 49 N/S for friendship **2245569**

FRIENDSHIP FIRST
God-fearing loving intell gent SBF 43 enjoys church the outdoors laughter d'ng out gosse music c and more Seeking god-fearing honest caring SBF 40-45 for fr endsh p first **2221729**

WHERE IS MR RIGHT?
SF 46 likes dancing bowling romantic evenings swimming Seekng SM 40-55 with good sense of humor **2570065**

LIBRA
DBF 50 looks much younger enjoys music long walks quiet times Seeking WAF 40-50 for friendship possible long term relationship **2533557**

YOUR WILDEST DREAMS
SBF 48 smoker loves jazz d'ng out, romantic evngs and movies Seeking feminine BF 35 50 under 5'4 horasty a must **260017**

SLIM AND PETITE
Easygoing active DWF retired ISO fun male 60+ who likes bridge tennis readng h'ng animals, kids popcorn wllng to don a tuxedo now and then **271793**

RESCUE ME!
SBF 41 5'5 average build enjoys church fam ly shopping much more Looking for SBF 45-47 professional employed N/S who knows how to treat a woman **2406835**

SEEKING THE RAINBOW
Open minded energetic spontaneous SBF 48 5'3 seeks the star at the end of the rainbow My star someone commu ncatve hearted ntelgent enjoys romance exploring life **2599477**

PLEASINGLY PLUMP FEMALE
42 year old Afr can Amer can female seeks tall handsome man who is mature N/S and enjoys being n the company of a beautiful woman **2798192**

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?
I could be all Attractive SWF 50 5' 105lbs who likes studying a good listener and will make me happy **2494338**

ARE YOU THE ONE
DBF 53 H/W proportionate outgoing oves the arts plays dancing movies outdoors concert drives ISO SM D de e w s n n ressts smoke soc a d nke ok No gas n **2417236**

FUN LOVING LADY
SBF 43 V go nce oves chocoate seeks fun ovng s ncare BM 34 56 enjys conversat on com pan onsh p **2436719**

EBONY SEEKS IVORY
DBF 42 5'3 140lbs full fig ed seeks to date SWM 40 50 n the Mount Clemens area **2545523**

VERY OUTGOING
Catho c DWF 59 looks much younger N/S very tall ookng for gentleman 56-63 w/abest personality to enjoy fam ly active s campng, travel much more **2455079**

SMN RETIRED
SF 62 5'9 slim flt kng jazz concerts, symphonies, theater travel and outdoors active Seeking intelligent honest carng humorous gentleman 55 70 with similar interests **2497817**

LOVING AND CARING
Independent active loving caring down-to-earth SF 46 N/S vegetarian enjoys movies fine d'ng travel Looking for handsome SWM/AM 45-49 H/W proportionate N/S, professional **2421896**

CAN I MAKE ME LAUGH?
Spontaneous SBF 61 5'4 average build happy independent humorous enjoys boating cards mus c d'ng walks travel go Seeking good humored SM w/s m nterests for com pan onsh p **2492703**

LOOKING FOR MY TEDDY BEAR
Attractive W/WF 64 redd/blue 5 150lbs looking for easygoing well-groomed gentleman 65-70 who enjoys meeting new people **2476646**

WARRIOR PRINCESS!
WPF 49 seeks SBF 40-52 Lets struggle and make ths wnter a total meltdown I love laughng humor readng and life **2486978**

CALL ME
If you are a business man 60 70 SWM N/S N/D homeowner interests n home life nature pets alle nte med care sports I m a SWF 73 w/hte above **2416289**

CALL ME!
SF 21 5'4 140lbs long dark/hazel N/S no children enjoys d'ng movies w/king out bowling Seeking SWM 21 40 N/S **2486873**

LIFE IS WONDERFUL
SBF 40 mother of two enjoys moves plays walks n the park quiet times at home Seeking BM 45-55 N/S DD-free who oves kcs **2589246**

SHALL WE DANCE?
SAF 66 4'11 106lbs desrea we l groomed older gentleman 60-75 who loves to dance and travel Grosse Pointe as a preferred **228134**

ROMANTIC LADY
Beautiful voluptuous DGF 42 5'6" likes traveling, outdoors Seeking man 45+ race n important to enjoy life together for fr endsh p maybe more **2464984**

LIFE BEGINS AT 60
61 year old W/F 5'12 135 lbs N/S ND brown/blue nurse enjoys cooking C vll War Revol onary War history travel seeking gentleman 56 70 loyal honest N/S affect onate enjoys being pampered **2409879**

LONESOME
Sen o W/F retired 5'4 active honest healthy Need the attention of a WM 65-75, enjoys everythng eat to please So hurry up and call me **2449585**

SOMEONE SPECIAL
Classy attractive SBF 50 5'3 120lbs ISO SWPM 50+ for spec al fr endsh p I love boating music quiet times travel at home romance outdoors moves **2333598**

EASYGOING GUY
WM 51 185lbs likes weekend get away d'ng out going to movies horseback ridng and more Looking for a woman 25-45 who enjoys the same **2525007**

SUPERMAN SEEMS SUPERMODEL
Yeah nght SWM 44 Ares N/S not hot but warm and friendly seeks undervalued W/F 33-55 for com pan onsh and to keep the fires burnng **2520307**

ROMANTIC TRUCK DRIVER
No alcohol BM 52 203lbs 5'8 no dependts, seeks slender or medium SF 38-48 for concert, weekend trips, romance d'ng out payng chess etc LTR an option **2599063**

HERE YOU LL FIND
an easygoing horseback ride SWM 40 eager to please and wllng to try new thngs seeks a fairly attractive friendly SWF for datng or more **210772**

ENJOY GOOD COMPANY
Ambitious SBF 43 5'8 smoker works n the steel industry seeks woman 35-41 who loves to hold hands and walk on the beach, for LTR **2544929**

A QUALITY GUY
DWM 58 5'10" handsome and secure seeks honest S/DWF sense of humor enjoys travel candlelg d'ners plays dancing concerts boating moves for fr endsh p possible LTR **2269646**

LIFE S A CABARET
Classy romantic intelligent SWM 50 well traveled w/ht seeks SBF 40-50 who is a good conversat onist share life romance and laughter **2490718**

THAT'S AMORE
SWM 45 5'7 180bs med um build dark brown hair scooped N/S seeks woman 30-60 5'5" and under Italian a+ N/S **2553737**

SEEKS OUTGOING SISTER
SBM 34 works in sales loves bowling go'ng to shows seeking a nice SBF 28-34 no dependts who who is established outgoing **2533322**

KIDS OK
SBM 31 5'9 mustache and beard s m build Places marriage minded security guard smoker seeks woman early 30's **253347**

MY HEART WILL GO ON
Marriage mnded SWM 28 N/S works at a Chr st an bookstore finds the mus c of Celine D on to be beautiful and touchng seeks SWF 21 33 N/S for LTR **2547145**

OPEN TO ANYTHING
Outgoing SWM 39 5'11" Leo N/S truck driver has lots of time to share w/ a nice W/F 18 45 Poss b e LTR **2547220**

ALL MY HEART
Self employed SBF 50 Cancer smoker n reading music going out to the clubs seeks single lady 28-40 who is nice interesting and attractive **2542444**

ROMANTIC
SWM 29 brown/hazel med um build 5'11 180 lbs 111 cm 111 cm 111 cm and more Looking for honest carng W/F 21 40, to build a real relationship **2546889**

SEARCHING FOR YOU
SBM 51 200lbs med um build great sense of humor seeks moves and go'ng out. W/ing to meet a fit female 30-45 with sm a nte ests **2531157**

WAITING
No ooking BM 34 one chld ookng to female 26 35 Give me a call **2530025**

ROCHESTER GENTLEMAN
DWM 58 handsome fun loving and active but heavyset w/ht came red engineer financially secure enjoys the sm ler thng n life local theater cooking and roadng Seeking S/DWF 50 60 for LTR **2533085**

TAKE ME OUT TONIGHT
Lonely SBF 51 200lbs Capconr smoker enjoys fam ly activities seeks SWF 35 47 who loves children and dancing **2547574**

OPEN TO ALMOST ANYTHING
Optim sc outgoing SWM 45, enjoys most activities open to new ideas and adventures seeks sprtted spontaneous SWF age open **2547524**

STRAIGHT UP LOW KEY
Easygoing cute SWM 40s not into loud no 99 and bg crowd enjoys art wine enjoyng movies seeks sm lar mnded lady for friendship/more **2548455**

YOU KNOWS WHAT'S GOOD?
Spending time with this bright, enthus as t, opt m sc, yet realistic SWM who is looking for a nice gal 40s or 50s **2550348**

VARIED INTERESTS
Employed SBF 27 6' dark brown eyes N/S looking for nice-looking SF 25-33 med/medium age build who's got something go'ng on for herself **2553746**

WANT TO TALK TO
SBF 27 6'1 caramel complexion med um build seeks down-to-earth SF 23-35 with sense of humor and personality **2537989**

KEEPING IT REAL
SM 31 smoker basketball lookng for a SF 18-35 to get to know No games **2538247**

GIVE ME A CALL!
SM 25 6 195lbs looking for an employed lady 19+ to spend some time with **2542492**

GET TO KNOW ME!
SBM 33 5'8 160lbs, light brown eyes light complexion looking for a female 22 43, for friendship/more **2542879**

CHECKMATE
SBM 37 5'9" 180lbs, attractive employed as researcher independent attractive enjoys readng movies d'ng romance chess seeks a SF 25-40 with similar qualities **2543182**

FAMILY FIRST
DWM 35 N/S father of 1 looking for SWF 33 42 who is done w/ht pregnancy tests ready to settle down **2440048**

WANT TO MEET A nice guy?
BM 21 looking for a nice female, go out and have fun with **2546081**

FOOTBALL FAN
SWM blonde/blue enjoys time wth fr ends movies bowling watching football seeking SF 20 30 **2549141**

THE ART OF CONVERSATION
SBM 45 6'1 250lbs variety of interests enjoys music sports the outdoors moves cuddlng on the couch intell gent conversation seekng an intelligent SBF 25-52 for dating **2550283**

A QUALITY GUY
DWM 58 5'10" handsome and secure seeks honest carng S/DWF with a sense of humor who enjoys travel candlelg d'ners dancing concerts boating movies for fr endsh p possible LTR **2507073**

HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU
SM 38 5'11" 170lbs new to town enjoys movies, and simple times ISO SF w/knd heart and healthy sense of humor for sharng sm les casual dates talks much more **2532489**

WORTH A SHOT
Outgoing honest SM 26 6' 230lbs lookng for an outgoing happy lght hearted SF full figured A+ to share casual dates talks and then who knows? **2543013**

LET'S TALK
SM 27 works construct on 5'11 185lbs brown/haze enjoys fitness, sports time with friends ISO ft athletic energetic socable SF for fr endsh p and more **2549402**

SPECIAL ONE
Handsome SBF 39 enjoys walking movies, d'ners, quiet evenings at home Seeking attractive SBF 28-44 for possible LTR **2184231**

NEW SINGLE AND SEARCHING
SBM 42 varied interests wants to meet a woman who likes to go out and enjoy themselves parks picnics and more **2546383**

WHY NOT CALL?
SWM 23 blonde/blue 190lbs, medium build seeks fun loving SF who enjoys movies d'ng out laughing and romance to share friendship and LTR **2548067**

LOOKING FOR THE ONE
Attractive educated SWM 58 5'9" 165lbs blonde/blue, never married, veter an N/S good humored down-to-earth seeks friendship and LTR **2548353**

ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME?
SBM 52 enjoys dining out movies music romance laughter the outdoors traveling honestly spontaneity and more Seeking sensitive fun loving understanding SF 47-55 for possible LTR **2203124**

SEEKS VERY PRETTY FEMALE
DWM over 50 5'11 170lbs, well-educated, executive seeks very pretty faithful female 32 39 who would like a good caring thoughtful man n her life Weight must be proport onate to height **2540913**

OPEN TO ALMOST ANYTHING
Opt m sc, outgoing SWM 46 enjoys most activities but open to new ideas and adventures Seeking sprtted sponta ne sincere SWF age unimportant **2485048**

MUST LIKE CHILDREN
W/M 5'6 150bs very outgoing enjoys spend a of time with thry daughter Looking for very attractive female 18-24 who loves camping the outdoors and more **2532099**

SEEKING SURVIVOR PARTNER
SWM 44 black/brown fit romantic, honest commu ncatve sprtted attractive Immunity Challenge survivor Seeking SF 32-44 Challenge confidant enlightened who enjoys travel fine dining sports, and theater to enjoy life **2533189**

TIME FOR A CHANGE?
SWPM 68" brown/blue flt enjoys biking going to outdoors music, movies, concerts, and travel Seeking good conversation being with fr ends and family Seeking emotionally available SWFP 28-44 who is passionate about life **2511391**

GORGEOUS BOWLER?
SM 55 seeks a pleasant, gorgeous, fit SW/AF 30-40 who enjoys bowling, d'ng movies long walks swimng n **253020**

MIND WIDE OPEN
SWM 42 Pscos N/S 5'6" 175lbs homeowner good job, seeks woman 18-25 no children any ethnicity religion **2531710**

GOOD CLEAN FUN
41 year-old SM D/D-free N/S enjoys movies d'ng seeking a SF 30-50 N/NGs, who enjoys fun and games for dating and possible relationship **2533746**

SEEKING MISS RIGHT
SBM 42 seeks special SF 29-36 120-150lbs great sense of humor N/S ND, who is outgoing professional Christian No children **2539866**

SEEKING A NEW FRIEND
SM 27 6'1 170lbs athletic build cook enjoys reading movies seeking to lookng to SF 33 who loves outdoors **2542485**

MARRIAGE MATERIAL?
Ma riage-minded SBF 24 college student loves mus c, wrtng poetry Looking for SF 22 28 for possible LTR **2543161**

HELP!
SWM 42 reformd multi-tasker slowing down for wnter talks green tea sunbats plus Rescue me from possible relapsat Do you have room n your life for a new fr end? **2540288**

SEEKING COMPANION
SBPM 45 looking for adventurous SF 35-45 to get to know and see where things lead **2540310**

SEEKING HEALTHY
SM 41 HIV+ but very healthy active and busy wants to meet a SM 25 52 who s fun to be around No drama or baggage **2541228**

SEEKING
sweet and caring man 49 looking for a female 35-55 to spend some time with and get to know **2541879**

EYES FOR YOU
SM 22 6'4 light brown complexion, pretty brown eyes father good personality good sense of humor seeking SBF/WF 18-45 for dating **2543213**

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The 2005 Honda Civic Hybrid

Advertising Feature

Thursday DriveTime



BY DALE BUSS

After decades of barreling down the wrong path with electric cars that were completely powered by punchless batteries, and could reach all of 50 miles per hour for a range of a couple of hundred miles, the global automotive industry finally has figured out that all-electrics never were the answer to making drastic improvements in the fuel economy of their fleets. As it turns out, the answer lay in creating "hybrids" that combine an auxiliary battery with conventional internal-combustion gasoline engine. Toyota and Honda were the first to field hybrid cars in the United States, and now the Big Three are in hot pursuit. The automotive market will never be the same.

It's true that, in some ways, hybrids have been somewhat of a disappointment. For example, there are serious complaints that owners of the Toyota Prius and the Honda Civic hybrids are finding actual mileage performance is 20 to 25 percent lower than the Environmental Protection Agency's lab-tested -- and eye-popping -- fuel-economy results. Consumer Reports found that the Civic, for example, averaged 36 miles a gallon overall, or about 11 miles a gallon less than what the EPA ratings called for. This reality check also makes the economic attractiveness of hybrids a little shaky, since with that mileage and even at \$2-a-gallon gasoline, it would take 12 years to recoup the higher cost of a hybrid Civic versus a similarly equipped gas-engine model.

But the industry's real problem these days seems to be keeping up with demand stoked originally over the summer by \$2-a-gallon gasoline. And over the short term, the next few years, auto makers might be introducing so many new hybrid models that they will face shortages of supplies of the robust batteries that help power the cars. They're made mainly by three companies: Japan's Sanyo

and Panasonic, the Cobasys, which is affiliated with the local technology company Energy Conversion Devices Inc., based in Troy.

For now, hybrids already have reached a sort of watershed, the way I see it. That's because, for all practical purposes, they can now be reviewed and evaluated just like any other mainstream automobile. And that is no mean accomplishment.

I recently evaluated a Honda Civic hybrid and was more than pleased by the car's overall performance. For a \$20,315 sticker price (and EPA ratings of 46 mpg in the city and 51 on the highway, dubious as those might be), you're getting a nifty machine. In fact, in its most significant comparison with a conventional vehicle, on one of those particularly cold recent December mornings in suburban Detroit, after sitting outside all night, the Civic started right up like a charm. But the subcompact, gasoline-powered vehicle sitting right next to it on the driveway sputtered nary a bit. The battery was completely dead that morning, snuffed out by a more or less typical winter day. I was impressed by the Civic.

Designers of hybrid vehicles also have learned a lot in just the last couple of years about how to remove things about these vehicles that are unnecessary reminders to their drivers that there's something different about the vehicle they're occupying. It was the original Prius, I believe, that had a push-button starting device on the engine -- very strange when you're used to a key -- and a huge, lighted flow chart on the dashboard showing the various paths of energy into and out of the battery, brakes



The Honda Civic Hybrid is rated at 46 mpg city and 51 mpg on the highway.

and other components of the vehicle so that a passenger, presumably, could keep track of when the Prius was using the battery's energy and when it was recharging the battery.

Honda -- whose first hybrid was a two-seater called Insight -- found a way, in converting one of its old-reliable fleet vehicles into a hybrid, to negate such oddities. The driver uses a key to start up the Civic hybrid much like he or she would any other vehicle. And there's no blaring flow chart showing the paths of energy through the hybrid powertrain, instead, as part of the instrument panel, Civic includes a small gauge -- very similar to the fuel gauge -- that simply shows whether the battery is "charging" or "assisting."

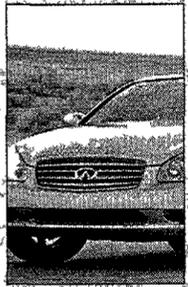
While Civic's mileage might not be all that the EPA cracked it up to be, I was still very impressed. It seemed that you could drive the Civic hybrid for days and days without really worrying about making sure the gas tank was full enough.

The powertrain's performance was fine as well. Civic hybrid had every bit as much get-up-and-go as many of the gasoline-powered cars that it competes with in that segment.

My only complaint was that Civic hybrid took longer to heat up than I would have liked. That may be the one area where the vehicle's hybrid nature is a big disadvantage.

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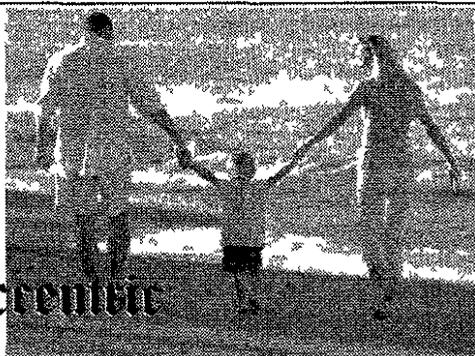
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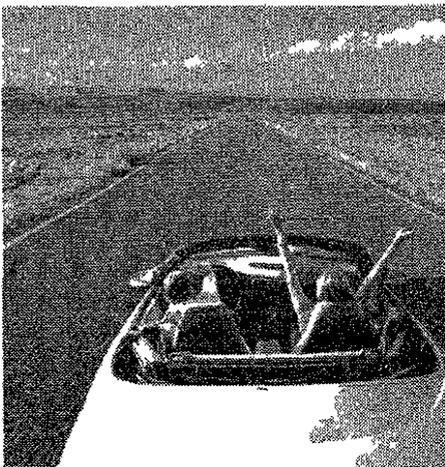
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Send fax or e-mail items for consideration in Get Out! At least two weeks in advance to Keely Schramm, assistant managing editor for features Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009, fax (248) 644 1314 or e-mail kschramm@oe.homecomm.net

Moondusters

New Year's Day Evening Dance featuring the Internationals 8:30-11:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 1, Livonia Civic Center, 15218 Farmington Road (south of Five Mile Road), Livonia. Pizza, salad & dessert. Admission \$7, guest \$6.50, associate \$6, members.

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Birmingham-Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra

Between the Holidays Special with Felix Resnick conducting Bryan Kennedy, horn soloist. 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 30, Temple Beth El, 14 Mile Road at Telegraph Road, Bloomfield Hills. Music of Offenbach, Williams, Bizet, Mozart, Enesco, Gershwin and Bernstein. \$25, children free. (248) 645 2276 or www.bbso.org

First Night Birmingham

Alcohol free event with live entertainment for all ages. 4 p.m. New Year's Eve to 12:10 a.m. New Year's Day, downtown Birmingham at St. James Episcopal Church, 335 W. Maple; First Church of Christ Scientist, 191 N. Chester; First Baptist Church, 300 Willis; Birmingham Historical Museum, 556 W. Maple; and First United Methodist Church, 1589 W. Maple. \$10 per person, free for children 8 and younger. Includes admission to all events. Tickets available for purchase until 5 p.m. on New Year's Eve at all event locations or in advance at TechnoMasters Business Center, 725 S. Adams, Birmingham, Adams Square Shopping Center, (248) 258 9075 or www.technomasters.com/firstnight

ON STAGE

Jewish Ensemble Theatre

The Dybbuk For Two People by Bruce Meyers through Sunday. Aaron DeRoy Theatre in the Jewish Community Center, northwest corner of Maple and Drake roads, West Bloomfield. 7:30 p.m. tonight and Sunday (\$33), 8 p.m. Saturday (\$37) and 2 p.m. Sunday (\$27). (248) 788 2900 or visit www.jetttheatre.org

Heartland Theatre Company

Is launching a New Play Reading Series with Meadow Brook Theatre in Rochester Hills. We are accepting non-musical full-lengths and non-musical one-acts that are either under development or have not been produced in Michigan before. The first reading in this series is scheduled for Jan. 11. Deadline for submissions is Dec. 20. Visit www.heartland.com and click on the individual project or event for more detailed information. Also accepting submissions for Play by Play 2005 until Feb. 28. Marathon is scheduled noon to midnight Saturday, June 11 at Performance Network in Ann Arbor.

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A HomeTown Communications Network publication

Hot Ticket

The winter cold is no dinner party, but science has a tendency to make all things – even bad things – more palatable.

No wonder The Big Freeze, the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum's annual event about the science of cold, is so popular. This year's exploration of all things chilly runs through Sunday, Jan. 2. The museum is closed New Year's Day.

This is an opportunity to learn about what cold is, what cold does. You know, what's going on and why are my cheeks red in the cold? Or why does the water freeze when the sun is out?" said Erin Mattimoe, public programs manager at the museum,



which experiences high attendance – a minimum of 600 visitors daily – during the week of The Big Freeze.

The program centers around hands-on demonstrations that reveal scientific principles behind cold temperatures and include making ice-cream in Ziploc bags. "It's a great, great science activity," said Mattimoe. "And, of course, you get to eat the ice cream."

The museum also provides take-home directions for ice-cream making.

Although shaking up everybody's favorite frosty treat inside a couple of plastic bags with the help of some ice is by far the most popular activity during The Big Freeze, the liquid nitrogen demos run a close second, said Mattimoe. Museum staff use the liquid to freeze a variety of objects, including fresh flowers and bananas.

"Then we use a banana to hammer a nail and crumble the flowers," said

CHILL TIME

What The Big Freeze – a special event exploring the science of cold.
When Through Sunday, Jan. 2, The Big Freeze demonstrations are scheduled on a rotating basis. Times include noon, 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. regular museum hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. Museum is closed Jan. 1.
Where Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum, 220 E. Ann St., Ann Arbor.
Tickets Regular admission for adults \$7.50, children age 2-17 \$6, kids under age 2 free, students and seniors \$6. Call (734) 995-5439 or visit www.aahom.org.

Baby, it's cold INSIDE

The Big Freeze faces winter chills head on

BY NICOLE STAFFORD | STAFF WRITER

Mattimoe, explaining the experiment is used to reveal the differences and connections between gases, liquids and solids. Another experiment, in which demonstrators freeze gas inside a balloon, shows how molecules slow down in colder temperatures. The demonstrations take place on a

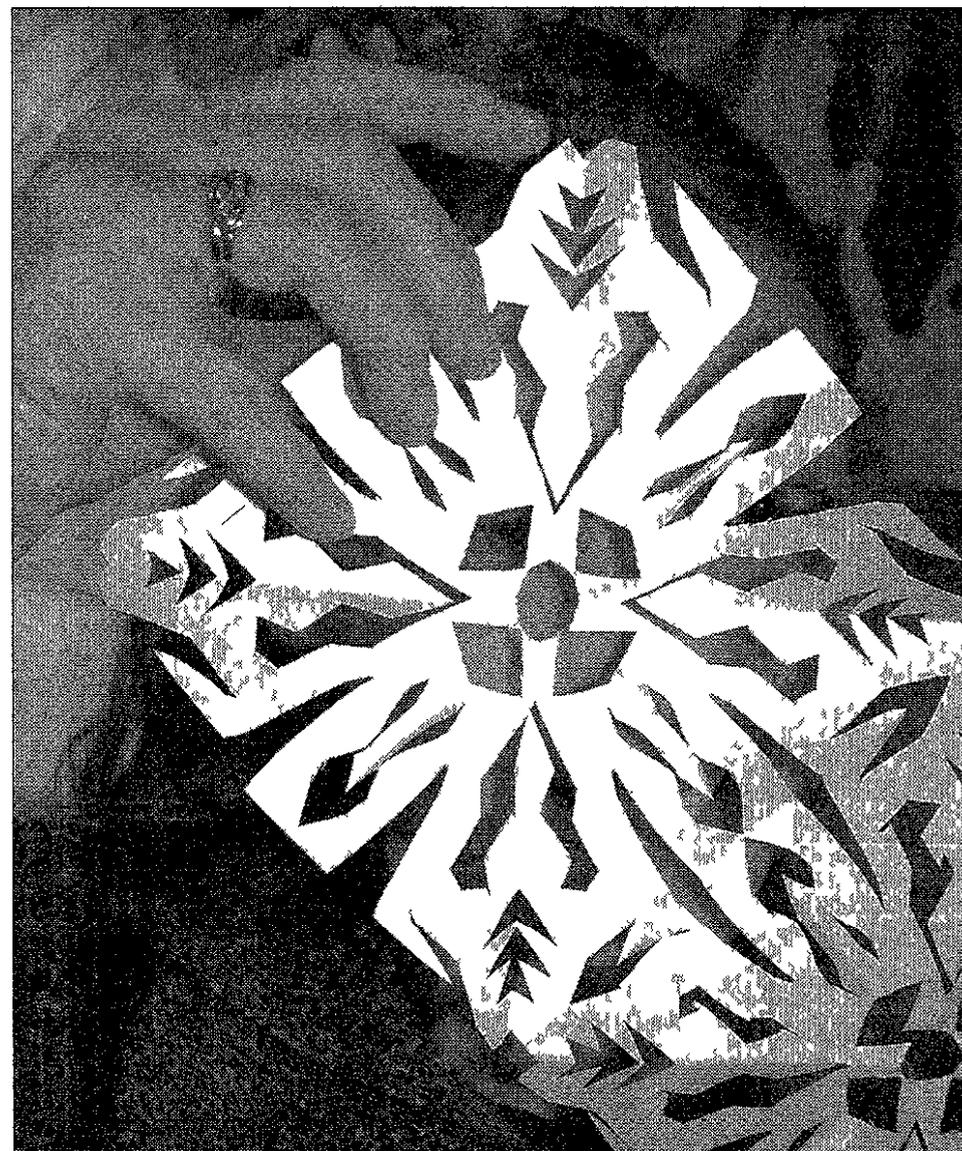
rotating schedule at noon, 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Presentations by two visiting guests are also scheduled. Jennifer Fong from Toledo Zoo is slated to talk about Inuit Eskimo culture, present Arctic artifacts and lead games and hands-on activities at 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. today.

On Monday, Jan. 2, there's "Cold-blooded Encounters," with an assortment of live reptiles and amphibians making a special visit to the museum from 1 to 3 p.m.

Other hands-on activities are ongoing and include snowflake-making and igloo-building using sugar cubes.

"Between the sugar cubes and the ice cream, we're going to have so many sugar buzzes," joked Mattimoe. "But there's really a good family energy going on. There's a lot of family learning going on."



COURTESY OF ANN ARBOR HANDS-ON MUSEUM

Kara Schultz makes a snowflake cut-out during The Big Freeze at the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. The annual event explores the science of cold.

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

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 The Fondas Underoath The Cyril Lords
 The Solution
 The Detroit Cobras **Taking Back Sunday**
 The Sights The Dollfaces The Tranzitorz
 The Electric Six
 Saturday Looks Good to Me The U



vice
 nos
 faces

Waitin' on a scene

BY KEVIN BROWN
 STAFF WRITER

In 2005, expect rock bands to get more emotional and draw inspiration from fresher sources

That's the word from some keen observers of the metro Detroit and national music scenes

"Phat" Matt, 89X FM music director, said young bands with emotional lyrics and vocal styles are winning more attention from radio listeners

"The Used, Taking Back Sunday, My Chemical Romance and Underoath have the most rabid fans as we come into 2005," he said. "They are grouped into a 'screamo' category - personally I think that label is kind of dumb, but you hear it a lot

"The appeal is two fold. The music alone is incredibly attractive. Soft loud dynamic songs that have great melodies, chord changes and even the return of some guitar solos. The lyrics are emotional and direct. Vocal styles can change from a whisper to a scream in just a few seconds. The main thing is the realness of the songs and the bands. The songs are direct and speak to the audience in a real way. The bands are real. They hang out with the audience more than ever before and after shows, so a strong connection is made."

Willy Wilson has a unique perspective as host of the *Rhythm and Blues and Beyond* show on 101.9-FM WDET, and as promoter for The Magic Bag on Woodward Avenue in Royal Oak, which presents top local and touring rock and Americana bands

"People are tired of being force fed music like Britney

Spears or the Simpson sisters. That's why record companies are having a hard time, they're not developing bands," Wilson said. "People want to be challenged with their music."

He said this explains the rise of The White Stripes, who create music from sources of inspiration that include traditional blues. "I'm glad to see bands like the White Stripes doing so well," said Wilson. "It encourages kids to pick up a guitar and make music."

Last year around this time, some predicted The White Stripes' success would spark more attention to bands lumped in the "Detroit Garage Rock" bag, particularly The Von Bondies, pegged as the next big thing from Detroit. Some said that if The Von Bondies could make it big after The White Stripes, even more Detroit bands could follow.

It didn't happen - at least not yet. The Von Bondies *Pawn Shoppe Heart* got serious attention both nationally and internationally, but their popularity did not swell to the level anticipated by some rock writers.

"I think they're a really great band and have a lot of potential. They didn't sell multi-millions of records, but if you look you see growth from the first to the second record, and I can't wait for the next record," Wilson said.

Wilson notes that some popular Detroit bands labeled Garage Rock such as The Dirtbombs and The Detroit Cobras aren't really Garage Rock at all, since they explore funk and R&B.

"On other trends to look for in 2005, there's almost a

Detroit has more bands to squeeze out in 2005



My Chemical Romance

PLEASE SEE MUSIC, E8

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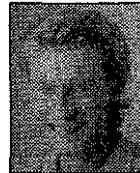
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This exhibition was curated by Marina Barovier, designed by Stella and Massimo Vignelli with David Law and coordinated by Exhibitions International, NY. The national tour of this exhibition is sponsored by Venetian in Detroit. Additional support is provided by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the City of Detroit. Go! Pont Venin & C. A canne de a 955 Pho og apthy b uca Vig e

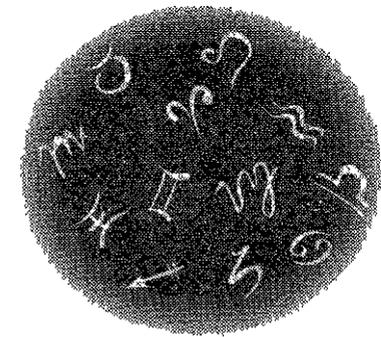


PDFEO826275



Star struck

(Dec 30-Jan 1)
By Dennis Fairchild



ARIES (March 21-April 20)

Most things will come easily to you as 2005 begins and those that don't those few weeks aren't worth worrying about. Life ain't all about work or worry. Ram!

TAURUS (April 21-May 21)

Since early December you seem to believe that all others want is to profit at your expense and you may have a point. On the other hand, if you're too suspicious you might miss out on a genuine money or love making opportunity soon. Analyze all offers. Bull.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)

Your confidence may have suffered one or two blows recently but you can sense that the tide has turned in your favor. What's happening now confirms that a new cycle has begun, one in which the disappointments of the past mean nothing. It's only now that counts. Twin.

CANCER (June 22-July 23)

Forget your recent disappointments. Moon Kid, it's behind you. Nothing is impossible. Nothing is too much for you, kiddo. If you set your heart on something this week you'll get it sooner than later whatever the odds! Aim as high as you possibly can, then go higher still.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)

You have a knack for getting others to share your beliefs but since pre-Christmas you seem to be losing ground on a current venture. Lion. With this week's celestial influences urging you to be a little less assertive you should try diplomacy rather than dogma. Aim for an open heart as well as mind.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)

Some situations are worth worrying about and some are not. The sooner you learn how to tell the difference the happier you'll be. Don't blame others when things go wrong, sweet Virgo. Accept life for what it is and then make it better. Hey, it's a new year! Live on the bright side of the street!

LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)

If you're wise enough to acknowledge any pitfalls that may lie ahead you might end '04 richer, happier and healthier than when it started. Although you don't have to, you seem to be going out of your way to show family and colleagues that you're the best at what you do. But if you try too hard they might think you doubt yourself.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)

Yep, it's a yin yang kinda time right now. Scorp! If you feel in any way disillusioned with what's been happening it's time to start thinking seriously about how you can improve your lot. One thing is for certain. Before you start anything new you're going to have to give up something old.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)

The current cosmic dance since your birthday encourages you to make a break that should've been made long ago. Every relationship has a natural life span and it's not in anyone's best interests to keep it alive beyond its time. Letting go is hard but the results may be worth it for both. Sadge.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 21)

Hey, loosen up, Cap! It's birthday time! You need to widen your horizons and outlook over the coming weeks so you can see what has always been there in front of you. It may be tempting to cling to a narrow view of reality but the universe is too enormous to let your opinions hold you back, kid.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 22-Feb. 19)

What you want to do and are capable to do are two different things. Water Bearer and something happening by January's Full Moon will compel you to face facts. The reality may not be pleasant but there's a lot more you can do to make it more agreeable. Start by refusing to lie to yourself.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)

Happy New Year, Fish! I know that you don't want to hear this but your confidence may take a nosedive this week but it'll be short-lived. Just ride it out and don't be disappointed nor discouraged. This is one of those times when seemingly negative events will have positive results.

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

Table hopping

Top Restaurants of 2004

Have you discovered them?

BY ELEANOR HEALD
CORRESPONDENT

National recognition of metro Detroit restaurants in year 2004 were topped off by the 2005 Zagat Survey of America's Top Restaurants. It cited EMILY'S, THE LARK (where new Chef de Cuisine Kyle Ketchum rolled out his interpretation of French cooking techniques in January) and The Townsend Hotel's RUGBY GRILLE as earning 28 out of a potential 29 points for cuisine. In all of America, only eight restaurants scored higher.

A sold-out guest chef presentation at the James Beard House in April by Chef/Owner Luciano Del Signore of BACCO RISTORANTE in Southfield was followed by a *Gourmet* magazine citation. In the 2004 *Gourmet Restaurant Guide* of 30 American cities, Bacco was cited as one of two "Big Deal" metro Detroit restaurants.

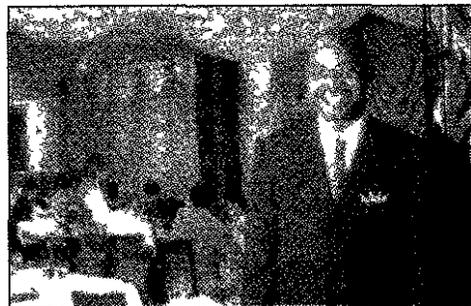
On the heels of this came Bacco's first Zagat Survey (2005) recognition as one of metro Detroit's Top 10 restaurants for food.

'STEAKING' A CLAIM

Cameron Mitchell's restaurant group debuted in Birmingham with the opening of Mitchell's Fish Market in 2003. The company opened CAMERON'S STEAKHOUSE in September 2004, next door to Mitchell's Fish Market on Willits.

With its Rat Pack era theme, rich walnut woods and jazz-influenced art, the atmosphere at Cameron's Steakhouse breaks away from the distinctly nautical Mitchell's Fish Market. A piano bar, dark leather upholstery, white tablecloths and logo-engraved china mark Cameron's as sophisticated yet overall unpretentious. And the steaks? Judge for yourself. Cameron's is packed every night of the week.

PAMPAS CHURRASCARIA BRAZILIAN GRILLE brought a new steak concept



Frank Taylor, owner of Magnolia, welcomes customers to his restaurant.

and more to Birmingham in late November. The Churrascaria, an unlimited cuts format of meats, fish, poultry and vegetables served tableside directly off skewers, has been all the rage in Manhattan. In a colorful atmosphere, the concept is fun and suited more to groups than intimate dining.

ONE OF A KIND

2004 brought three unique concepts to the area. A branch of restaurateur Frank Taylor, former Detroit Lions defensive end Robert Porcher and jazz artist Alexander Zonju opened as SELDOM BLUES in early June. Corporate Executive Chef Jerry Nottage directs the kitchen of this hip and cool jazz supper club (also serving lunch), helping prove the adage, "If you build it, they will come."

The Frank Taylor Management Group also operates MAGNOLIA, which opened in Detroit as its only upscale southern and soul food haven. Whether it's kicked up Fried Oysters, Cajun Shrimp, Oyster Po Boy, slow-cooked BBQ Baby Back Ribs, Buttermilk Fried Carolina Catfish or Chicken Voodoo, it's southern and finger-lickin' good.

With items on the menu familiar to Italian food lovers, PALAZZO DI BOCCO

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Obse ver & Eccentr c | Thursday December 30 2004 • (***) E7

MUSIC

FROM PAGE E5

metal-leaning crossover pop glam rock trend," Wilson said. The sound is epitomized by the hit band The Darkness. "They're not an imposing metal band, they're just rocking out having fun. I just see it as a mixture of pop and metal. They just want to turn up the volume and rock out. A lot of new younger bands want to do the same thing."

Record Time buyer James Teague doesn't see much changing in hip hop music. "I've noticed a little bit in some of the newer hip hop tracks there is a tendency

go a little more minimal, with less flashy production, like the new Snoop Dog *Drop it Like it's Hot*. It's really simple and sounds like the early days of hip hop."

A trend to sample classic soul and disco vocals to create choruses for new recordings is waning, Teague said. "Kanye West has done that quite a bit - I haven't noticed it in any of his newer stuff."

He's observed more use of vintage drum machine and synthesizer sounds by some rock bands, evoking the late '70s and early '80s. "It's sort of a New Wave sound coming back a little," Teague said. On another trend Teague added, "I have noticed a jump in sales the past two years of solo singer songwriters like Elliott Smith and Jason Mraz."

Creating a spin

Watch for these local bands musicians in 2005 says Magic Bag promoter and WDET FM DJ Willy Wilson

- **Brendan Benson Jack White** Look for a new CD from two of Detroit's best known performers
- **The Fags** Great new full length CD coming out on Sire/Warner Brothers this spring
- **Outrageous Cherry** The new CD by the Matt Smith lead psychedelic power pop band should be out on Rainbow Quartz Records in January
- **The Fondas - Favorites of Little Steven** Bruce Springsteen's guitarist and syndicated DJ Look for their new record to come out next summer
- **The Tranzitorz** New glam rock influenced band from Detroit featuring ex members of the Go and Godzuki
- **The Muggs** Energetic blues rock trio their new CD is to be released this spring on Times Beach Records
- **Powertrane** New project featuring legendary Detroit rockers Scott Morgan and Robert Gillespie Look for a spring release
- **The Solution** Already a huge hit in Europe this 12 piece soul band features Scott Morgan on vocals. The band is expected to release a CD in the US this summer
- **The Hard Lessons** A female fronted power trio and one of the newest buzz bands in the city. Its new CD will be released sometime in this winter
- **The Volebeats** Detroit's original alt country band has a new CD coming out this spring on the Turquoise Mountain Record label
- **The Greenhornes** Detroit garage scene favorites the Greenhornes have been cutting demos for a new CD to come out next year
- **Saturday Looks Good To Me** This Ann Arbor

- based pop group has been getting a lot of major label interest
- **The Valentinos** Formed from ex members of some of Detroit's best punk bands. The Valentinos music harks back to the formative days of Roxy Music and David Bowie
- **The Cyril Lords** Another three piece group out of Detroit that's creating quite a buzz. Look for a new single in January and a CD this summer
- **The Electric Six** Despite lots of changes to the line up and a new record label the band should have its new CD ready this spring
- **The Dollfaces** Local teens have been generating a huge local buzz. Look for a new CD this fall
- **The Nice Device** Led by Alicia Gbur look for a new Jim Diamond produced CD sometime this summer
- **The Detroit Cobras** The new CD *Baby* should be out in the US this winter
- **The Soledad Brothers** The new CD is out on Sanctuary Records. Look for a ton of press about them in the new year
- **The Gore Gore Girls** This four piece all female band can rock with the best of them. Look for a new release on Get Hip Records this summer
- **The Paybacks** Led by Wendy Case the Paybacks have been getting rave reviews in *Rolling Stone* and *Spin*
- **The Dirtbombs** One of the best acts in the city the band has been getting a ton of major label interest
- **The Avatars** Look for big things to come from this five piece garage pop band out of Ann Arbor. Wilson's show *Rhythm and Blues and Beyond* airs 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays on WDET FM 101.9 FM

"FORTUNATELY, THE MUST-SEE HOLIDAY FILM HAS ARRIVED!"
— Lisa Schwarzbaum, EW.COM

CLEARLY THE BEST FAMILY FILM EVER!
A non-stop magical journey of fantasy and excitement in an intelligent and unpredictable story. The kids were awesome, Jim Carrey awesome, Meryl Streep awesome, and the cinematography awesome.
— Richard Dyer, KIDS NEWS NETWORK

"LEMONY SNICKET'S IS THE MOST FORTUNATE THING TO HAPPEN IN THEATERS FOR THE HOLIDAYS!"
— Jay French, HUNTINGTON

"A GRAND, WONDEROUS, DARING AND HILARIOUS EXPERIENCE."
Jim Carrey is terrific. He was born to play Count Olaf.
— John Preeman, CBS-TV

"DAZZLING! ONE OF THE BEST MOVIES OF THE YEAR."
A stylish and completely absorbing adventure that's totally compelling.
— Susan Egan, FOX-TV

JIM CARREY
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A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS

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AMC FORUM 30	NOW SHOWING	AMC LAUREL PARK
AMC LIVONIA 20	BIRMINGHAM PALLADIUM	CANTON 7
EMAGINE NOVI	MJR SOUTHGATE 20	PHOENIX AT BEL AIR CTR.
PHOENIX WEST RIVER	SHORES THEATRE	SHOWCASE DEARBORN
SHOWCASE WESTLAND	STAR FAIRLANE 21	STAR GRATIOT
STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING	STAR JOHN R	STAR ROCHESTER
STAR SOUTHFIELD	STAR TAYLOR	UA COMMERCE STADIUM

CHECK MOVIE GUIDE OR CALL THEATRES FOR SHOWTIMES SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT NO PASSES OR DISCOUNT COUPONS ACCEPTED

"MEET THE FOCKERS' IS THE FUNNIEST MOVIE OF THE YEAR!"
BH! Diehl ABC RADIO



Meet the Fockers

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AMC FORUM 30 599 254 5883	AMC LAUREL PARK 734 462 6200	AMC LIVONIA 20 734 542 9909	AFC AT LIVONIA MALL 248 476 4897
BIRMINGHAM PALLADIUM 248 644 5111	EMAGINE CANTON 988 319 3456	EMAGINE NOVI 248 319 3456	BEACON EAST 513 982 7800
PHOENIX AT BEL AIR CTR 313 438 3494	PHOENIX WEST RIVER 248 788 8572	SHOWCASE DEARBORN 313 561 3449	MJR SOUTHGATE 20 734 284 3456
STAR FAIRLANE 21 313 240 6389	STAR GRATIOT 988 791 3420	STAR GREAT LAKES 248 494 0368	SHOWCASE WESTLAND 734 729 1060
STAR ROCHESTER 248 953 2260	STAR SOUTHFIELD 248 372 2222	STAR TAYLOR 734 287 2200	STAR JOHN R 248 583 2070
			UA COMMERCE 248 960 8801

CALL THEATRES FOR SHOWTIMES AND SOUND INFORMATION SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT NO PASSES OR DISCOUNT COUPONS ACCEPTED

RESTAURANTS

FROM PAGE E7

RATTORIA in Orion Township also doubles as "America's first palace of bocce," according to owner Anthony Battaglia. Whether you're in need of some good old Italian fun and food or an outing with friends or family, this unique concept fills the bill.

FRENCH INSPIRED

If you're fond of brasserie style and the vibrant, pungent flavors of olives, tomatoes, garlic and fresh seafood, **ZINC BRASSERIE & WINE BAR** satisfies. It's loud because people have fun here with Euro-comfort favorites, drawing not only from classic Paris-style fare but heavily from the warmer, southern regions of Provence, Catalonia in Spain, and the French and Spanish Basque regions.

On the other hand, **BROOKSHIRE** restaurant offers creative, contemporary European cuisine, enlivened by ethnic and American flavors in the formal setting of Rochester's new Royal Park Hotel. Among myriad European-influenced dinner main courses are the Chicken Pomme and Holland Dover Sole, carved tableside. For meat lovers, there's Herb and Cracked Pepper-Rubbed Filet Mignon, and Thyme Flower-roasted Rack and Loin of Lamb.

THE BEST

BACCO RISTORANTE: 29410 Northwestern Highway, Southfield (248) 356 6600

BROOKSHIRE: Royal Park Hotel, 600 E University Drive (three blocks east of Main Street), Rochester (248) 652 2600

CAMERON'S STEAKHOUSE: 115 Willits St, Birmingham (248) 723 1700

EMILY'S: 505 N Center St, Northville (248) 349 0505

THE LARK: 6430 Farmington Road, West Bloomfield (248) 661 4466

MAGNOLIA RESTAURANT & BAR: 1440 East Franklin, Detroit (313) 393-0018

PALAZZO DI BOCCO: 4291 Lapeer Road (1.4 miles north of The Palace of Auburn Hills), Orion (248) 371 9987

PAMPAS CHURRASCARIA BRAZILIAN GRILLE: 260 N Old Woodward Ave, Birmingham (248) 646 2158

RUGBY GRILLE: 100 Townsend St (in The Townsend Hotel), Birmingham (248) 642 5999

SELDOM BLUES: GM Renaissance Center Tower 400, Level 1 (next to the Marriott Hotel), Detroit (313) 567 7301

ZINC BRASSERIE & WINE BAR: 6745 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield (248) 865 0500

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'FAT ALBERT' KENAN THOMPSON KYLA PRATT

AND BILL COSBY JR. FRANCINE JAMISON TANCHUCK

RICHARD GIBBS DAVE JORDAN JEFFREY STOTT

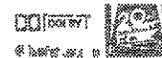
TONY LOMBARDO NINA RUSCIO PAUL ELLIOTT

WILLIAM H COSBY JR. CAMILLE O COSBY

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248 454 0366

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EMAGINE CANTON
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248 644 FILM

AMC FORUM 30
586 254-5663

MJR SOUTHGATE 20
734-284 3456

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734-729 1060

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248-853 2260

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248-462-6200

NOVI TOWN CENTER 8
248 344 0078

STAR FAIRLANE
313 240 6389

STAR SOUTHFIELD
248 372 2222

NO PASSES ACCEPTED

MOVIE GUIDE

Where available by deadline, features and times are listed.

Call your local theatre for showings for this week. Check listings below for phone numbers and websites

THE
Observer & Eccentric
NEWSPAPERS

National Amusements Showcase Cinemas
Showcase Dearborn 18
Michigan & Telegraph
313-561-3449
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*Late Shows F Sat

Showcase Westland 1-8
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ALLOWED IN PG-13 & R RATED FILMS AFTER 6 PM
YOU MUST BE AT LEAST 17 YEARS OF AGE WITH
PROPER IDENTIFICATION TO PURCHASE A TICKET FOR
A RATED R FILM. ONLY ONE TICKET PER ID WILL BE
GIVEN. NP DENOTES NO VIP TICKETS.

Star Great Lakes Crossing
Great Lakes Shopping Center
248-434-0366

Thursday Listings
BLADE TRINITY [R]
11 15 1 55 4 45 7 25 10 05
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS [PG]
9 55 2 30 2 50 5 25
CLOSER [R]
1 10 1 45 4 15 6 45 9 25 11 55
DARKNESS [PG 13]
0 45 1 25 3 55 6 25 9 05 11 45
FAT ALBERT [PG]
0 10 11 50 12 50 2 20 3 20 4 50 5 50 7 20 8 20
9 50 10 50 12 10

FINDING NEVERLAND [PG]
7 55 10 25
FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX [PG 13]
11 55 2 35 5 10 8 00 10 45
LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS [PG]
9 50 10 40 11 40 12 40 1 30 2 30 3 30 4 20 5 20
6 20 7 10 8 10 9 10 10 00 11 00 12 00
MEET THE FOCKERS [PG 13]
10 20 11 20 12 20 1 10 2 10 3 10 4 00 5 00 6 00
7 00 8 00 9 00 10 00 11 00 12 00
NATIONAL TREASURE [PG]
10 05 1 05 4 10 7 05 10 10
OCEAN'S TWELVE [PG-13]
11 30 2 40 5 35 6 40 8 30 9 35 11 30 12 20
SPANGLISH [PG 13]
12 15 3 15 6 15 9 15 12 10
THE AVIATOR [PG 13]
10 30 12 10 2 00 3 50 5 40 7 40 9 30 11 20
THE INCREDIBLES [PG]
12 05 1 00 6 05 9 00 11 50

THE LIFE AQUATIC WITH STEVE ZISSOU [R]
10 00 11 00 1 00 1 50 3 40 4 40
6 30 7 30 9 20 10 20 12 15
THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA [PG 13]
10 15 12 00 1 40 3 35 5 30 7 00 9 00 10 30 12 05
THE POLAR EXPRESS [G]
10 50 1 20 3 40 6 10 8 40
THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE [PG]
11 45 2 05 4 30

Star John R at 14 Mile
32289 John R Road
248-585-2070
On line at www.fandango.com

Thursday Listings
BLADE TRINITY [R]
6 45 9 20 12 00
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS [PG]
2 20
CLOSER [R]
11 50 2 40 5 30 7 50 10 45
DARKNESS [PG 13]
11 30 2 10 5 00 7 20 10 00 12 15
FAT ALBERT [PG]
11 00 1 20 3 40 6 20 8 40 11 10
FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX [PG 13]
12 55 3 55 7 00 10 20
LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS [PG]
11 20 2 00 3 00 4 35 5 45 7 30 8 20 10 35 1 25
MEET THE FOCKERS [PG 13]
11 10 12 40 1 50 3 10 4 50
6 50 7 40 9 35 10 25 12 10
NATIONAL TREASURE [PG]
8 00 0 55
OCEAN'S TWELVE [PG 13]
2 00 2 50 6 0 9 00 11 50

SPANGLISH [PG 13]
12 30 3 30 6 40 10 10
THE AVIATOR [PG 13]
10 40 2 20 6 00 9 30
THE INCREDIBLES [PG]
11 40 2 30 5 15
THE LIFE AQUATIC WITH STEVE ZISSOU [R]
10 50 1 40 4 25 7 10 9 55
THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA [PG 13]
12 10 3 20 6 30 9 45
THE POLAR EXPRESS [G]
0 30 10 410

Star Rochester Hills
200 Barclay Circle
248-853-2260
STUDENT DISCOUNT NOW AVAILABLE WITH VALID SCHOOL ID

Thursday Listings
BLADE TRINITY [R]
6 20 8 55 11 30
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS [PG]
2 55 3 30 5 45
FAT ALBERT [PG]
11 15 1 30 4 15 6 45 9 15 11 45
FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX [PG 13]
12 00 2 30 5 00 7 30 10 00 12 20
LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS [PG]
11 30 2 00 4 30 7 15 9 45 12 10
MEET THE FOCKERS [PG 13]
11 45 2 15 5 10 7 45 10 20 12 35
NATIONAL TREASURE [PG]
8 30 11 15
OCEAN'S TWELVE [PG 13]
12 0 2 45 5 30 8 15 11 00
SPANGLISH [PG 13]
10 45 1 45 4 45 8 00 10 50
THE AVIATOR [PG 13]
11 00 3 00 7 00 10 35
THE INCREDIBLES [PG]
12 30 3 15 6 00 9 30 12 00
THE POLAR EXPRESS [G]
1 15 3 55

Star Southfield
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TICKETS ACCEPTED SUNDAY TUESDAY

Saturday Night is Family Night at Star Southfield!
Star Theatres is committed to providing the best
environment for family entertainment and to
encourage families to get out to a movie. STAR
SOUTHFIELD will provide a FREE SMALL POP &
POPCORN to all kids 16 and under if accompanied by
a parent to all shows after 8:30 pm. During our
Family Saturdays no minors 16 Years & under will be
permitted entry unless with a parent after 8:30 pm
so grab Mom and Dad and HEAD FOR THE MOVIES!
PLEASE ONLY ONE TICKET PER ID FOR RATED R FILMS.

Thursday Listings
BLADE TRINITY [R]
12 20 3 10 6 20 9 20 12 20
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS [PG]
1 00 3 25
CLOSER [R]
1 30 4 05 7 10 9 50 12 25
DARKNESS [PG 13]
12 10 2 50 5 30 8 00 10 40
FAT ALBERT [PG]
11 10 11 50 12 50 1 40 2 20 3 20 4 10 5 00
5 50 6 40 7 30 8 20 9 10 10 20 11 20 12 00
FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX [PG 13]
6 05 8 30 11 50
LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS [PG]
11 15 2 45 2 10 3 40 4 50
6 30 7 50 9 40 10 50 12 30
MEET THE FOCKERS [PG 13]
11 00 12 00 1 10 2 00 3 00 4 00 5 10 6 00 7 00
8 10 9 00 10 10 11 10 12 10
NATIONAL TREASURE [PG]
7 20 10 30
OCEAN'S TWELVE [PG 13]
10 55 2 15 5 20 8 30 11 45
RAY [PG 13]
10 00
SPANGLISH [PG 13]
1 20 4 30 7 45 0 55
THE AVIATOR [PG 13]
10 50 2 45 6 45 10 45
THE INCREDIBLES [PG]
12 30 3 50 6 50
THE LIFE AQUATIC WITH STEVE ZISSOU [R]
4 0 2 30 5 40 8 40 40
THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA [PG 13]
12 40 4 20 7 40 00

Thursday Listings
BLADE TRINITY [R]
11 15 2 45 2 10 3 40 4 50
6 30 7 50 9 40 10 50 12 30
MEET THE FOCKERS [PG 13]
11 00 12 00 1 10 2 00 3 00 4 00 5 10 6 00 7 00
8 10 9 00 10 10 11 10 12 10
NATIONAL TREASURE [PG]
7 20 10 30
OCEAN'S TWELVE [PG 13]
10 55 2 15 5 20 8 30 11 45
RAY [PG 13]
10 00
SPANGLISH [PG 13]
1 20 4 30 7 45 0 55
THE AVIATOR [PG 13]
10 50 2 45 6 45 10 45
THE INCREDIBLES [PG]
12 30 3 50 6 50
THE LIFE AQUATIC WITH STEVE ZISSOU [R]
4 0 2 30 5 40 8 40 40
THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA [PG 13]
12 40 4 20 7 40 00

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA [PG 13]
Digital Projection 11 20 2 40 6 10 9 30
THE POLAR EXPRESS [G]
11 05 1 50 4 40

Star Fairlane
18900 Michigan Ave Dearborn
313-240-6389

Thursday Listings
BLADE TRINITY [R]
11 30 2 50 5 50 8 55 12 05
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS [PG]
11 55 2 35 5 05 7 35 10 15
CLOSER [R]
12 25 3 05 5 35 8 40 1 10
DARKNESS [PG 13]
9 55 12 50 3 55 6 10 8 45 11 30
FAT ALBERT [PG]
10 00 10 55 11 40 2 35 1 30 2 20 3 15 4 20
5 10 6 00 6 55 7 45 8 30 9 25 10 20 1 15 12 00
FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX [PG 13]
11 05 1 55 4 45 7 25 10 45
LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS [PG]
10 35 11 50 1 45 2 45 4 10 5 25
6 40 8 15 9 35 10 50 12 25
MEET THE FOCKERS [PG 13]
10 15 11 20 2 05 1 00 2 05 3 00 4 00 4 55
6 20 7 10 8 05 9 10 10 05 11 00 2 15
NATIONAL TREASURE [PG]
11 10 2 0 5 20 8 20 11 45
OCEAN'S TWELVE [PG 13]
12 15 3 25 6 45 8 00 9 45 11 25
RAY [PG 13]
9 50 1 15 4 40 7 50 1 50
SPANGLISH [PG 13]
0 40 1 40 4 30 7 20 10 35
THE AVIATOR [PG 13]
10 30 2 30 6 35 10 30
THE INCREDIBLES [PG]
10 20 1 05 3 50 7 00 9 55
THE POLAR EXPRESS [G]
0 10 12 45 3 45 6 25 9 00 11 40
THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE [PG]
10 50 1 20 3 30 5 45

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Thursday Listings
THE LIFE AQUATIC WITH STEVE ZISSOU [R]
11 30 1 15 2 30 4 15 6 00 7 15 9 00 10 15
THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA [PG 13]
11 00 12 15 2 20 3 35 5 30 6 50 8 45 10 00
FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX [R]
2 00 4 30 7 00 9 45
CLOSER [R]
12 45 3 15 5 45 8 15
KINSEY [R]
12 00 2 45 6 20 9 30
FINDING NEVERLAND [PG]
00 3 45 6 30 9 15
THE INCREDIBLES [PG]
11 10

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Thursday Listings
THE AVIATOR [PG 13]
10:40 1 45 5 30 7 30 9 30
FAT ALBERT [PG]
1 10 4 00 6 40 9 00
THE DARKNESS [PG 13]
12 30 3 15 6 15 8 45
MEET THE FOCKERS [PG 13]
10 50 12 15 3 00 4 10 5 45 7 00 8 30 9 45
SPANGLISH [PG 13]
10 30 1 20 3 30 4 30 7 50
LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS [PG]
11 15 1 00 2 00 3 45 4 45 6 30 7 40 9 15 10 30
OCEAN'S TWELVE [PG 13]
12 45 4 20 7 15 10 15
BLADE TRINITY [R]
10 40 PM
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS [PG]
10 35 AM
NATIONAL TREASURE [PG]
8 15 PM
THE POLAR EXPRESS [G]
1 45 2 30 5 00

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Thursday 12/30 thru Thru sday /6 List ngs
(NP) FAT ALBERT [PG]
12 20 2 50 (5 15 @ \$5.50) 7 30 9 40
(NP) THE AVIATOR [PG13]
12 45 (4 30 @ \$5.50) 8 00
(NP) MEET THE FOCKERS [PG13]
12 10 1 30 2 40 (4 15 5 10 @ \$5.50)
6 50 7 40 9 30 10 10
(NP) LIFE AQUATIC WITH STEVE ZISSOU [R]
1 20 (4 10 @ \$5.50) 7 15 9 50
(NP) DARKNESS [R]
12 30 3 00 (5 20 @ \$5.50) 7 40 10 00
(NP) ANDREW LOYD WEBBER'S PHANTOM OF THE OPERA [PG13]
1 00 (4 00 @ \$5.50) 7 00 10 00
(NP) LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS [PG]
12 00 1 15 2 40 (4 15 5 20 @ \$5.50)
6 50 7 50 9 30 10 10
(NP) FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX [PG13]
1 10 (4 20 @ \$5.50) 7 20 9 45
(NP) SPANGLISH [PG13]
1 30 (4 45 @ \$5.50) 6 45 7 30 9 30 9 55
OCEAN'S TWELVE [PG13]
12 00 1 10 2 45 (4 20 5 30 @ \$5.50) 7 20 8 15 9 50
BLADE TRINITY [R]
7 00 9 40
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS [PG]
12 15 2 40 (5 15 @ \$5.50) 7 45 9 55
CLOSER [R]
12 50 (4 10 @ \$5.50) 7 10 9 50
SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE [PG]
1 15 2 15 (4 45 @ \$5.50)
NATIONAL TREASURE [PG]
1 00 (4 00 @ \$5.50) 7 00 10 00
THE POLAR EXPRESS [G]
12 00 1 30 2 30 (4 15 5 00 @ \$5.50) 7 30 9 55
THE INCREDIBLES [PG]
12 00 2 30 (5 00 @ \$5.50)
FINDING NEVERLAND [PG]
1 40* (4 20* @ \$5.50)
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Thursday 12/30 thru Thru sday 1/6 Listings
(NP) FAT ALBERT [PG]
12 30 2 45 (5 15 @ \$5.50) 7 30 9 30
(NP) THE AVIATOR [PG13]
12 30 (4 5 @ \$5.50) 8 00
(NP) MEET THE FOCKERS [PG13]
12 00 1 30 2 30 (4 10 5 00 @ \$5.50)
6 45 7 30 9 20 10 00
(NP) LIFE AQUATIC WITH STEVE ZISSOU [R]
10 (4 30 @ \$5.50) 7 00 9 40
(NP) DARKNESS [R]
12 5 2 40 (5 20 @ \$5.50) 7 45 9 55
(NP) LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS [PG]
12 00 20 30 (4 5 5 00 @ \$5.50) 6 50 7 30 9 20
9 50

MIR Waterford Cinema 16
7501 Highland Rd
S E corner of 59 & Williams Lake Rd
24 hour Movie Line 248-666-7900
CALL 77 FILMS \$5.51
Free Refill on Popcorn and Pop
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Thursday 12/30 thru Thursday 1/6 Listings
BLADE TRINITY [R]
OCEAN'S TWELVE [PG13]
FAT ALBERT [PG]
FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX [PG13]
MEET THE FOCKERS [PG13]
RAY [PG13]
DARKNESS [R]
RESIDENT EVIL APOCALYPSE [R]
SEED OF CHUCKY [R] (12/30 Only)
SAW [R] (12/30 Only)
Beginning on Friday 12/31
LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS [PG]
SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE [PG]
www.fordwyomlingdrivem.com
[6 9]
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Madstone-Ann Arbor
4628 Inwood Circle
734-984-1000

(NP) FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX [PG13]
1 15 (4 20 @ \$5.50) 7 15 9 45
(NP) SPANGLISH [PG13]
1 00 (4 10 @ \$5.50) 7 10 9 50
OCEAN'S TWELVE [PG13]
12 40 (4 00 4 40 @ \$5.50) 6 40 7 20 9 20 10 00
BLADE TRINITY [R]
(5 00 @ \$5.50) 7 20 9 45
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS [PG]
12 20 2 50 (5 20 @ \$5.50) 7 40 9 55
SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE [PG]
12 15 2 15
NATIONAL TREASURE [PG]
1 00 (4 00 @ \$5.50) 7 00 9 50
THE POLAR EXPRESS [G]
12 00 2 20 (4 50 @ \$5.50) 7 20 9 45
THE INCREDIBLES [PG]
12 10 2 30

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Royal Oak
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Bloomfield Hills
248-542-0180
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Downtown Oxford
Laper Rd (M 24)
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State Wayne Theatre
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children under 12 \$5.50 Michigan Theatre
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OCEAN'S TWELVE [PG13]
FAT ALBERT [PG]
FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX [PG13]
MEET THE FOCKERS [PG13]
RAY [PG13]
DARKNESS [R]
RESIDENT EVIL APOCALYPSE [R]
SEED OF CHUCKY [R] (12/30 Only)
SAW [R] (12/30 Only)
Beginning on Friday 12/31
LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS [PG]
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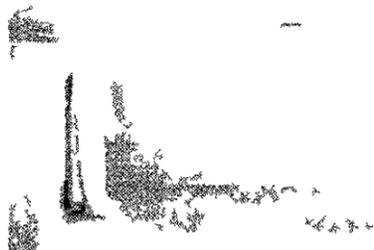
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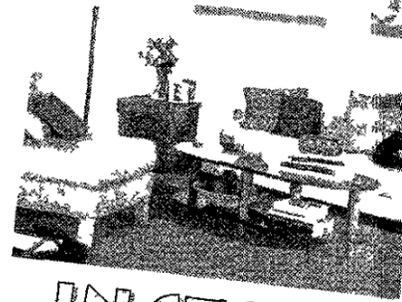
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