



PLYMOUTH Observer

Your hometown newspaper serving Plymouth and Plymouth Township for 119 years

THURSDAY

January 6, 2005

75 cents

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Inside FILTER



Cold is cool
Give yourself a lift: discover Michigan's ski resorts
INSERTED SECTION

Observer TASTE



Get started
Oats are more than just hot cereal
SECTION D

Pipeline

Blood drive

The Plymouth post office hosts a blood drive for the American Red Cross from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13, at the main post office on Beck Road.

Appointments are encouraged, but walk-ins are also welcome.

For an appointment or more information, call Barb Mitchell, (734) 453-6111.

Delta Kappa Gamma

State Rep. John Stewart R. Plymouth Township will be the keynote speaker at the annual dinner meeting of Delta Kappa Gamma Tuesday, Jan. 11, at the Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main St.

The event is the annual dinner meeting of this association for women involved in the support of public education. A discussion of the "State of Education in Michigan" will follow with dinner.

"I am glad to provide a legislative update in regard to the support of public education in the state of Michigan," Stewart said.

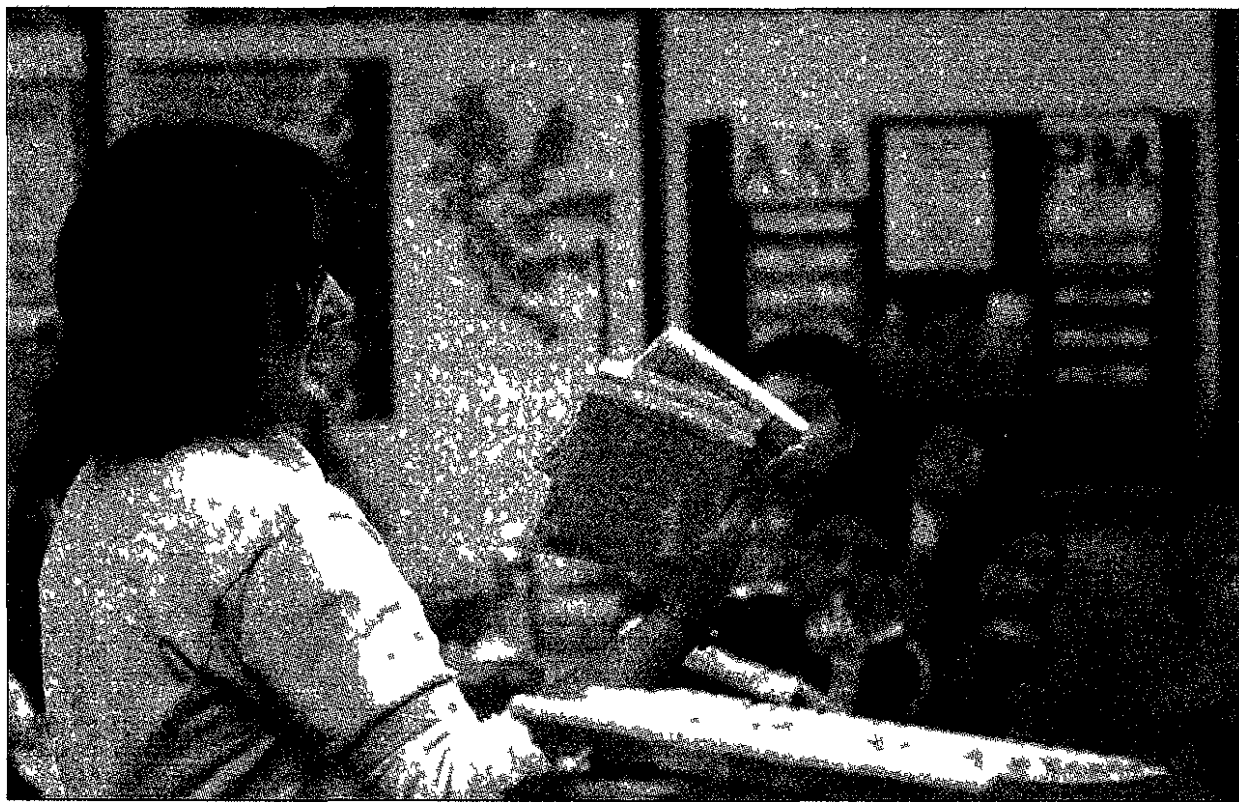
"Funding for K-12 education is almost 40 percent of our state budget and I am out to fight for the 18,000 students of the Plymouth-Canton School system."

The public is invited to hear Stewart at 5 p.m. Reservations for dinner at 6 p.m. must be made by telephone at (734) 453-7864.

Education grant

Ted Younglas, a social studies teacher at Discovery Middle School, received more than \$1,400 from the MEEEMIC Foundation for the Future of Education's mini-grant program. Younglas petitioned the foundation for support for the "Decades Project," a social studies program that examines the facets of American history and culture from the 1950s to present day.

The MEEEMIC Foundation mini-grant program was introduced to area teachers through local MEEEMIC agents Tom and Janet Wilson, whose office is located on Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Amy Jachym gave the class books on Korea as a thank-you for their \$655.97 donation, which will help buy food, clothes and toys for orphaned children in South Korea.

TAG students rise to challenge

4th-graders open hearts to help Korean orphans

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

The 27 students in Nancy Sullivan's fourth-grade Talented and Gifted class at Miller Elementary reached halfway across the world with their hearts Monday, meeting the challenge of a Canton High School graduate by collecting \$655.97 to help buy food, clothes, and toys for orphaned children in South Korea.

Students presented their hard-earned gift to Amee Jachym, a former TAG student at Allen Elementary whom Sullivan has known since the third grade. Jachym was adopted after being born in Daegu, South Korea. She moved to Detroit and at 3 years-old moved with her family to Plymouth, where she resided until graduating in 2000.

Jachym, who recently graduated with honors from Western Michigan University, is currently an English teacher at the Samsung Won orphanage in Gumi, Korea.



Grant McKinney and Andrea Ringer listen to Amy Jachym's presentation on the Samsung Won Orphanage.

(about 35 hours south of Seoul) as part of a program established by the Fulbright Commission. She sent an e-mail throughout the Plymouth-Canton school district about her efforts to raise money for the orphanage, and Sullivan's class

picked up the challenge, raising 15 percent of the \$4,200 Jachym collected in Michigan.

Students did whatever they could to raise money.

"I arranged my mom's pots and pans," said Monica Mackie of Plymouth. "She paid me \$15."

"I donated a lot of my allowance," added Kimberly Davidge of Canton Township.

Jachym showed students some of the toys she bought to ship back to Korea — including Lincoln Logs, Legos and blocks — which will replace shoe boxes they currently use for fun.

For some children, this shoe box may be the only toy they had, she said. "Because of you, my 86 friends at the orphanage will be playing with real toys. We are fortunate to have friends like you."

In exchange for the students' generosity, Jachym donated several books about Korea to the Miller library.

PLEASE SEE STUDENTS, A3

Library series targets life in pre-retirement years

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

Older people moving up toward the retirement age who don't like to think about the fact they're aging or who worry about how they'll face retirement have a new ally in the folks at the Plymouth District Library.

The library is offering a new series of programs aimed at helping aging workers with their health and well-being in their pre-retirement and early retirement years. Four workshops organizers promise to be "lively" will address a "wide variety of issues" facing men and women between 50-65.

It's a population who's on the edge of getting older, and they don't like to think about that, said Ellen Stross, adult reference librarian at the library.

"We'd like to help enhance their lives. We also want to draw attention to the fact the library is a wonderful place to start for healthy information and lifestyle changes."

The four-part series will feature specialists from medical facilities around the area, according to Stross. The series starts with the program, "Can Boomers do it better?" from 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 11. There's one program a month through April.

The series is being paid for with a \$1,500 grant from the American Association for the Advancement of Science and support from the Friends of the Plymouth District Library.

Stross is happy with the range of areas the workshops cover. For instance, February's workshop is about improving memory, while March's deals with the

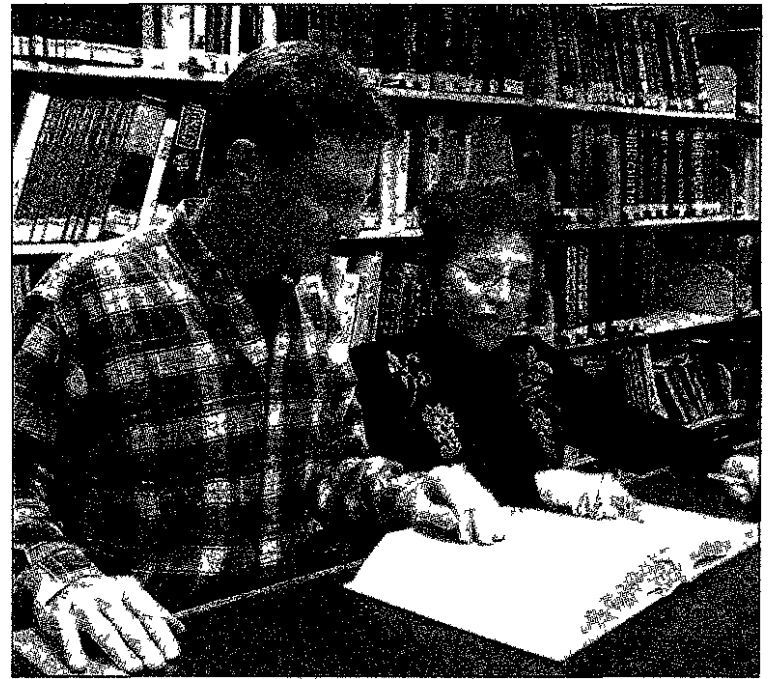
emotions of aging and April's helps with food and exercise.

According to Susan Stoney, the library's public relations specialist, the series will not only provide direct help, it will also highlight how good a resource the library can be.

"We want this series to lay the groundwork for people to realize what a resource the library is," Stoney said. "People will think, 'Maybe I don't need (the library) now, but maybe I will in six months or a year.' There's a ton of information out there, and we can help people sift through it all."

The four parts of the series "Can Boomers do it better?" 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 11 — Dr. Ruth Campbell, with a Ph.D. in social work, will help people "explore both the vast

PLEASE SEE LIBRARY, A4



Plymouth District Library patron Jim Lynn of Redford has health inquiries for Adult Reference Librarian Ellen Stross.

Old Shell station falls for office building

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

The old Shell gas station at the corner of Main and Wing streets in downtown Plymouth is history, torn down last week to make way for a three-story dental office and condominium complex.

"We knew of one oil drum on the property, and then we found two more gas tanks," said Penny Flury, whose dentist practice is currently located in a medical complex at Sheldon and Ann Arbor roads in Plymouth Township. "Then, we had a water

main break in a line the city didn't even know was there. I hope all the surprises are over."

Flury, who moved her practice from Birmingham in 1990, said the \$100,000 site cleanup won't deter her from the \$15 million project that will house her offices and another retail business on the first floor, and include a two-story condominium-loft, along with two single-floor condos.

The building will definitely have a traditional downtown look, said Flury. It will have a flat roof with a fancy top, like some of the old downtown buildings.

There will be verandas on the second and third-floor condos.

Flury has been planning the project for five years.

Her first choice was to remain in Plymouth Township, "but the township regulations are so strict, I would have to buy a million-dollar piece of property plus the project. But, I love Plymouth, it's a great place. Downtown is where the action is."

After months of negotiations, Flury purchased the property in November, and is hopeful construction on her dream project will begin this summer.

Coming Sunday in PINK

Face It!

Signature facials from three local spas



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CLARIFICATION

A story in the Jan. 2 issue of the *Observer* should have identified Laura Toy as a state senator.

FITNESS EXPERT

Aunt Mid's, a supplier of fresh fruits and vegetables, hosts appearances at local markets by fitness expert Peter Nielsen on Saturday, Jan. 8. Nielsen, author, host and creator of "Peter's Principles" radio and television shows, will be at the Busch's locations in Farmington (24445 Drake) from 11 a.m.-noon, Livonia (37083 Six Mile) from 12:30-1:30 p.m., and Plymouth (15185 Sheldon) from 2-3 p.m. Nielsen's show can be seen on WDIV TV-4 and heard on WWJ radio. Customers will have a chance to talk with Nielsen, who will provide fitness and nutritional information, along with recipes from Aunt Mid's.

NEW LAWYER

Steven D. Mann has joined the Detroit office of the law firm of Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, P.L.C. as an associate in the Public Law Group. He advises clients in the areas of governmental law, including public finance, municipal and school finance, and private activity bonds. He



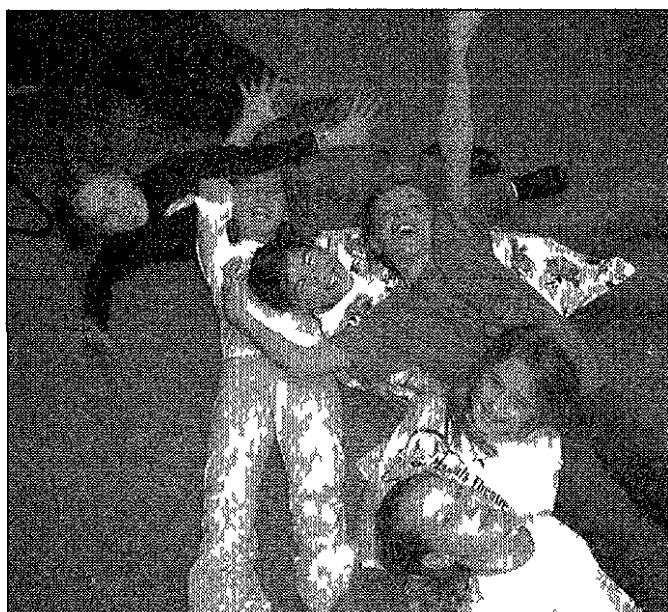
Mann

represents issuers, underwriters, and trustees, and handles general governmental and school law powers and transactions.

He currently serves as a trustee for the Charter Township of Plymouth. Prior to joining Miller Canfield, he served one term as township supervisor and, before that, was an officer in the Plymouth Township Police Department. Mann received his law degree from Thomas M. Cooley Law School in 2004, where he was a Managing Associate of the Law Review and recipient of the Voelker Award. He received his B.A. from Cleary College in 2001. He resides in Plymouth Township with his wife, Lisa, and their son, Brian.

NEW HVA MANAGERS

Huron Valley Ambulance, which provides ambulance service to the Plymouth community, has added two new managers to its administrative staff. Barbara Bachman is the chief financial officer and MaryAnne Voss is the human resources manager. Bachman, who has a degree from Eastern Michigan University, has been a certified



Stage training

Actors in the Plymouth Uptown Players clown around a little after an exercise teaching them to project their voices and work on their timing. The Plymouth Community Arts Council and the Plymouth Uptown Players Theater Group is offering both teen drama for aspiring actors ages 12-18, and "PUPs in Training" for those ages 5-11. Auditions, blocking scenes and character development through games, improvisation and short skits will help young actors start or continue on their way to being in the theater. Classes meet on Wednesday evenings beginning Jan. 26 and run for eight weeks. The cost is \$80 for PCAC members and \$90 for non-members. For more information or to register for class, call the Arts Council at (734) 416-4278.

public accountant for more than 20 years and a certified financial planner for 15 years. She is currently enrolled in the master's of business administration program at Davenport

University in Warren. She is a former employee of Deloitte Touche and BKR Dupuis & Ryden, both located in the Ann Arbor area.

Her most recent position was as CFO for Michigan Virtual University, a provider of workforce development in the manufacturing environment. She has also worked for several nonprofit organizations.

Voss, who was HVA's human resources coordinator from 1988 to 1992, recently moved from Alpena to take this position. Voss has a bachelor's degree in social work from Eastern Michigan University and most recently worked for Employment Services, Inc. in Alpena. At ESI, she handled human resources and other programs for a group of 23 commonly owned companies in northern Michigan and out of state.

YMCA HOOPS

The Plymouth YMCA is registering for youth basketball leagues.

The boys' travel league for ages 12-14 and the girls' travel league for ages 8-9 start Jan. 10, while the co-ed basketball league for ages 6-12 starts the week of Jan. 18. New co-ed league for ages 4-5 also starts the week of Jan. 18.

YOUTH SOCCER REGISTRATION

The City of Plymouth Recreation Department takes spring youth soccer registration through the month of January during normal business hours 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Fee for 6-Under through 8-Under divisions is \$60 for city residents, \$85 for non-residents. For 9-Under and older divisions, the fee is \$65 for city residents, \$95 for non-residents.

The recreation department is located at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer. For more information, call (734) 455-6620.

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.

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 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 dyvandyke@peoplepc.com or call (734) 416-3354.

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Exhibit aims to capitalize on interest in auto show

Auto enthusiasts who don't want to wait until the Detroit auto show for their fix can get an early start at the Plymouth Community Arts Council

The PCAC's January exhibit, which went up Tuesday, is an exhibition of automotive art titled, "Automotive Impressions"

The exhibit runs through Jan 30

We planned this show to coincide with the Detroit auto show and hope the interest always generated by that event will enhance ours," said Nancy Pilon, the PCAC's art exhibition coordinator

"The artists will present totally different approaches to the depiction of automotive art"

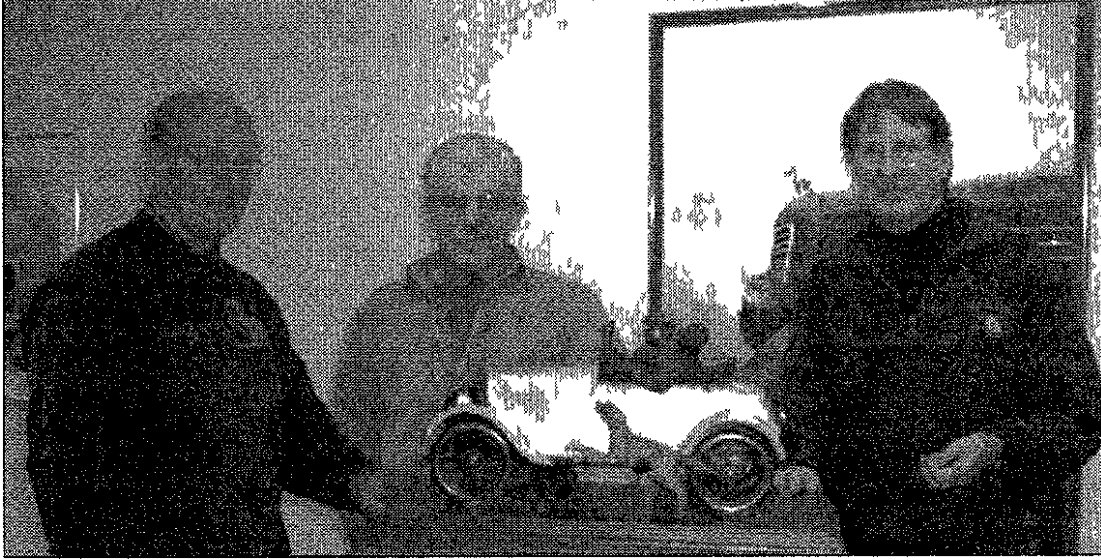
While the exhibit opened Tuesday, it kicks off officially with an artists' reception set for 3-6 p.m. Saturday. According to Pilon, all three artists have exhibited nationally and have had commissions from around the world

The featured artists include

■ Tom Hale, a watercolor artist from Northville — Hale graduated with honors from the Art Center College of Design in Los Angeles

He was a styling designer at General Motors, Chrysler and American Motors from 1966 until 1985, when he chose to pursue his art career full-time

Hale is fascinated with the reflective surfaces of automobiles and "likes to paint close-up views. There is great beauty in something as mundane as a chrome headlight"



Artists Tom Hale, Alexander Buchan and Gerald Freeman bring their talents to the January exhibit at the Plymouth Community Arts Council

■ Gerald Freeman from South Lyon — Originally from London, England, Freeman came to the U.S. in the early 1960s and eventually settled in Michigan as a free-lance illustrator and graphic designer

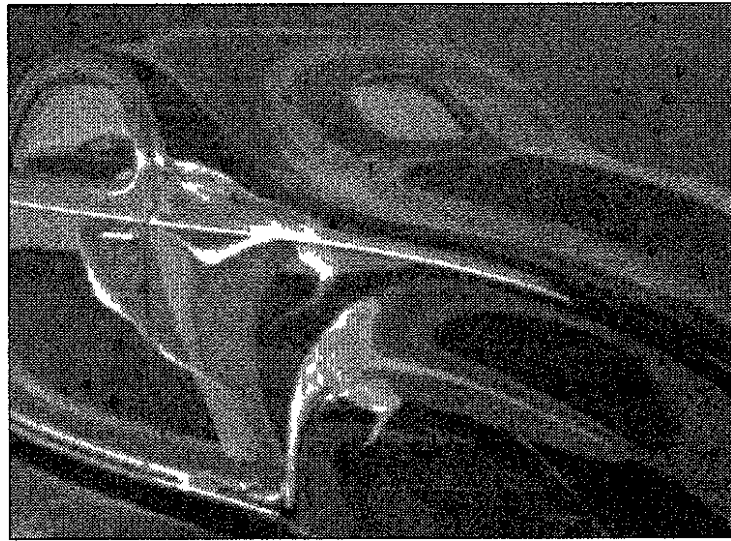
His acrylic and oil paintings are mostly historical in context

His goal: To draw the viewer into the moment in time and feel the atmosphere and excitement of great auto races

■ Alexander Buchan, a bronze sculptor from Warren — Buchan has a master's degree in industrial design from Wayne State University and worked as a design sculptor for 38 years with General Motors Design Center

He has also been a professor of clay modeling at the College of Creative Studies in Detroit

His passion is for bronze



Artist Tom Hale of Northville has this art, along with other work as part of the automotive exhibit at the Plymouth Community Arts Council. The exhibit opened Tuesday and runs through Jan 30

sculptures of racing machines from the early 1990s and the men who built and raced them

The Plymouth Community Arts Council is located at

774 N. Sheldon in Plymouth

For more information on this exhibit or other PCAC programs, call (734) 416-4278

STUDENTS

FROM PAGE A1

It makes me feel sad that there are countries and people that don't have as much as us," said Meg Ryan, 9, of Canton. "Since I didn't have much money to help out, I just gave what I had. I really wanted to help them out."

Chris Withers of Canton said he was eager to help raise money for Samsung Won.

"It felt good to do something for other people," he said. "I was hoping I would be able to accomplish the happiness of other people."

Sullivan was proud of her class "because they were able, during the holiday season, to get beyond their own needs and think about somebody else. That was their gift to them."

Jachym told students to remember what they've done, and urged them to get involved in future efforts to help change the world.

"I know you felt sorry for the people of Samsung Won, but it was your actions," she said.

"Find your passion, and do something about it."

tbruscato@oehomecomm.net
(734) 459-2700

HELP

FROM PAGE A1

Foundation, said she's working with the organization to create a partnership that will collect money locally, and send it to Rotary clubs in the affected areas. "We're waiting for communications from a (Rotary) district governor in one of the affected areas so we can help in the relief efforts," said Morrow.

In the meantime, Kumar said www.mundia.com has information on how people can help.

The real issue is the orphaned children," said Kumar. "The kids have nowhere to go, and we're trying our best to make sure that every dollar we raise here is forwarded to the right people."

"We don't see this as a short-term disaster, but one with long-term impact," he said.

The Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth is also setting up collections at financial institutions, with funds being sent to Kiwanis, International.

'The main focus of Kiwanis is young children, and because so many children were lost and left homeless, we're going to maintain that focus.'

Brent Taylor
Kiwanis president elect

"The main focus of Kiwanis is young children, and because so many children were lost and left homeless, we're going to maintain that focus," said President-elect Brent Taylor.

Taylor said they've already set up tax-deductible accounts with New Liberty Bank and Community Financial Credit Union, and hope to have others on board soon.

"The money collected will be transferred to Kiwanis, International, and 100 percent of it will benefit children in the affected areas," said Taylor.

Kiwanis has chapters in virtually every country affected."

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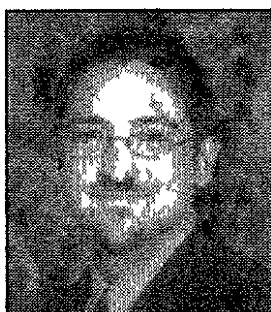
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Do You Have An IRA or 401 K? You May Be Getting Trapped Free Yourself Now!



Dan Stavale, President, Equity Enhancement Specialist, L.L.C.

Most Americans who are concerned about preparing for retirement are lured into contributing pre-tax dollars into 401k plans or tax-deductible contributions into IRAs. Such "Qualified Plans" only give you tax-favored advantages during the contribution and accumulation phase of your retirement account. What about the most important phases - when you withdraw the money for retirement income or transfer any remaining funds to your heirs? Has anyone told you "The rest of the story?"

A Michigan couple filing a joint tax return with a taxable income in excess of \$56,800 will be in a 29% marginal tax bracket. If they were fortunate enough to both qualify for deductible contributions to their IRAs, they would save \$1,160 a year in taxes on a total contribution of \$4,000 a year. However, most retirees will pay back every dollar to Uncle Sam that they saved in taxes in the first 18-24 months of their retirement. In fact, the average retired couple will pay 8-12 times the taxes during their retirement years than the taxes they saved during their contribution/accumulation years.

One of the original IRA/401K tenets held that deferring tax until retirement was advantageous because funds would likely be taxed at a lower rate. That is no longer universal true. You may well spend retirement in the same or higher bracket if you accumulate a respectable retirement nest egg. In fact, tax rates will likely rise in the future. So why postpone the inevitable and compound the tax problems?

Is there a way to "Have your cake and eat it too?" Through proper planning, a homeowner may safely utilize an equity retirement plan that may provide tax advantages during the contribution and accumulation years, but more importantly, you may enjoy tax-free income during the retirement years and transfer any remaining funds to your heirs tax-free. This strategy can increase your net spendable retirement income by as much as 50%!

To understand how to determine if participation in a Roth IRA, traditional IRA or 401k plans is wise in your circumstances, Equity Enhancement Specialist, L.L.C. is conducting an educational seminar entitled "Common Sense Strategies for Successful Equity Management." It will be held on Wednesday, January 12, 2005 from 7:00-10:00 p.m. at The Sheraton Detroit Novi, located at 2111 Haggerty Rd., Novi, MI 48375. There is easy access from I-275 8 Mile exit with plenty of parking.

This education seminar is taught nationally at a normal tuition of \$100.00. However, Metropolitan Detroit homeowners are cordially invited to attend this presentation at no charge. For guaranteed seating, please RSVP at 248-357-0848.

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FOR THE RECORD

DEATHS

A
Lester F. Allen, Sr. 81, died Jan 2 2005

B
Winfred (Winke) Bassett, 84, of Birmingham died Dec 22
Margaret E. Belles, 76 of Redford died Jan 1
Mildred M. Bright, 80, of Rochester Hills, died Dec 20

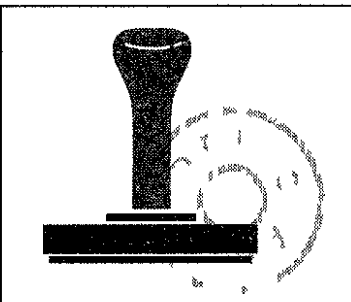
C
Charles F. 'Chuck' Comeau 65 of Bloomfield Hills, died Dec 23
Vera Lee Cornell 88, of Auburn Hills, died Dec 25

D
Gunter G. Daehnert 63, of Royal Oak, died Dec 15
Charles Edward Dwyer 78 died Dec 17

E
Harry F. Evans of Westland died Dec 21
Johnie W. Jack Eaves 91, of Clarkston died Dec 28

F
John A. Fogliatti 64 of Highland died Dec 28
Eleanor M. Fox, 81 died Dec 29
Rev. Verle E. Fridley Sr. 83 of Anderson Ind. died Dec 29

G
Nancy A. Gaffney, 79, of Orion



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 C7.

Township formerly of Waterford died Dec 17
Orpha Bea Gorsline 84 of Goodison, died Dec 15
Opal M. Grooms 92 of Rochester Hills formerly of Birmingham and Venice Fla. died Dec 22

H
William A. Hofsess 77 of Farmington died Jan 1
Elizabeth M. Hooker, 84 of Rochester Hills died Dec 8
Helen Christine Hornback 58 of Harrietta, died Jan 1
V. Berneice Horner, 91 of Auburn Hills, died Dec 18

Virgil M. Howe 87 of Rochester Hills, died Dec 25

J
Greta Jensen, 95 of Redford died Dec 23
Helen I. Johanson 80, of Imlay City died Dec 18
Keith A. Jones 21, of Redford died Dec 2004

K
Michael A. Koszyk, of Westland, died Dec 30
J. Richard Kropf, 94 of Oceanside, Calif., formerly of Plymouth, died Dec 8
Victor A. Kurpinski of Westland, died Dec 31

L
Mark A. LaRue 52 of Rochester Hills, died Dec 10
Milton Lavolette 73, formerly of Ann Arbor and Livonia, died Dec 3
Josephine Leavenworth 88 of Westland died Dec 24
Louise N. Lukowski 87 of Plymouth died Dec 26

M
Audrey M. Miller, 78 of Warren, died Dec 18
Mark Allen Miller, 34, of Peoria Ariz., formerly of Livonia, died Dec 22
Helen D. (nee Kern) Morris, of Beverly Hills died Dec 27
Bohdan Robert Moskalczyk, of Westland, died Dec 28

P
Ivan L. Plunkett 83 of West Branch, died Dec 25

R
Stephen P. Rohner, 44, of Rochester Hills died Dec 15

S
Beatrice C. Strang 88, of Lake Orion died Dec 8

T
David J. Trainor 67 died Dec 24

W
Dennis J. Wittkop 53 of Westland formerly of Dundee died Jan 2
Winnifred I. Wolfe 85 of Plymouth died Dec 30
Mary Jane (nee Gerbig) Wolford-Hughes 84 died Dec 20
Elizabeth Ann Wyrick, 72, of Clarkston died Jan 2

Holiday turns fatal for party-goer

BY JACK GLADDEN
STAFF WRITER

It's not the kind of 'first' that a community wants to record. But Canton may have the dubious distinction of having the first traffic fatality of the new year.

Shortly after midnight on New Year's Eve, about 12:30 a.m. New Year's Day, a 25-year-old Taylor man was killed after he was struck by a car on Lilley Road between Cherry Hill and Palmer.

Police identified the man as Vane Iverson. "He had been at a party at a house," Canton Detective Sgt. Rick Pomorski said. "He walked out of the house and onto the roadway." Iverson apparently walked into the path of a vehicle that was traveling north on Lilley. He was taken to Oakwood

Annapolis Hospital in Wayne where he was pronounced dead.

Pomorski said the driver of the vehicle, a 46-year-old Plymouth resident, remained at the scene to assist in the investigation.

"We believe the victim had been drinking," Pomorski said. "We're waiting on the results of toxicology tests."

He said there was no alcohol involved on the part of the driver and there was no evidence of speeding or reckless driving. There are no streetlights on that stretch of Lilley Road.

The case is still under investigation.

Iverson's identification showed his birthdate as Jan. 1, 1980.

The incident occurred on his 25th birthday. It was just three years ago

that Canton recorded another New Year's Day fatality. In that incident, Eric Ernest Dodsworth, 19, was killed shortly after 3 a.m. Jan. 1 when his 1993 Ford Escort collided head-on with a pickup truck on Warren Road just east of Lilley.

The driver of the pickup, Joseph Paul Bandy, 24, of Westland was subsequently convicted on one count of manslaughter, one count of driving under the influence causing death and two counts of DUI.

He was sentenced to five years in prison, but his case is under appeal.

"That was the first fatality in the state three years ago," Pomorski said. "We're thinking this may be the first one this year."

jgladden@oehomecomm.net
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LIBRARY

FROM PAGE A1

person potential and some strategies to meet the challenges posed' by pre-retirement years. Campbell is director of gerontology outreach at the University of Michigan Health System Turner Geriatric Clinic.

■ **Improving Your Memory - How to Remember What You're Starting to Forget**, 7-9 p.m. Monday, Feb. 7 - Lynn Stern, a social worker at the Turner Geriatric Clinic, will teach how memory works and which factors affect memory, and help participants learn concrete strategies for tackling areas of memory that are troubling.

Memory loss is very scary,

Stoney said. "It's one of the first things you see at this age, the first sign the clock is ticking. In the first week, we had 25 people sign up."

■ **'Mind, Body & Spirit: Age and Emotion**, 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, March 30 - Dr. Helen Kales and social worker Karyn Schoem present a program on physical and emotional changes associated with aging. Kales is an assistant professor of geriatric psychiatry at the U-M Health Center, Schoem is a psychiatric social worker with the Veteran's Administration Medical Center in Ann Arbor.

■ **Put More ZOOM in your BOOM Years - Healthy Relationships With Food and Exercise**, 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, April 20 - Dietitian Cecelia Fileti, an adjunct professor

with the College of Health and Human Services of Eastern Michigan University, will provide guidelines, food trends and hands-on experiments with herbs.

"That's going to be a fun one," Stross said of the final workshop. "It's a common topic, and our speaker will have an interactive workshop to explore new ways to cook using herbs."

The workshops are open to anyone (no residency is required) free of charge, and each has a limit of 120 people. Register at the Reader's Advisory Desk on the library's main floor, or by calling (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4. The library is located at 223 S. Main in Plymouth.

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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.

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- 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 6, 2005

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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:

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1989 CHEVY CAMARO	2 DR	1G1FP21E3KL178409
1993 FORD ESCORT	2 DR	1FAPFP1282PW168352
1999 FORD WINDSTAR	S/W	2FMZA514XWBC08117
1988 FORD TAURUS	4 DR	1FABP5U0JG263878

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Physical Therapy UPDATE
Hands On Center
Presented by Hands On Center For Physical Therapy

GETTING IN SHAPE FOR WINTER

If you winter plans include cold weather sports and activities, remember that winter sports demand that you be in shape. Just walking outside in freezing cold can intensify older joint problems. If you do not take the proper precautions to bundle up in cold weather, muscles and blood vessels contract to conserve body heat. This results in reduced blood supply to the extremities. The easiest physical fitness will be the first to quickly realize that the functional capacity of many muscles is significantly lower. To help the body meet this challenge, try warming up and stretching before heading out into the cold. Focus on lower back muscles, hamstrings and calf muscles. Don't forget cool down stretching when you are finished exercising.

Well conditioned muscles are less prone to injury and stronger muscles offer greater stability to vulnerable joints. If you or your doctor thinks your season athletics could be enhanced by a regimen of conditioning exercises, ask for a referral to your physical therapist. For an appointment, contact HANDS ON CENTER FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY at 455-8370. We are conveniently located at 650 South Main Street in downtown Plymouth and we offer easy access and parking.

PS: Remember that the winter cold makes muscles less flexible until they warm up.

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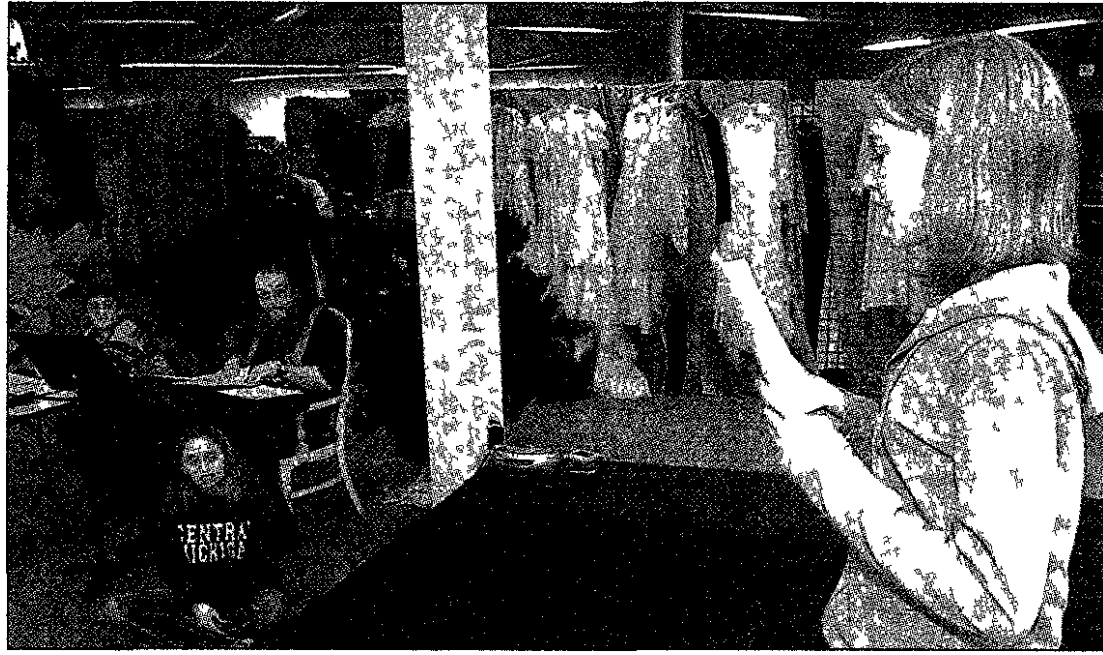
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Molly Mackler, 12, of Livonia auditions for a part in Paper Bag Productions' show 'Alice in Wonderland' Director C J Nodus (left) listens as she reads her lines

Youngsters set sights on role of 'Alice in Wonderland'

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
STAFF WRITER

Boys and girls shuffled into Livonia Mall Tuesday in hopes of nabbing a lead role in the upcoming Livonia Youththeatre and Paperbag Production's version of *Alice in Wonderland*. Auditions were held at the performance space based inside the mall at Seven Mile and Middlebelt roads. Competition was scarce at the start, around 4 p.m., but quickly began to pick up.

Several students from Tyler Elementary School showed up to sing and to read lines. Among them were Barbara Scupholm, who is 8, and her sister Elizabeth, age 5 1/2. Barbara was a newcomer to the tryouts and her preparation was simple: "Just do your best," she said.

Her sister Elizabeth said she "did do a little play at my class, but we didn't say much."

She's hoping for more lines and a place in the *Alice* cast this time though. Elizabeth is hardly shy on stage.

I liked it because all the people were watching me and they were taking pictures, she said.

Meghan Knorp, 6, said she too loves that attention. Meghan was recently cast in the last production, *Babes in Toyland*, along with her sister 8-year-old Alex Knorp.

They agreed that auditions are "not very scary" and the shows are all about one thing - having fun.

It's not serious," Meghan said. "You just want to have fun."

She admitted being cast in a play like those at Livonia Youththeatre does take some work.

It takes a lot of rehearsals. You have to look at the script a few times and think you can do it.

For brother and sister team Andrew and



Eight-year-old Alex Knorp of Livonia gives a sincere look while auditioning for the upcoming 'Alice in Wonderland' show

Madelyn Buckshaw, auditions have become quite comfortable.

Madelyn, 8, brings along her American Girl doll for luck.

And Andrew has been in so many shows at the theater he sounds likely to be cast again - after his ear-catching audition. Parents of the would-be actors spoke highly of the theater, calling it a good opportunity for local youngsters.

"It's really good for their self-confidence," said Lois Scupholm of Livonia.

And Chris Knorp said this is the second performance for both of her girls.

"They absolutely love coming here, she said.

They feel great about themselves. It's been a good experience."

For more information about Livonia Youththeatre or Paperbag Productions call (586) 344-7774.

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Cycle shop owner had wild ride

BY KEVIN BROWN
STAFF WRITER

Motorcycle-builder extraordinaire Eric Gorges and his Voodoo Choppers crew are back and busy in Rochester after an autumn road trip filmed for the cable TV Discovery Channel series *Biker Build-Off*.

Because the episode doesn't air until February, Gorges, 33, can't say who won. The Discovery Channel also won't allow photos to be taken of the motorcycle he and his crew built for the show.

But even if Gorges didn't win, he had a wild ride.

The shop owner, who's also featured in the December 2004 issue of *Midwest Motorcyclist*, ate barbecue in a back alley Memphis, Tenn. bar, and judged a bikini contest with opponent Cory Ness, a veteran chopper builder from Dublin, Calif.

At the end of the trip Oct. 5 in Alabama, "We had like 200,000 people," Gorges said.

"There were so many people that we had police escorts. We were treated like rock stars. I never signed so many autographs before."

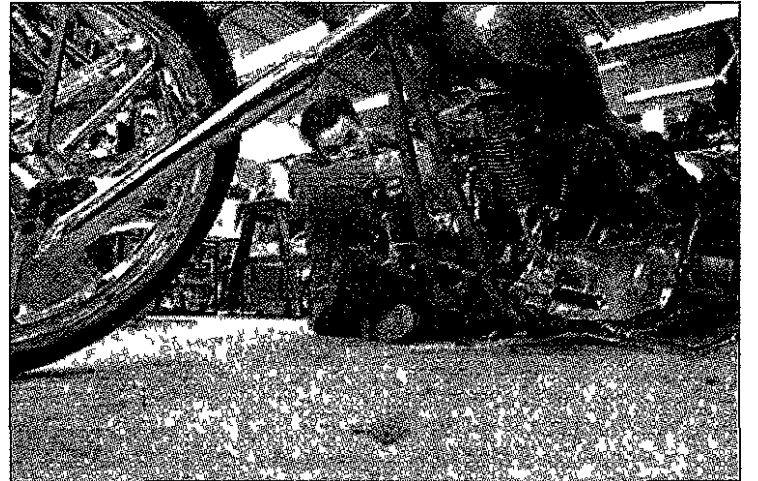
Gorges and Voodoo Choppers were discovered by series producer Hugh King at a motorcycle show in North Carolina. The Discovery Channel show is in its fourth season.

"He had seen some of the work we did for other builders," Gorges said. "He asked if I wanted to do a show. He thought it was really unique, the fact that we make everything ourselves."

"We hand make probably 90 percent of everything in house, the front ends, frames, oil tanks, exhaust systems, controls - there isn't anything somebody asked me to make that I haven't been able to, Gorges said.

In keeping with the show's premise, Gorges and his crew had only 90 hours to build a chopper from scratch, before they were off on the road trip.

His core building team included Steve Broyles of Stevenson Cycle of Wayne bringing his engine skills. Kevin Verkest, a Harrison



Eric Gorges works on a cycle at his Rochester business, Voodoo Choppers. He'll be featured on the Feb. 22 broadcast of the Discovery Channel show, *Biker Build-Off*.

Township fabricator, and Drew Gilbey of Rochester Hills.

"Normally bikes take eight to 12 months to build. You're trying to do this with cameras around you all the time, we worked around the clock. I think the biggest thing I took out of the whole experience was the amount of work you can do if you really concentrate."

Gorges said he was eager for the road trip. "When you own a small business you don't get a chance to do a lot of long-distance riding."

The trek began Sept. 29 in Huntsville, Ala. The riders traveled 220 miles west to Memphis.

"It's really cool but it's sort of difficult to concentrate on riding when they've got this camera floating around next to you, and cameras on wands in front of you. It's surreal," Gorges said. "You can't really ride at their speed. Sometimes they want you to go slow so they can get different shots. Some helicopter shots are really cool."

The next leg took the riders 280 miles northwest through the Ozark Mountains to Branson, Mo. "It was great

weather, awesome roads, really nice people," Gorges said. "We had a great trip, absolutely no problems with the bikes."

The last leg of the trip took them 120 miles south to Fayetteville, Ark., where the public voted on the bikes at The 5th Annual Bikes, Blues and BBQ Motorcycle Rally & Music Festival Oct. 2.

"We spent the last day riding a lot of twisty roads and stopped at a place called Eureka Springs. Cory and I opened up a bar there."

The two were given swords to cut a ribbon for a grand opening ceremony. Gorges said he also enjoyed the fact that Arkansas has no helmet law.

The motorcycle builders from Michigan were not paid for the show, but some meals were complimentary. It's just an honor to do the show, Gorges said. Of his opponent, "I have a lot of respect for Cory and his family," Gorges said.

For more information about Voodoo Choppers, visit www.voodoochoppers.com. For more information about the show *Biker Build-Off*, visit www.discovery.com.

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OUR VIEWS

Tsunamis bring out compassion

As we watch tragedies like the tsunamis that hit southeast Asia last week unfold half a world away, it's easy for our initial thought to be, "Thank God it didn't happen here."

There's a saying that all politics is local. The same can be said for most stories, a point borne out by the number of local people who were either lost in that horrific tragedy or who were affected by it.

In an effort reminiscent of the scene in the film *It's a Wonderful Life*, when all of Bedford Falls turns out to help downtrodden George Bailey, people in this country are turning out in huge numbers to help the victims of the tsunamis.

Nobody cares that the vast majority of the estimated 150,000 dead are from small southeast Asian countries. It doesn't matter to anyone that Japan is giving \$500 million in aid, or that the United States is up to \$350 million.

Right here in our little corner of the globe, worlds apart from the affected region, all people are asking, "Do they need help?" And so the people are going to work.

The owner of Dollar Wish on Sheldon Road closed his store for a month to return to his native country. How much help can one man be? He's about to find out.

No one should be surprised, but the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth and the Plymouth Noon Rotary are smack in the middle of raising disaster relief funds. Undoubtedly, the other civic groups in town will also get involved, these are just the ones we know about so far.

Churches will surely help, we already know St. Thomas a Becket in Canton is organizing a fund-raiser. Other churches are sure to follow, as they always do.

We hear tell of area parents who are trying to get kids involved through Plymouth-Canton schools, although details were still being sorted out at press time.

This new round of sacrifice and giving comes immediately on the heels of a holiday season that saw huge numbers of donations to groups like the Plymouth Salvation Army, the United Way and the Goodfellows, to mention just a few.

It comes in the shadow of a slumbering economy that has left less money for many. It comes when people have mortgages to make, utility bills to cover and holiday credit card bills to pay.

The generosity, the genuine concern for fellow human beings comes at a time when, instead of reaching the boundaries of their tangible capability, people instead love their capacity for compassion may well be limitless.

Auto show still critical to region

Later this month, the eyes of the world — or at least the auto world — will be firmly focused on Detroit as the Motor City plays host to the 2005 North American International Auto Show.

From the early days of Henry Ford through the 1970s, there was no disputing that Detroit was the auto capital of the world. Everyone who was anyone in the business was here, making the region an economic force.

The Detroit area, while it didn't have the Golden Gate Bridge or New York's Statue of Liberty, had something else. It was truly the place that put the world on wheels.

And while there is no denying Detroit's continuing importance to the automobile industry, much has changed since the 1980s to a point where the auto show itself is in danger of being marginalized.

A global economy has seen the emergence of automakers with headquarters in Korea, Japan and other burgeoning countries. There are reports that India is positioning itself to become the next motor capital. And last week, it was announced a new car company based in China is readying to crash our shores with new and innovative cars.

There has been a lot of talk about how Michigan's economy is too dependent on the auto sector, and we need to diversify our economic base. That may be true, but we also should not turn our backs on the industry that has supported our region for nearly 100 years.

So enjoy the auto show. Revel in the new makes and models. Support local charities by attending the black-tie preview gala.

And, if the time is right, take the plunge and order that new car or truck. It's what keeps Michigan's economic engine running.



LETTERS

Call for help

I know Plymouth is a generous community and I am sending out a call for help. We, the American Legion Auxiliary, have a great need.

Let me tell you who we are. We are Post No. 112 of Plymouth Township. We are a somewhat young post, only about 12 years old. We are presently, and have been for several years, meeting in the IOOF Hall in the city of Plymouth.

The American Legion is an organization that works for the benefit of our veterans and their families. The American Legion is a very prominent and instrumental organization in communities all over the country.

We here in Plymouth Township are a small but growing organization. We do all we can to help our community, but we could do so much more if we were in a building that could let us grow even more.

In June we sponsored three Plymouth-Canton young ladies to Girl's State and two Plymouth-Canton young men to Boy's State. These two week-long programs are held in Lansing and are in-depth programs that teach our young people about the government. One of the young ladies was one of two Michigan girls nominated to go to Girl's Nation in Washington, D.C., also a weeklong program.

We, with the help of the community, collected more than \$3,500 during our Poppy Days. That money all goes to help the veterans at the Ann Arbor VA Hospital and other veteran facilities. We, in cooperation with the Plymouth-Canton elementary schools, every December collect thousands of dollars worth of personal care items, which also go to the Ann Arbor VA hospitalized veterans.

We would like to do much more and with our growing membership we could do it very easily if only we had the space and facilities to do it in.

We are good neighbors and would like to be even better neighbors. We have many other programs that would be of great help to the youth of our community. In many communities throughout the state, buildings have been donated to American Legion posts. We are looking for some help to obtain a building that could be donated to us, or leased at a very minimal amount.

I am truly hoping someone has an answer for us.

Jeanette Burman, president
Auxiliary Unit 112
American Legion

Goodfellow thanks

The volunteers of the Plymouth Goodfellows offer a heartfelt "thank you" to all of our local residents who contributed to making this year's campaign of "No Child Without a Christmas" a huge success.

Because of your generosity, we were able to provide clothing and gifts to 134 children and we provided food for 208 residents in the Plymouth community who needed a little extra help this holiday season.

Once again, we did not stand in the street intersections but local merchants were very supportive in allowing us at their entrances. Many invited us in to warm ourselves or have a quick cup of coffee. Once again we used a mail campaign to reach as many of you as we could. We then took to the sidewalks.

We would like to give a special thanks to everyone who helped during the 2004 campaign, including Kroger, Kmart, Anlyn, Options & Resources, TRAM, Aisin World Headquarters, Victory Packaging, Community Financial, Cequent Towing Products, Sealant Equipment and Engineering, the Plymouth Noon Rotary Club and the Plymouth Elks Lodge No. 1780 to name a few.

Also a special "thank you" to the United Way for organizing the local collaboration for the nonprofit groups. This program really works. With more local groups combining their efforts, it did make it better for us to serve even more this year.

It was also a big help when the local school officials and churches, as well as other organizations, helped us identify where we were needed.

We also want to publicly thank attorney Donald Morgan and CPA Ed Schulz, who worked with us so we could secure the 501(c)(3). These two gentlemen gave generously of themselves to help out the Plymouth Goodfellows. Plymouth is very blessed to have such fine professionals within its community.

We want to assure you the Plymouth Goodfellows is a total volunteer organization. None of the officers or other members receive any payment for their efforts. As an organization, we are united in our desire to lend a helping hand to our neighbors who need one. This has been such an exciting year for this group.

Plymouth Goodfellows

Saving our resources

Nearly 85 percent of Michigan's trash goes into our landfills. Michigan's recycling rate of 15.1 percent lags way behind the efforts of most of the nation. By depending on landfills to dispose of our trash, we are endangering the natural resources of the state.

We in Michigan have been blessed with a beautiful state with plenty of woods and water for our enjoyment. It is our responsibility to protect our environment for the generations to come. Michigan has depended on its deposit law since 1979, and let recycling efforts lag behind most of the country. Michigan beverage wholesalers and retailers have accepted their responsibility, but it is not enough. Everyone must get involved in saving our resources.

The legislature has passed two bills that will require financial support to a new Recycling Advisory Council and to a statewide recycling coordinator. These bills can put some teeth into our recycling efforts and would be a big step to improve our efforts statewide.

In these times of tight budgets, we must make some difficult choices on how we spend tax dollars, but I feel the additional expenses to support these bills is

well worth it. I urge you to support Senate Bill 790 and Senate Bill 854. These bills will do a lot to improve our recycling efforts.

William Ventola
Plymouth

America must do more

I recently became very enthused when I read that \$2 billion has been pledged to help the victims of the devastating tsunami. In the midst of so much pain and suffering, a person can only be hoping and praying for every life that was affected by this terrible tragedy.

Although in matters of life and death, monetary issues barely affect a conscious mind, it is very evident that modern societies must rely on financial courtesies to pull out of such tragedies. To me this is a tragedy in itself.

I used the term "financial courtesies," because of the simple reason that a great majority (not all) of the money donated is purely political. For example, Japan has donated more money (\$500 million) than the richest country in the world (U.S. \$350 million). If we were being humane, we would do our duty to humanity and help out, over and above all other nations, because we are America. Events like the tsunami take precedent over all economic, political or friendly ties between nations, for people who live within in these nations are not our enemies, they are simply citizens, who occasionally live under evil regimes, but they are still good humans, who simply want to live.

Therefore, it is our duty — not our privilege, our duty — to make sure that the people affected by the tsunami have every chance possible to live.

As an extremely patriotic American, who does not take for granted what his nation has provided for him, I believe we must step up and put all political motives behind us.

For the sake of humanity, the true universal link among all peoples, America needs to take a more responsible role in this tragedy, thus illustrating the respect it has to the Asian community affected, its people, itself, and most importantly, all of humanity.

Brad L. Dizik
Farmington Hills

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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

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QUOTABLE

"I try to make ice carving from my heart, express the feelings from my heart to your eyes. Many times the public relates to the carvings that I have made."

Tajana Raukar, World champion ice carver, on her fondness for the International Ice Sculpture Spectacular

PLYMOUTH Observer

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

Legislators must take an honest approach to budget

Happy New Year, everybody. Just in case you thought dishonesty in life is something new, consider that more than 2,000 years ago, the ancient Greek philosopher Diogenes was said to have spent much time wandering around Athens in broad daylight carrying a lantern and searching in vain for an honest man.

Yet if Diogenes were alive and in Lansing with his lantern today, he would need lots of extra batteries. There don't seem to be many honest folks these days in our state capital. The politicians are not being honest about our finances — or maybe they're all just scared of blurring out the truth, which is that the emperor is getting more naked by the day.

Consider Michigan has experienced \$1 billion or more budget shortfalls in each of the past three fiscal years. This year's budget already looks out of whack by some thing like \$400 million, and best estimates are that next year's spending plan (which begins Oct. 1) will be another \$1 billion-plus in the red.

How come? What to do? Diogenes, shine that lantern! Most legislators proclaim in public that we have to cut state spending — without ever saying what exactly they would cut, since that would inevitably

get someone mad. Various special interest groups — teachers, prison guards, city managers, you name 'em — say we've got to cut spending, sure, but certainly not by slashing their own little patch of happiness.

The Michigan Chamber of Commerce says we've got to cut taxes even more than we have to improve the business climate. Naturally, business leaders never address the problem of how to make up for the lost revenue, or what will happen when the money that buys essential state services disappears.

On and on it goes. Fingers are being pointed left, right and center, in an endless circle. Diogenes would have despaired unless he was fortunate enough to come across Tom Clay, director of state affairs for the Citizens Research Council of Michigan.

CRC is a nonprofit research outfit that is widely recognized as both non-partisan and enormously expert. Clay is a quiet, unassuming type who worked on state budgets under both Republican and Democratic governors for decades and probably knows as much as anybody about how our states finances work.

He was the keynote speaker at a forum put on by CRC in November. The bottom line: Under current policies of taxation and spending the Michigan general fund structural (i.e. chronic built-in) deficit that became evident in fiscal year 2000-01 will continue to grow into the future, even given a reasonably optimistic economic outlook.

The cause has to do both with the structure of state spending and the nature of the state's tax system. Expenditures on Medicaid (the joint state/federal program to pay for health and long term care for poor residents) and the state's prison system are

growing rapidly — and uncontrollably.

Even with zero increase in state spending on all the other programs, the built-in cost increases for Medicaid and corrections all by themselves will cause general fund spending to grow faster than tax revenue, even in good economic times. In other words, we are doomed to spend more than we take in. Hence the chronic "structural" deficit.

As to taxes, most that support the general fund are relatively inelastic, that is they do not grow at the same rate as the economy. 'In the 1990s it became evident that tax revenues did not keep up with increases in personal income, and now that personal income is down as a result of the recession and loss of manufacturing jobs, tax revenue is down even further,' Clay said.

A structural deficit of this nature is not going away without policy changes," he added. "The state has been able to continue to support general fund programs over the last five fiscal years by using \$6.5 billion in non-recurring resources. The recurring revenues simply have not been there and will not be adequate in the future without significant changes in tax and expenditure policy."

What Clay is saying in plain English is that the state for five years has resorted to a bunch of one-time financial gimmicks to stave off Armageddon — using up rainy day funds, increasing fees, changing dates of tax collections and other accounting trickery. The \$6.5 billion stash that was in the piggy bank has now been all used up.

And folks — whether Lansing types or ordinary citizens — are going to have to confront an emerging budget crisis. We have no choice, we are facing billions in red ink. The only way to accomplish this is to get serious about cutting spending, by increasing taxes or by both.

That's what the light of Diogenes' lamp reveals, and the hope is that a few bright shining hard facts will help bring even less-than-honest men to the realization that things have to change big-time.

In one positive development, Clay presented this material to newly elected state representatives at a meeting in Lansing last month. "Frankly, I was encouraged at the reaction of the new legislators. They're understanding the facts and they're concerned — much more now than they were two years ago at a similar meeting," he told me.

Finally, I too have found that some people in Lansing are discussing this situation — in private, of course — with the seriousness it deserves. But we don't have much time to get our house in order. "We're already behind the eight-ball with respect to other states," Clay said, "and if we don't fix this problem pretty soon the future is going to be pretty gloomy."

As we ought to know by now, there is a terrible price to be paid for ignoring a coming tidal wave.

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

'Spirit of Michigan State' is graduate's labor of love

This is bound to be a big year for Michigan State University, which last week inaugurated its first woman president, Lou Anna Simon, and which will spend all year celebrating its 150th anniversary.

University of Michigan fans will privately mutter, "so what?" After all, U-M has had a woman president for several years and was founded long before Ann Arbor has more money, more prestige and, at least temporarily, a better football team. And like MSU, Ann Arbor has its own loyal corps of alumni.

But what they don't have is Bloomfield Hills' Bruce McCristal, who has just written and published the best comprehensive history of any of the state's universities. *The Spirit of Michigan State* is not only a useful reference book, it is an absolutely beautiful one — coffee-table sized, lavishly illustrated, organized in chronological order, with little capsule stories and biographies.

"This was my retirement project," laughed a trim McCristal, who looks considerably younger than a man graduated from the East Lansing campus half a century ago. Actually, he was essentially weaned on the campus. His father, King McCristal, arrived in East Lansing as a professor of health and physical education in 1937 before Bruce entered kindergarten. Michigan State College, as it was then called, was essentially still a small agricultural school.

But in the years after World War II, it rapidly expanded into a mega-university, largely due to the shrewd planning of President John Hannah, who realized hordes of returning World War II veterans would want to go to college, and that if he built an athletic program, a great university might follow.

Watching MSU expand before his eyes was a shaping experience for Bruce McCristal, who went on to serve as a pilot in the U.S. Air Force and then to have a distinguished career in public relations, much of it at General Motors, where he ended his career as director of worldwide employee communications. When he left the corporation in 1992, he immersed himself in the MSU archives.

There, he spent "hundreds and hundreds of hours." There was a previous history of MSU, published by the school for its centennial in 1955. It was illustrated mainly with small black-and-white photos of men in

suits, and was written in a suitably dry fashion by a history professor.

The Spirit of Michigan State is anything but that. Similarly illustrated books of its size tend to sell for about \$75, this one retails for \$49.95, but they'll reduce that by \$10 if you order it from the Web site, www.spiritofmichiganstate.com.

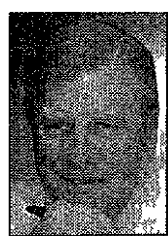
When I first saw it, I assumed it had been heavily subsidized by MSU and published by the campus press. It was neither. The MSU Press had other projects in motion, "so I learned how to become a publisher," McCristal laughed. So he paid to have the book typeset in Arizona and printed in, of all places, China, and then started selling them. He doesn't want to talk about what this set him back, but there isn't the slightest chance he will recoup his investment, he is donating every dollar to MSU.

U-M may have Arthur Miller among its alumni, but when it comes to writerly devotion, it's hard to imagine that they can top MSU's Homer. What was his favorite Spartan anecdote? "Hard to say," but one great one is a little secret story of how the school got to be a football powerhouse.

During World War II, Hannah badly wanted to get into the Big Ten, but knew he'd have to prove State could play with the big boys. So he enlisted then-Michigan Gov. Harry Kelly in an effort to persuade Notre Dame's president to agree to play a regular series with the Spartans. "This was at the height of World War II, during rationing, and Mrs. Kelly pulled three priceless steaks out of the freezer." Meat matters. Notre Dame started coming to East Lansing, and State got into the Big Ten.

Blanchard for Democratic Party chairman? Some people scoffed at the news that former Gov. Jim Blanchard was interested in being the next Democratic national chairman. But the idea may not be so far-fetched. Blanchard, now a well-connected Washington lawyer, is broadly acceptable to all factions. He is energetic, in a good position to be an honest broker and, perhaps most important, is not a candidate for president. Howard Dean, perhaps the front-runner for the chairmanship, clearly wants to run again. Insiders say Blanchard would love the job, which will be filled in February, but won't formally run unless he thinks he has a good chance of winning and has solid support from the nation's Democratic governors.

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.



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JANUARY 2, 2005

White Stone & Twelve Powers Sunday: Faith
What on Earth Am I Here For?
Introduction to a Special 40 Day Series
Rev. Argenta Glasgow, Speaker

JANUARY 10, 2005 (Monday)
Purpose #1: You Were Planned For God's Pleasure
One Time Only Special Class
Monday 12 Noon - 1 p.m. & 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Rev. Argentina Glasgow, Speaker

JANUARY 16, 2005
Martin Luther King Sunday
Purpose #2: You Were Formed For God's Family
Rev. Alfreda Williams, Guest Speaker

JANUARY 23, 2005
Purpose #3: You Were Created to Become Like Christ
Rev. Gregory Guice, Guest Speaker

JANUARY 30, 2005
Purpose #4: You Were Shaped for Serving God
Rev. Alfreda Williams, Guest Speaker

FEBRUARY 6, 2005
Twelve Powers Sunday: Love
Purpose #5: You Were Made for a Mission
Rev. Argentina Glasgow, Speaker

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- the community and agency services available
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- how to plan to maximize your independence, control and protect your assets and your family from nursing home costs

Saturday, January 8th, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Livonia Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard corner of Hubbard and 5 Mile
Guest Speaker: Kelley Fulkerson,
Trainer for the Alzheimer's Association

Wednesday, January 19th, 7:00 PM - 9 PM
Saturday, January 22nd, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Southfield Public Library, 26300 Evergreen Rd
Guest speaker: Jean Barnas, Education and Training Coordinator
Alzheimer's Association

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Southeast Michigan population grows by 1.5 percent

The seven-county region of southeast Michigan closes 2004 with an estimated population of 4,907,319, according to figures released by SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments.

This new estimate represents a 1.5 percent increase in population (or an average of 44 persons per day) since the 2000 census. The population growth rate of Southeast Michigan is estimated to be less than one-third of the nation's growth rate.

The region's fastest growing county, in percentage terms,

since the 2000 census is Livingston County. During that time it grew 14.8 percent, from a population of 156,951 in 2000 to a current estimated population of 180,233.

The county gaining the greatest number of people is Macomb County, which added 37,829 residents since the 2000 census.

Population figures from 1900 show the population of Southeast Michigan at 582,236.

Among Southeast Michigan communities Macomb Township grew the most since

the 2000 census, adding more than 19,000 people, and ending 2004 with an estimated population of 69,509. (Note Macomb Township's population at the 1990 census was 22,714.) Since the 2000 census, Macomb Township's population has increased nearly 38 percent. Canton Township, Brownstown Township and Chesterfield Township also experienced significant growth during this time period, each adding 5,000-7,200 residents. Other fast-growing communities in Southeast Michigan, in terms of percentage increase

since the 2000 census, include Saline Township (Washtenaw County, 55 percent), New Haven (Macomb County, 46 percent), and New Baltimore (Macomb County, 46 percent).

The number of households in Southeast Michigan has grown 3.4 percent since the 2000 census, more than twice as fast as the population. Households are growing at a faster rate than the population primarily because of the aging population and increasing percentage of one and two person households.

There were 1,845,218 households counted in the 2000 census, the region closes 2004 with an estimated 1,907,924 households. Macomb Township has added 6,768 households since the 2000 census (more than 10 percent of the region's total gain in households) and now has an estimated 23,714 households. Canton Township added 3,849 households and Sterling Heights added 2,727 households.

In southeast Michigan, there was an estimated 2.53 persons per household as the close of

2004. Livingston County has the highest persons per household at 2.73, Washtenaw County, at 2.37, is the lowest.

These estimates show that the pace of growth for the region has slowed in the last several years, but in some communities it continues to be strong," said Paul Tat, executive director of SEMCOG.

Population and household figures for all counties and communities in Southeast Michigan as updated monthly on SEMCOG's Web site - www.semco.org

Law gives grandparents visiting rights

Gov. Jennifer Granholm Tuesday signed into law legislation that clarifies the legal rights for grandparents and parents. The new legislation is intended to address constitutional questions raised when the Michigan Supreme Court struck down the state's grandparenting statute in *DeRose v DeRose*.

"Our state's prosperity rests in the strength of its families," said Granholm. "By safeguarding the ability of grandparents in Michigan to spend time with their grandchildren, as well as providing the tools to determine the best interests of our children, we are helping to strengthen Michigan families."

The new law amends the Child Custody Act by establishing a grandparent's ability to seek a grandparenting time order under appropriate circumstances. It also establishes guidelines regarding who is eligible to request such an order and under what conditions, while keeping the best interests of the child in mind.

A grandparent can seek grandparenting time if:

- The grandchild's parents are divorced, or are in the process of divorce, separation or annulment.
 - The grandchild's parent is deceased and is the son/daughter of the grandparent.
 - The grandchild's parents have never been married, are not cohabitating, and the father's paternity has been established.
 - The child is placed outside the home or legal custody of the child has been given to someone other than a parent (unless the child was adopted by someone other than a stepparent).
 - Within the year prior to seeking grandparenting time, the grandparent provided an established custodial environment for the grandchild.
- The new law will take immediate effect.

Conservation District plans annual meeting

The annual meeting of the Wayne County Conservation District will be 3 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 12, at 5454 Venoy Road, Wayne.

The meeting is open to the public.

Conservation Districts is a local entity of state government that is responsible for providing leadership in conservation and wise use of soil, water and related natural resources.

Conservation districts were organized to provide for the conservation of the natural resources of the state.

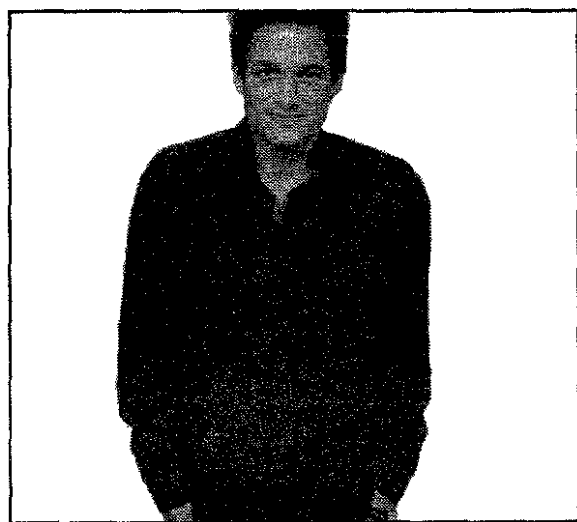
Jessica Simons, natural resources specialist, and Steven Olds, district conservationist, are scheduled to speak.

Simons is helping with the emerald ash borer issue. Olds is an expert on recent farm legislation.

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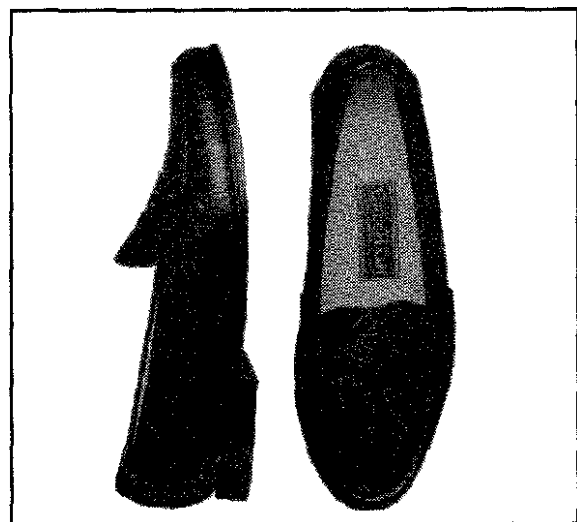
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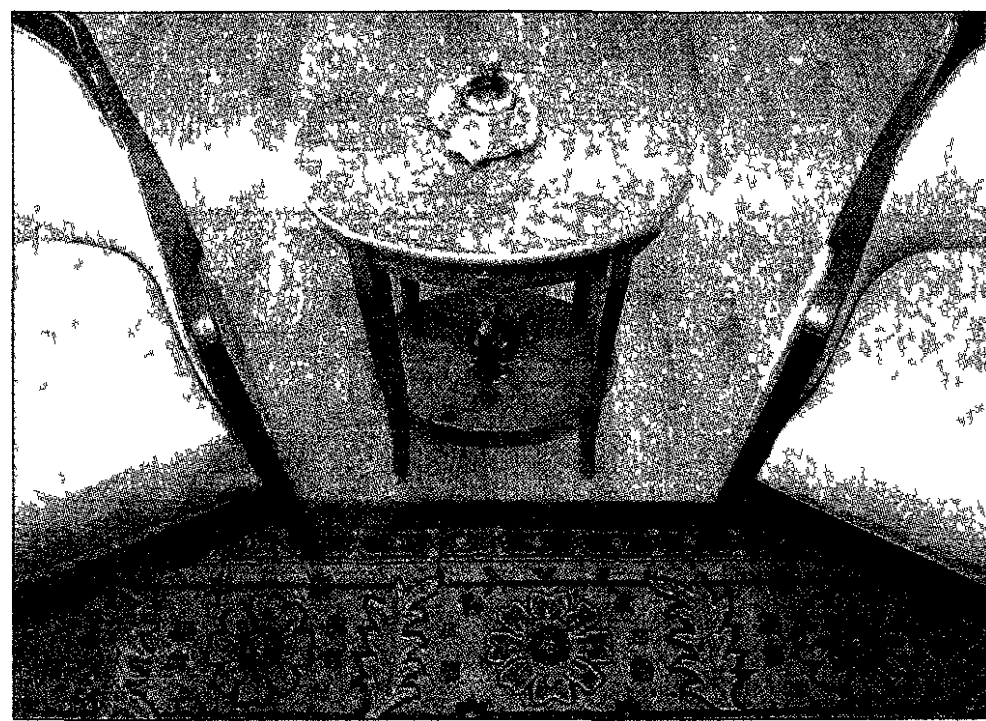
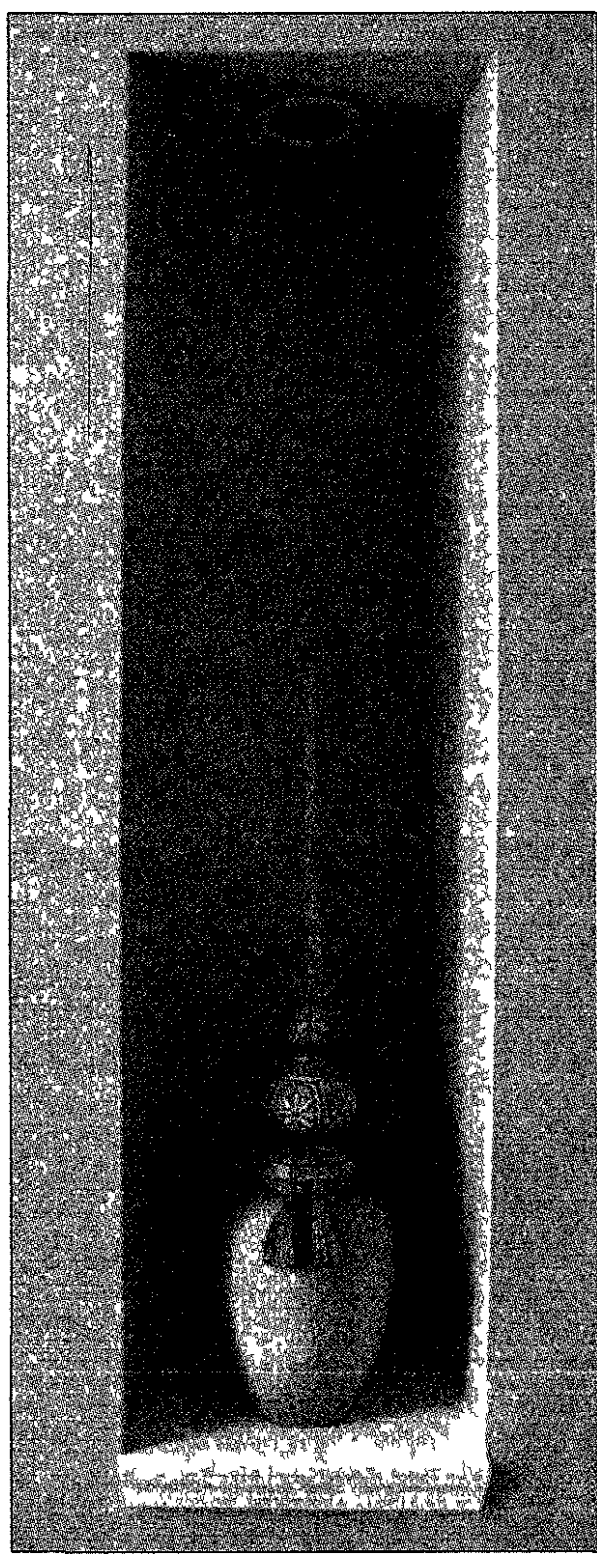
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PHOTOS BY LAWRENCE MCKEE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

2005 HOME ALIVE IN 2005

STORY BY JOAN BORAM | CORRESPONDENT

The New Year is upon us, bringing with it forecasts of trends in fashion and home decor. Spring fashions will soon appear, but the skinny on colors for the 2005 home has already begun to circulate.

Here are some predictions from area interior designers. "Our clients are showing a strong preference for warm and cozy, nurturing and soothing colors, whether their tastes are traditional or modern," said Barbara Krass, owner of Colorworks Studio in

West Bloomfield. Focus is gravitating more toward the greens first and then the neutrals, with reds still a strong third. It's the tones and half-tones that differentiate 2005 colors from last year's trends.

"Greens are sophisticated, with lots of yellow overtones or a watery blue base, in colors like thyme, oregano or sage, or rainwater and sea-glass."

Taupes and browns are taking on a dramatic aspect in rusty tones, cordovans, bronzes and dark rich chocolates, Krass said.

"The trend for lighter beiges is warm and defined, with colors like

PLEASE SEE COLORS, B4

Uplifting orange embodies optimism

(NAPS) - Color has the power to change our moods for the better and even to help us see hope and promise in the future. Aware of color's ability to communicate the spirit of the times, one major paint brand recently announced Full Bloom as its 2005 "Color of the Year."

"It's a color that is uplifting, stimulating and enlivening," said Barbara Richardson, director of color marketing for ICI Paints, maker of the Glidden paint brand. "Full Bloom has the ability to

raise our spirits and to make us feel optimistic - a quality that is in high demand right now."

'HOPEFUL' PALETTE

Shades of orange have been growing in popularity throughout the past year, due to their inherent sense of hopefulness. Colors from the orange palette create a feeling of warmth, joy and energy when incorporated into home decor.

This color group is considered especially suited for "public" areas of the home,

such as kitchens or dining rooms, where family and friends gather to communicate, to eat and drink or to be entertained.

"Many shades of orange evoke the excitement of a fiesta with their vitality and fruitiness," said Richardson. "A room painted in colors reminiscent of spiced pumpkin, papaya or tangerine often becomes the scene of lively gatherings."

EXCELLENT ACCENT COLOR

Due to the strength and richness of most orange

shades, it's often preferable to use them as effervescent accents throughout the home - especially on one or two walls in a large room.

"This color scheme easily can be blended with decors ranging from the natural and minimalist to the extremely modern and whimsical," said Richardson.

These vibrant oranges also mix perfectly with other warm colors that are not quite as intense, such as deep chocolates and saddle

PLEASE SEE ORANGE, B4



NAPS

The color orange creates a feeling of warmth and energy when incorporated into home décor.

Accents

Financial fitness

Getting control of finances help attain that New Year's goal of buying a new home, purchasing a new car, making home improvements or sending a child off to college. Your credit score (or FICO score) affects your ability to achieve these goals. Recent research from the Consumer Federation of America and Provident Financial found that only 13 percent of consumers know that a FICO score above the low 700s will most often get them a lower interest rate on a loan.

You can improve your credit score by doing the following:

■ Paying bills on time - If you have a credit score of 670, paying your bills on time for at least three months can raise your FICO score as much as 20 points.

■ Paying down balances - Paying \$750 toward a revolving credit balance of \$2,122 can raise your credit score from 670 to 710.

■ Transferring balances - If you have a FICO score of 670 and open a new credit card with a credit limit of \$3,000 and consolidate all existing credit card balances onto one card your credit score can increase to between 675 and 715.

A FICO Score Simulator is available on Provident's Web site (www.provident.com) along with other information and tools about credit scores. For Provident credit cardholders, these tools are available in a personalized format through Provident's Real Information program, which gives cardholders free access to their FICO credit scores so they can see how good financial practices positively influence their credit scores over time.

Watch driving

Many automobile owners dread winter for one reason - driving.

Transportation accidents are the leading cause of death during winter storms, according to the Federal Emergency Management Association.

Prevent accidents by driving safely and following these tips.

Clear snow and ice from windows, lights, windshield wipers, the hood and the roof of your vehicle. When you see plows, stay at least 200 feet behind them.

Stay abreast of road conditions by listening to the radio. Leave room for braking. Look ahead to see what other vehicles are doing. Watch your speed.

If you suddenly get stuck, the National Safety Council suggests turning your wheels from side to side a few times to push snow out of the way. Lightly touch the gas and ease forward. If that doesn't work, rock the vehicle, shifting from forward to reverse and back again, taking care not to do anything that will damage your transmission. (Check your owner's manual.) When you are in each gear, give a light touch on the gas pedal until the vehicle moves.

MARKET PLACE

Submissions

Do you have a special item you'd like to showcase in Marketplace on the front of At Home? We'd like to feature it! Send a photo or slide of the piece along with information to Ken Abramczyk, At Home editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.



In with the dark

Dark countertops connote luxury and high style, and are poised to become one of the next big trends in kitchen design, industry insiders and designers say.

Wilsonart has seen a dramatic rise in the popularity of its dark laminate patterns, according to Gwen Petter, manager of surface design with Wilsonart Laminate®.

"The darker tones are becoming as important as the neutrals," Petter said. "It's a color trend and today we're seeing a palette that is focusing on the dark, saturated hues."

Topping Wilsonart's list are Mesa Verde, Smoky Topaz and Brazilian Topaz. These dark, rich patterns in the green, gray and brown color families are part of the MesaGranite and Topaz laminate collections that

resemble granite and engineered stone, respectively.

Other dark Wilsonart patterns in the deep green, rich blue and chocolate brown color families that are catching consumers' eyes are Atzec Oasis (shown here on the countertop and island), Ebony Fusion, Nordic Fusion, Jade Fusion and Bronzed Fusion.

The Fusion collection showcases marble-like patterns, while the Oasis Collection features a random small-scale pattern that resembles stained glass. Wilsonart International's laminate was a nominee in the 2004 Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum's National Design Awards.

For more information about any Wilsonart product, call the Customer Service Hotline at (800) 433-3222 or visit the Wilsonart Web site at www.countertop.com.

Never dump kitchen grease in disposer

Frederick writes I heard a person on radio say that it was all right to pour grease down the kitchen sink. He also said that it was OK to pour it into the garbage disposer as long as you run water with it. Please give me your opinion. Thank you.

Frederick, the first thing I would like to tell you is that you didn't hear it on my radio show. Secondly, I don't think you can find a qualified plumber who would agree with that statement.

Do not put grease down any drain of your home, even if you run water with it. The end result can be a blocked drain line. Grease can only cause other materials to stick to it, especially hair. If you are hooked up to a septic system,



Appliance Doctor

Joe Gagnon

grease can also severely affect the drainage of that system. Grease also promotes bacteria growth inside of a garbage disposer, which is so close to an open sink.

I always thought that the disposer's instruction manual warned the user about putting grease inside of it.

The correct way to dispose of grease is to pour it into a can or disposable container, let it cool and then place the sealed can into the refrigerator. Once

it is solidified, you can place it into your regular trash.

You should clean your disposer every few weeks by filling it with ice cubes, letting them stand in there for an hour and then turning it on.

KEEP AN EYE ON PAD

Eric writes I moved into a home this past summer and it has a flow-thru type humidifier on the furnace. Should I change the filter (evaporator) pad or simply wash it? It looks like it's in pretty good shape.

That's a great question, Eric, and leads me to tell you about a friend who called me for assistance just a few weeks ago. He asked me to check out his humidifier on the furnace because he didn't think it was

working. I checked the humidistat which was OK and the solenoid which allows water to flow freely through the pad.

To do this I had to take out the pad, which I found to be filled with mold.

It is the ugliest and most frightening thing to look at. I kept it and still have it in a sealed bag.

I don't know what kind of serious bacteria there is in this thing but it didn't take long to purchase a new one and install it.

I used to think that you could wash them with vinegar and it would do the trick, but not anymore. I have had the very popular Aprilaire model and I buy a new filter pad for it every year.

The subject of mold keeps getting more serious each year and although there is much yet to be proven, I don't take any chances with it.

NEW YEAR, NEW PRICE HIKES

The year 2005 brings some heavy duty price increases in the cost of major home appliances. The steel prices and oil prices mandate that manufacturers have no other choice but to raise your cost on the retail level. They are estimating that increases will be 5 to 10 percent on all shipments after Jan. 1.

If you're thinking about a new product for your home sometime this year, do it now. Most appliance dealers will still have last year's inventory

in their warehouses and that fact can save you dollars if you buy soon. I don't see any big changes in manufacturing that would make it worthwhile to wait for the newer models to come out. A washer is a washer and a dryer is a dryer; they still wash and dry clothes and the only big differences are that they keep adding more and more cycles to them which 75 percent of us don't use.

In closing let me wish everyone of you a prosperous New Year and a big thank you for reading this column. Stay tuned.

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

GARDEN CALENDAR

Seminars

English Gardens will present free gardening seminars 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) 286-6100) 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. English Gardens floral designers will present Arranging Fresh Flowers 11 a.m. Jan. 15. This step-by-step demonstration will feature lots of inspiration and design basics as well as an overview of seasonal products available to decorate your home. For the nearest English Gardens location call (800) 335-GROW or visit www.englishgardens.com.

Cactus and Succulent Society

The Michigan Cactus and Succulent Society will meet 2 p.m. Sunday Jan. 9 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 814 N. Campbell in Royal Oak. A slide program on the Huntington Botanical Gardens will be presented. Admission is free. Guests are welcome.

For more information call (248) 524-0227.

Troy Garden Club

The Troy Garden Club will meet at noon Wednesday Jan. 12 at Big Beaver United Methodist Church, 3753 John R. just south of Waxies in Troy. Guest speaker Kay Englehart will talk about the Associated Country Women of the World. Refreshments will be served at noon. Guest donation \$3. For more information call Rita at (248) 540-4249.

School of Gardening

The Michigan School of Gardening offers a variety of classes for different levels at 29429 Six Mile in Livonia just west of Middlebelt and at Goldner Walsh Nursery, 559 Orchard Lake Road in Pontiac, north of Square Lake Road and east of Telegraph. Register early. Seating is limited. Some classes have prerequisites. For more information call (248) 4-GARDEN or visit www.michigangardening.com. The schedule includes Effective Hand Design 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).

Master Gardener club

The Master Gardener Association of Wayne County (MGAWC) invites former and current master gardeners and master gardening students to attend membership meetings the second Thursday of the month. September through June MGAWC volunteers meet in the Environmental Interpretive Center at the northwest corner of the University of Michigan Dearborn campus, 4901 Evergreen between Ford Road and Michigan. Celebrating 20 years of community service MGAWC has refreshments at 7 p.m. activity announcements at 7:30 p.m. and a speaker at 8 p.m. Orchids will be the topic of the meeting Jan. 13. Cooking will be discussed at the meeting Feb. 10. MGAWC.org has links to a campus map. Call (734) 786-6860 for a 24-hour recording.

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@homecomm.net.

Decorative plants can also feed wildlife

BY LEE REICH
FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

As bulldozers gobble up natural habitats for wildlife, backyard havens for these animals become increasingly important.

And the trees, shrubs and vines in our backyards can provide, besides shelter, winter food at a time when natural foods are apt to be scarce.

If those foods happen to be brightly colored fruits, not only can they offer sustenance, but they can also decorate the winter landscape with their colors and with the fitting about of feeding birds, squirrels and other wildlife.

A planting for wildlife doesn't have to look like a game preserve, because many plants that bear colorful berries are fine landscape plants as well.

You might already be growing a crabapple, mountain ash or Washington hawthorn tree — all of which also provide good food for animals.

Washington hawthorn and

mountain ash are related to crabapple, with pea-size, glossy red or orangish red fruits.

Many people plant crabapples mostly for their spring blossoms, but just imagine how pretty the bare branches can be in winter, each acting like a little shelf for snow and festooned by marble-size scarlet, golden or orange fruits.

Not all varieties of crabapple bear decorative or persistent fruits, though, one of the best for color and for feeding songbirds, pheasants and grouse through the winter is the Sargent crabapple.

Staghorn sumac, another plant that makes good winter feed for wildlife, grows as a medium-sized tree or as a large shrub.

It is invasive, spreading from seed and root suckers, so it isn't a plant for small backyards.

Even if you don't grow it yourself, you — along with pheasants, bobwhite quails and various other birds — can appreciate it growing along

such sites as old railroad beds and the edges of meadows.

A number of shrubs still decked out in berries are more civilized in their growth than sumac, so are better suited to smaller yards.

Most obvious for winter berries is, of course, winterberry, with orange or red berries pressed against black stems. Gray dogwood is another, with white berries.

Viburnums are a group of ornamental shrubs that include highbush cranberry, bearing drooping clusters of glossy red berries, and nannyberry and hobblebush, both of whose berries start out bright red and then turn blue-black. Two vines to provide winter berries for wildlife are bittersweet and Virginia creeper.

Although abundant in the wild, bittersweet is worth planting for its bright red and yellow fruits, and Virginia creeper for its crimson fall foliage, rivaled in the wild only by that of poison ivy.

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 Roman Shade four sessions beginning Thursday Jan. 6 or Friday Jan. 7 (fee is \$80). Call (248) 541-0010.

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).

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@homecomm.net.

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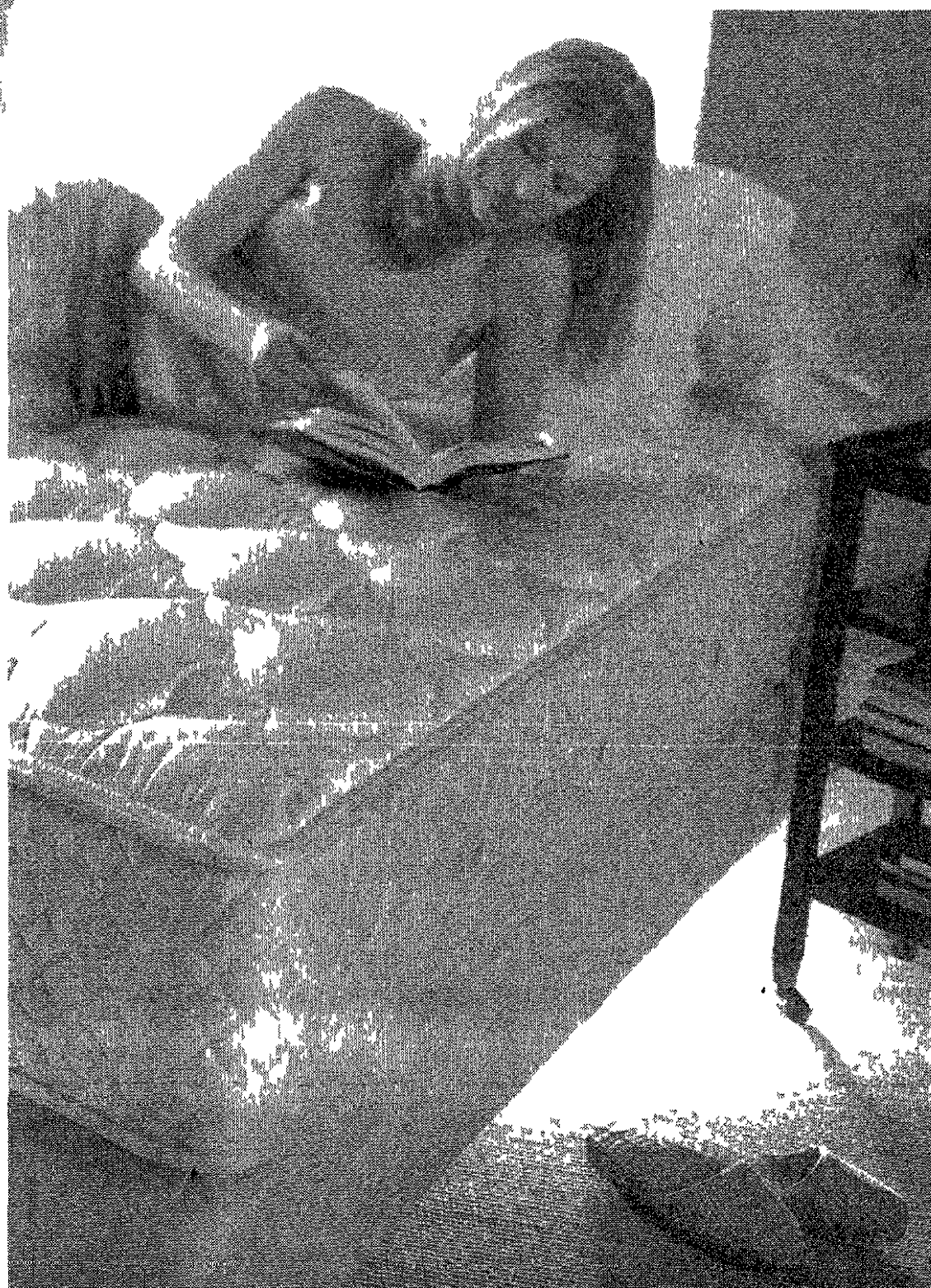
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COLORS

FROM PAGE B1

cappuccino, saddle-leather, and latte, Krass said. Reds have a brown or blue base, like a good Merlot, or the juice of a great steak.

CHALLENGING UPGRADES

Recently, clients asked Krass to update a combined living/dining room in their West Bloomfield residence. Working ahead of the calendar, Krass used 2005 colors, and sometimes found it a stretch to locate fabrics in desired tones.

"We painted the walls a bronzy green, and covered the sofa in a deeper version of the same color," Krass said. The faux silk taffeta curtains are a color called 'mink'. The dining room table and chairs, family heirlooms, are wood with a natural gold tone, and the bar cabinet is creamy with a yellow base, so the wall and curtain color scheme was a natural progression, beginning with the family's antiques.

An area rug in the living room, gold with deep bronzy green, watery blues and chestnut brown accents is complemented by throw pillows on the sofa that pick up the rug's

colors. Together, they help tie the room's colors together into an organic whole.

Interior designers are fond of encouraging potential clients to clip and keep in a file pictures of rooms they find attractive. One of Ed Postif's clients went one step farther. She took a trip to Tuscany and commissioned Postif, president of Edward Postif Inc. in Plymouth, to give her a golden Tuscan living room. Not an easy task if you compare Michigan sunshine with Tuscan sunshine, but the client wanted a soft candlelight gold.

Gold is the new yellow, said Postif. Shades of old gold, marigold, goldenrod, the deep gold shades will be very in this year, so it was a pleasure to do this room. We painted the walls dark gold, the carpeting is a soft gold, and the sofa is camel chenille, very soft and comfortable.

The golden effect is complemented by a fiddlehead green ottoman trimmed in wine, a chocolate brown chair, another chair covered in wine and chocolate stripes, and a love seat in fiddlehead green and gold striped velvet. Add throw pillows in bordeaux and a red floral and you have a room that any Tuscan would love.

I learned from an artist friend who always put a spot of red in a painting to always

include a red accent in a room, said Postif.

BLUE WILL BE HOT

Other shades Postif cites as upcoming stars are blue with green in it, such as robin's egg blue, the blue of a Tiffany box or turquoise.

Blue pairs well with coral, gold, yellow and white, said Postif. Coral is the new pink, especially the spicy tones of tangerine or cayenne, cumin or cinnamon. And orange is coming on strong.

When Brian Clay Collins, FASID, senior interior designer at Marshall Field's Interior Design Department Northland, designed last November a vignette for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra fund-raiser, "Orchestrations for the Home" in the Brunswick & Fils showroom at the Michigan Design Center in Troy, he took a fresh approach.

Fresh oranges, to be exact. The two walls of the vignette were a pumpkin-colored grasscloth, painted with a vine design.

Two sofas were covered with a nubby white fabric, side furniture was black lacquer with



PHOTOS BY LAWRENCE MCKEE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Barbara Klass sits in a kitchen she designed.

rattan, and the only wall feature was a large round mirror trimmed in gold, bordered in black.

All furniture and fabrics were from Brunswick & Fils.

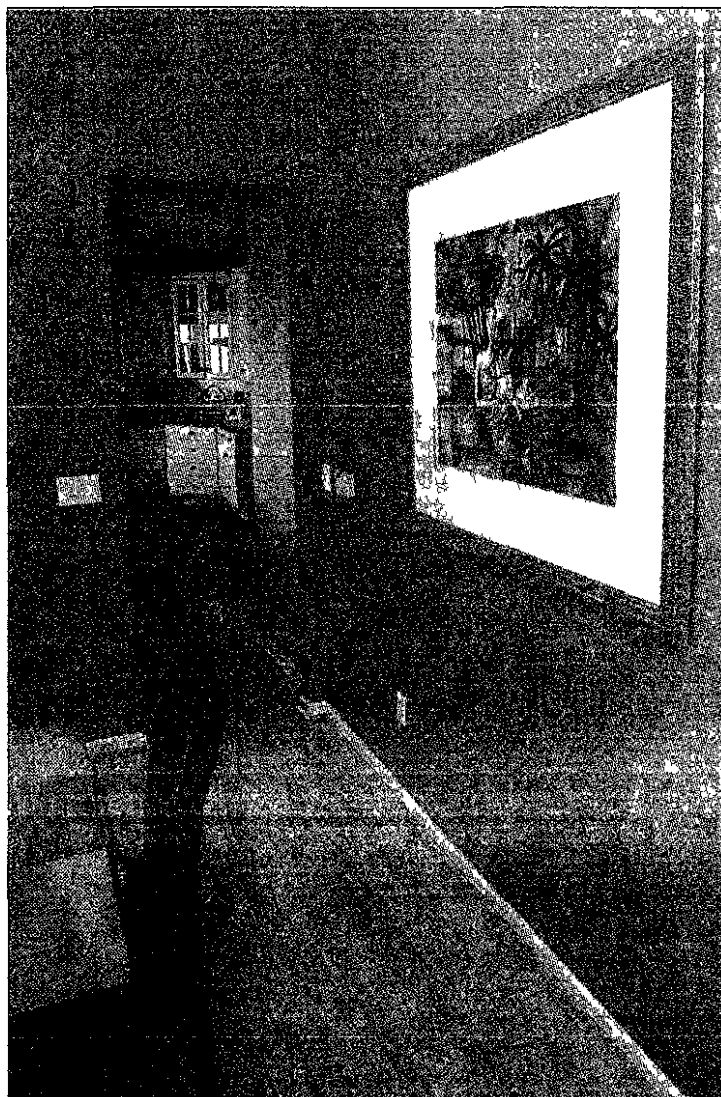
Tangerine and marigold throw pillows added color as

did quantities of fresh oranges in blue-and-white Chinese porcelain bowls from Carlton-James Galleries, also in the MDC.

The oranges contributed a fresh touch of color that's impossible to duplicate, said Sharon Krümmel, manager of

the Brunswick & Fils showroom. "They added a wonderful aroma to the area, they lasted a long time, and we only had one fruit fly!"

Joan Boram is a freelance writer who writes about interior design for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.



Warm and cozy will be the style for 2005, designers say, like in this home in West Bloomfield. The dining room's table and chairs are wood with a natural gold tone, while the walls were painted bronzy green.

ORANGE

FROM PAGE B1

browns, according to Richardson.

As with most colors, the orange palette is made more beautiful when combined with neutral shades. For instance, in a room painted with Full Bloom, Ghidlen recommends use of a pink-toned neutral such as Sand Dollar Shell on the doorways and trim to create a sense of continuity and flow.

Full Bloom is based on a color originally identified by the ColourFutures team, an international group that researches design influences from fashion, architecture,

nature and cultures from around the globe. Each year, the team studies events and ideas to produce a contemporary color palette driven by society's moods and interests, similar to the way that fashion designers seek unique styles and incorporate current philosophies into their work.

"Full Bloom is really an uplifting color that can enhance our lives," said Richardson.

In the home, it creates spaces that are dynamic and joyful — places that we can visit to gain motivation, find inspiration, or simply improve our moods.

You can explore color options, as well as creative ideas for home paint projects at www.ghidlen.com.

It's easy to replace broken hammer handle

BY JAMES AND MORRIS CAREY
FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

Got a broken hammer handle? Don't toss it, fix it.

A replacement handle will cost about one-third of the price of a new hammer, and the replacement process is simple.

Use a hand saw to cut off what remains of the broken handle.

Lay the head on a small block of wood with the claws facing up, and use an electric drill to remove the remains

from the eye.

Next, insert the throat of the new handle into the head. The fit should be snug.

If it's too tight, try shaving it with a razor knife or belt sander.

With the handle in place, cut off the portion that projects beyond the top of the head.

Drive a wood shim into the groove at the top of the handle.

Finish the job by inserting a metal wedge at a right angle to the wood shim.

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TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth-Canton-Salem Penguins goalie Kristie Kowalski smothers a Harper Woods Regina shot during the second period of Tuesday night's game at Canton's Arctic Edge Arena. PCS won, 3-2.

Penguins outskate Regina, 3-2

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

With their once-comfortable three-goal lead evaporating faster than a hockey rink in the middle of the desert, the Plymouth-Canton-Salem Penguins turned to goalie Kristie Kowalski to preserve a victory Tuesday night against Harper Woods Regina in a crucial Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League game. Kowalski responded, knocking away five third-period Saddlelite shots to save the Penguins thrilling 3-2 victory in a game played at Canton's Arctic Edge Arena. PCS improved its record to 8-2 overall and 7-1 in the

'Our entire defense played a good game.'

Lori Callahan
Penguin coach

MMGHHL, while Regina slipped to 3-3. The two teams trail only first-place Grosse Pointe South in the conference standings. Kristie played really well," Penguin coach Lori Callahan said. She made a couple of great saves and she did a nice job of covering up rebound shots

as well. Our entire defense played a good game."

Following a scoreless first period, PCS scored twice in the second on goals from sophomore Adrienne Cercone and junior Kelli Bargowski. Cercone punched in a rebound following a shot by Amy Coleman, while Bargowski's goal was assisted by Tara Bolland.

Tara made a great pass to Kelli, who scored top shelf, Callahan said. "Kelli had a good, all-around game. She did a nice job of bringing the puck up the ice into our end." During the second intermission Callahan said she warned her team

PLEASE SEE PENGUINS, C3

Plymouth icers stun Salem

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

The new kid on the block skated away with a milestone victory in Tuesday night's cross-campus showdown between the Plymouth and Salem hockey teams.

The Wildcats recorded their first-ever Western Lakes Activities Association win when they surprised the Rocks, 4-3, before an enthusiastic crowd at the Compuware Sports Arena. Plymouth is now 4-5 overall and 1-3 in the WLA, Salem slipped to 6-5-1 and 3-2.

It was a huge win for this team, especially since it was our first league win and it was against our cross-campus rival, Plymouth coach Mike Kaput said. "The boys finally decided to play as a team and get rid of the individual play that had cost us in earlier games. They're sky-high right now."

Salem has a good team and they're well-coached, so we knew we had to play together if we were going to win. I'm very proud of the team."

Salem coach Fred Feiler said he was disappointed with his squad's mental approach to Tuesday night's game. "I don't want to take anything away from Plymouth because they played well, but this was our worst game of the year," Feiler said. "We didn't respond the way we should have coming out of the break. We were flat and Plymouth played with more emotion than we did."

Plymouth's Ryan Stamm opened the scoring with an unassisted goal six minutes into the game. Salem's Chris

PLEASE SEE PLYMOUTH, C3

Sidelines

Whalers first

The Plymouth Whalers moved into first place in the Ontario Hockey League's West Division Tuesday night with a 6-3 victory over the Saginaw Spirit in a game played before 3,364 people at the Saginaw County Event Center.

James Neal's power-play goal at 0:18 of the third period snapped a 3-3 tie and proved to be the game winner. Neal was assisted by Mike Knight. The victory improved the Whalers' record to 16-14-3. Their 39 points are one more than second-place Sault Ste. Marie.

Plymouth received goals from five other players: Jonas Fiedler, Dan Collins, John Mitchell, Mike Looby and Vaclav Merd. Kevin Tuckey, Thomas Harrison and Patrick McNeil scored for the Spirit, who dropped to 9-25-1-4. Plymouth outshot Saginaw, 14-5, in the decisive third period. Ryan Nie earned the victory in net for the winners.

The Whalers have now won five of their last six road games. Their next home game at the Compuware Sports Arena is Saturday, Jan. 15, against Guelph.

Soccer signup

The city of Plymouth Recreation Department will be accepting spring youth soccer registration the entire month of January at the recreation office during business hours, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The office is located in the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer St. All first-time registrations require a birth certificate.

The fee for 6-and-under through 8-and-under divisions is \$60 for Plymouth residents and \$85 for non-residents.

For 9-and-under and older divisions, the fee is \$65 for Plymouth residents and \$95 for non-residents.

For more information call (734) 455-6620 or see the department's Web site at www.ci.plymouth.mi.us.

Madonna men win

The Madonna University men's basketball team improved its record to 4-11 Dec. 30 with a 93-85 victory over Grabe Bible in the consolation game of the Hope College tournament.

Noel Emenhiser paced the Crusaders, scoring a tournament-record 38 points. For his efforts, the senior from Monroeville, Ind., was named to the all-tournament team.

YMCA hoop

Registration for Plymouth YMCA boys and girls travel league teams begins Monday, Jan. 10. The boys teams are for players between the ages of 12 and 14 while the girls teams are for players ages 8 and 9.

Signups for the YMCA's youth co-ed basketball league (ages 6-12) and new 4- and 5-year-old league begins Tuesday, Jan. 18.

Beaming Salem gymnasts shrug off rust to win opening meet

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Salem's gymnastics team returned from the holiday break Monday rested, but rusty. Even though they weren't necessarily at the top of their game, the Rocks still managed to outperform Wayne/Westland, 128.45-94.15, in the season opener for both teams. "We weren't able to practice much during the break because of vacations, so it wasn't a great meet for us," Salem coach Dana Driscoll said.

A few of the girls who were competing in their first meet did surprisingly well, though. "We won, but we could have done better."

Salem earned the top three spots in the all-around competition and in each of the four individual events. Elena Gueorguiev was the top point-earner, netting 33.60. Meghan Negele was second overall with 31.65, followed closely by teammate Brittany Young, who compiled 31.30 points.

Young captured the vault with a score of 8.35. Gueorguiev was second (8.30) and Negele was third (8.25).

Gueorguiev took top honors in the bars, beam and floor events, while Negele finished third in the bars and the beam.

Sarah Bugosh, Katerina Karotis and Shawdi Dafger also earned top-three finishes for the winners.

Salem will return to action Tuesday when it takes on cross-campus rival Canton at Plymouth High School. The meet is set to start at 7 p.m.

ewright@oe.homecomm.net | (734) 953 2108

Miscues doom Canton cagers, 55-44

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Canton's boys basketball team needed more than antibiotics to cure the severe case of turnover—it is it suffered from Tuesday night in its final non-league game against Ann Arbor Pioneer. The Chiefs, who were throwing up the ball for grabs on several occasions against Pioneer's pesky man-to-man defense, committed 20 turnovers in the 55-44 setback in the Phase III gymnasium. Canton will take a 4-2 record into Friday night's Western Lakes Activities Association opener at home against Walled Lake Western. The game will tip off at 6 p.m., an hour earlier than the usual starting time. Pioneer won for just the second time in six games.

'We committed way too many turnovers to win.'

Charlie Paye
Canton coach

"The two things I talked to the team about before the game — keeping the intensity level up and keeping the turnovers down — we didn't do very well," Canton coach Charlie Paye said. "We committed way too many turnovers to win. We played with intensity in spurts, but we have to do it for four quarters."

Pioneer coach Greg Lockridge said his team's sub-par record is misleading considering the difficulty of its early schedule and the relative inexperience of his team.

"We're a very young team and our players are just starting to get used to playing with one another," Lockridge said.

Neither team could pull away from the other in the first half, which ended with Canton ahead, 21-17. The Chiefs secured the intermission advantage by scoring the final six points — four from senior point guard Andy Cortellini and two from senior shooting guard David Cahille.

Junior guard Keenyn Joplin's fast-break layup with 1:30 left in the third quarter gave the Pioneers a 33-28 lead, however, Canton's Steve Paye and Cahille scored the final four points of the quarter to bring the Chiefs to within 33-32 with eight minutes remaining.

Pioneer outscored Canton 9-1 over the first four min-

utes of the fourth to put a stranglehold on the victory. The Chiefs connected on just 3-of-16 shots in the fourth quarter and 18-of-54 (33 percent) for the game.

Pioneer hit half of its fourth-quarter attempts (6-of-12), but just 19-of-53 (36 percent) for the game. Canton's Julian Smith was the game's top scorer with 13 points.

The senior forward also yanked down seven rebounds. Cahille finished with 10 points and Cortellini had seven.

Ladel Harris came off the bench to lead Pioneer's balanced attack with 11 points. Joplin and Matt Fileccia both netted 10. Led by Ryan Waidmann's 10 boards and Kevin Thorntons nine, Canton out-rebounded the visitors, 38-31.

Cortellini's court skills frustrate foes

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

High school basketball coaches spend hours upon hours of valuable practice time trying to design the unbreakable, momentum-seizing, full-court press that will force their opponents to commit one panic-stricken turnover after another.



Prep Profile

So when Canton senior point guard Andy Cortellini dribbles through and around these presses like a Porsche maneuvering through rush-hour traffic on I-275, it's enough to make opposing coaches bang their clipboards, burn timeouts and deliver eardrum-popping lectures to their deflated players.

Cortellini's court skills at times defy logic, said Canton coach Charlie Paye, the only side-



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton senior point guard Andy Cortellini's ability to handle a basketball is second to none in the Western Lakes Activities Association. His 3.9 grade-point average ranks among the league's best, too.

PLEASE SEE CORTELLINI, C2

Agape Christian's Leathers wears down Tories, 63-50

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

You couldn't have faulted Brtton-Macon's basketball team if it let out a collective sigh of relief when Canton Agape Christian's Derek Leathers excited its gymnasium Tuesday night.

Leathers wore out the Tories with 21 points and 21 rebounds to lead the Wolverines to a 63-50 triumph. Agape is now 2-4 heading into Tuesday night's home game against Summerfield. The game — scheduled for 7 p.m. — will be played at Canton's Discovery Middle School.

"The team is starting to jell,"

said Wolverine coach Keith Anletner. "We've only won twice, but we've played a very difficult schedule which will only make us stronger down the road. We should be more than ready for the league schedule."

Agape led 17-14 after one quarter before pulling away by out-scoring its hosts, 22-7, in the second stanza. B-M never got to within single digits the rest of the contest.

Leathers wasn't the only Wolverine who enjoyed a productive night. Jack Anletner twined 18 while Gabe Molnar chipped in with 10. Ryan Barber contributed seven and Bryan Horning had four. Phillip Bailey paced the Tories with 15

Belleville 64. Allen Park 40. The Tigers outscored the Jaguars 15-4 in the decisive second quarter to improve their early season record to 6-0. Allen Park fell to 4-2.

Belleville junior swing man Leon Freeman was too much for the Jags to handle in the paint as he tallied 20 points and a team high 12 rebounds. Tommie Clark netted 11 for the winners while Mike Donaldson and Carlos Clark each had eight.

The Tigers led 17-12 after one quarter and 32-16 at the half. They sealed the win by out-running their visitors 21-10 in the third quarter.

We missed a ton of lay ups in early on or we would have had 25 to 30 points in the first quarter," lamented Belleville coach Mike Krogel. "We got more assertive defensively in the second quarter and picked up our defense in the post. Their top scorer, Kevin Klein had eight in the first quarter to keep them in it."

Klein finished with 25 points, but his team mates had a hard time matching his production.

Leon played well for us," Krogel said. "He took the ball to the basket and he knocked

down some outside shots. We only shot six threes which is key for us. We get into trouble when we settle for the outside shots too much."

Belleville returns to action Friday night when it hosts Monroe. Tip off is set for 7 p.m.

Dearborn Heights Robichaud 59. Plymouth 51. The Wildcats hung tough but eventually succumbed to a deep and talented Robichaud squad. The game was the first on the road this season for Plymouth, which fell to 4-2. The Bulldogs improved to 5-1.

We were only down three with 130 left and we had the ball, so we took it down to the wire," said Plymouth coach Tom Van Wagoner. "They weren't a real good free throw shooting team coming into the game, but they seemed to hit everything down the stretch from the line."

The first quarter was reminiscent of a mid-80s NBA game as defense was nowhere to be found. Robichaud led 22-19 after eight minutes forcing Van Wagoner to switch his defensive strategy.

We were giving up too many easy baskets

in the first quarter so we switched to a zone," he said. "We held them to just eight points in the second quarter so it worked."

The Bulldogs held a slim 30-29 halftime lead before widening the gap to 47-40 after three quarters.

D.J. Coleman paced the Wildcats' offense with 22 points. Josh Le Duc tallied 11 points all in the second half, and 11 rebounds.

We started to pound the ball inside to Josh in the second half and he came through for us," Van Wagoner said.

The Wildcats were inconsistent from the charity stripe, sinking just 11 of 18 attempts.

Plymouth opens its Western Lakes Activities Association schedule Friday when it travels to Livonia Churchill. The opening tip is set for 7 p.m.

Taylor Baptist Park 49. Plymouth Christian Academy 47. The Eagles played in Taylor Tuesday night, but it must have felt like they were in Heartbreak City following a painful loss to the Wildcats.

PCA led 47-42 with 1:58 left in the game before getting outscored 7-0. The Eagles were

done in by costly turnovers down the stretch and the home team capitalized.

Baptist Park had the ball on an out-of-bounds play with 15 seconds left and the score tied. PCA coach Doug Taylor recounted Stephen Sumner made a great steal for us. We called a time out and set up a play, but we turned it over with 4.6 seconds left. They ran a double screen play for Brian Ison and he made a shot in the key with 19 left.

PCA's Matt Saagman's 21 footer at the buzzer just missed the mark.

The Eagles led 15-13 after one quarter, 26-24 at the half and 39-32 with eight minutes left.

Aaron Ciborowski turned in a strong performance in the losing cause, netting 20 points and 14 rebounds. Sumner finished with 12 points, seven assists and four steals while Chase VanTiem contributed seven points, five assists and six rebounds.

The Eagles host the International Academy of Flint Friday night at 7 p.m.

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1992	CADILLAC	DEVILLE	1G6CD53B4N4278544
1991	FORD	ESCORT	1FAPP14J4MW395814
1993	FORD	ESCORT	1FAFP128ZP1292894
1991	MERCURY	MARQUIS	2MECM74F9MX647592
1995	PONTIAC	SUNFIRE	1G2JB1242S7524043
1999	PONTIAC	SUNFIRE	1G2JB1247X7536592
1993	EAGLE	VISION	2E3ED66F8PH545324
1993	FORD	THUNDERBIRD	1FAPP62TOPH202696
1994	CHRYSLER	LEBARON	3C3AA5636RT344372
1980	FORD	F150	F15GPGD0011
1985	OLDSMOBILE	DELTA 88	1G3BN69Y2F9124975
1992	FORD	CROWN VIC	2FACP72W9NX207472
1989	FORD	RANGER	1FTCR1498KPA25072
1987	DODGE	CHARGER	1P3BM4460HD676302
1984	FORD	BRONCO	1FMD61540EAL23533
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Publsh January 6 2005

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CORTELLINI

FROM PAGE C1

line strategist who doesn't have to worry about containing the Chiefs' 5-foot-11 ball-handling wizard.

Some of the things Andy does on the basketball court cannot be taught or coached, Paye said, talking about his slender, curly-haired floor general. He can dribble better left-handed than right-handed, even though he's right-handed. And it almost seems like he's faster with the ball than without it — and he's very fast without it.

"Andy is very unselfish, too. If he wanted to, he could score 25 points a game. But

he's great at distributing the ball because he has great court vision. We tell our other players that if they run the court, Andy will get them the ball."

GOOD GENES

Basketball talent flows throughout the Cortellini family's DNA. His father, Doug, played high school ball in Indiana, a state where driveway backboards are as commonplace as mailboxes. And Joe Cortellini, the second-oldest of three Cortellini boys, was a prolific scorer at Canton in the late 90s before moving on to Albion College, where he played two years for the Britons.

Andy, the youngest Cortellini, said his passion for the sport evolved during his elementary school years, when you could tell where he was by the sound of his ball bouncing off the floor.

"When I was young, I took my basketball everywhere," Cortellini said. "Every year I would get a new ball because I would wear out the old one from dribbling. My parents got mad sometimes because I would dribble in the house, but it's something I always enjoyed doing."

TWO-SPORT STAR

While in middle school, Cortellini played in the local league. He also served as the Chiefs' ball boy for two seasons when his brother, Joe, was starting for the team.

"I played soccer, too," said Cortellini, a three-year varsity player on the Canton soccer team. "But basketball has always been the sport I liked the best. The nice thing about playing soccer is that it gets me in great shape for basketball season. I usually have a little advantage the first couple of weeks of basketball while everyone else is getting into shape."

Cortellini said this year's team is the best of the three he's played on at Canton.

"We have a lot of depth and we have a complete team this season," he said. "When the seniors on this team were freshmen, we were 19-1, so we know what it takes to win."

IN THE ZONE

The highlight of Cortellini's career came last year when he found the shooting zone against Salem in a crossover game.

"I hit four or five threes in the first half and had 15 points at halftime," he said. "I feel just as good though making a good

pass as I do making a three."

Strong academic skills are also a Cortellini trademark. Andy's oldest brother, Chris, was a stellar student at Canton and at the University of Michigan, and is currently employed in Seattle by Microsoft.

"Doing well in school was something my parents always stressed," said Cortellini, who carries a 3.9 grade-point average. "I've always liked math and physics. Of all the subjects, they're the ones that come the easiest to me. I've always had to work a little harder at history."

Cortellini said his goal is to attend the University of Michigan, even though it would mean bypassing a potential small-college basketball opportunity.

"I know I'd miss playing competitive basketball a lot," he said. "But I would get involved in intramurals if I went to Michigan. As of now, I want to go to Michigan and concentrate on my academics."

Unless Cortellini's higher-education plans change, there's going to be at least one U-M intramural basketball team next fall that's going to be nearly impossible to press.

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS AGENDA January 13, 2005

Notice is hereby given that there will be a meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals THURSDAY January 13, 2005 AT 7:30 P.M. The meeting will be held at the Summit on the Park located at 46000 SUMMIT PARKWAY CANTON MI 48188. The following Agenda will be discussed:

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag

Roll Call: Randy Blaylock, Jim Cisek, Cathy Johnson, Vicki Welty and Steven Johnson

Acceptance of Agenda

- Andy Kolacki of Sign A Rama Dearborn, 410 N Telegraph Dearborn, MI 48128, representing Teresa Lewis of Dinner Thyme for property located at 7253 Canton Center Road (Westbrook Plaza) appealing Sign Ordinance Chapter 102, Section 102.35, 1 a sign variance, Zone C 1. Parcel 016 99 0013 702 (Building).
- Lonny S Zimmerman AIA of Siegal/Tuomaala Associates Architects and Planners, Inc, 29200 Northwestern Hwy Suite 160 Southfield, MI 48034, representing Gary Laundroche of Cappo Properties LLC for property located at 46250 and 46454 Michigan Avenue appealing Zoning Ordinance Article 5.00, Section 5.03 A, 2 relative to location of the landscape screen due to location of the Sines Drain and Article 6.00, Section 6.02, Q, 4 setbacks from residential property for an open air business (car dealership), Zone C 3. Parcels 129 99 0009 000, 131 99 0010 000 (Planning).
- Richard Pesci of Stylecraft, 8472 Ronda Drive, Canton MI 48187, representing Stylecraft for property located at 8560 Ronda Drive, appealing Article 26.00, Section 26.04 encroachment on side yard with construction of truckwell. Both lot 7 and lot 8 are owned by the same party. Zone LI 1. Parcel 005 01 0007 002 (Planning).
- Michael Boggio Assoc of Boggio Assoc Architects, 30100 Telegraph #216, Bingham Farms MI 48025, representing Griffin Properties for property located at Canton Crossings, Canton Center Road at New Canton Center Road, appealing Zoning Ordinance Article 4.00, Section 4.02 B and Zoning Ordinance Article 2.00, Section 2.14, A regarding location of trash enclosure, Zone C 3. Parcel 129 99 0002 710 (Planning).

Approval of 11/18/04 and 12/9/04 minutes

Publsh January 6 2005

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SHOWTIMES 1/07 - 1/13

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(SAT/SUN 1 4:50 2:10 4:45 7:10 9:40)
FRI/SAT LS 12:00

LEMONY SNICKET & A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS (PG)
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(SAT/SUN 12:00 2:30 2:55 4:45 4:30 5:00 6:45 7:20 9:00 9:30)
FRI/SAT LS 11 6 11 11

LADDER 49 (PG-13) 5:10 7:30

MOTORCYCLE DIARIES (R)
(SAT/SUN 11:55) 2:35 9:45

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

THE INCREDIBLES (PG)
(SAT/SUN 1 4:00 2:00 4:20 6:50 9:10)
FRI/SAT LS 11 30

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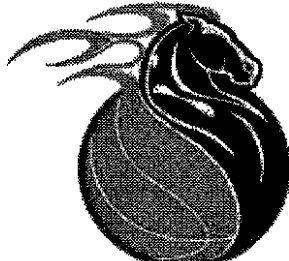
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12:30 to 1:45 p.m. - Basketball Clinic **2:30 to 3:45 p.m. - Basketball Clinic**
1:45 to 2:00 p.m. - Coach's Corner **3:45 to 4:00 p.m. - Coach's Corner**

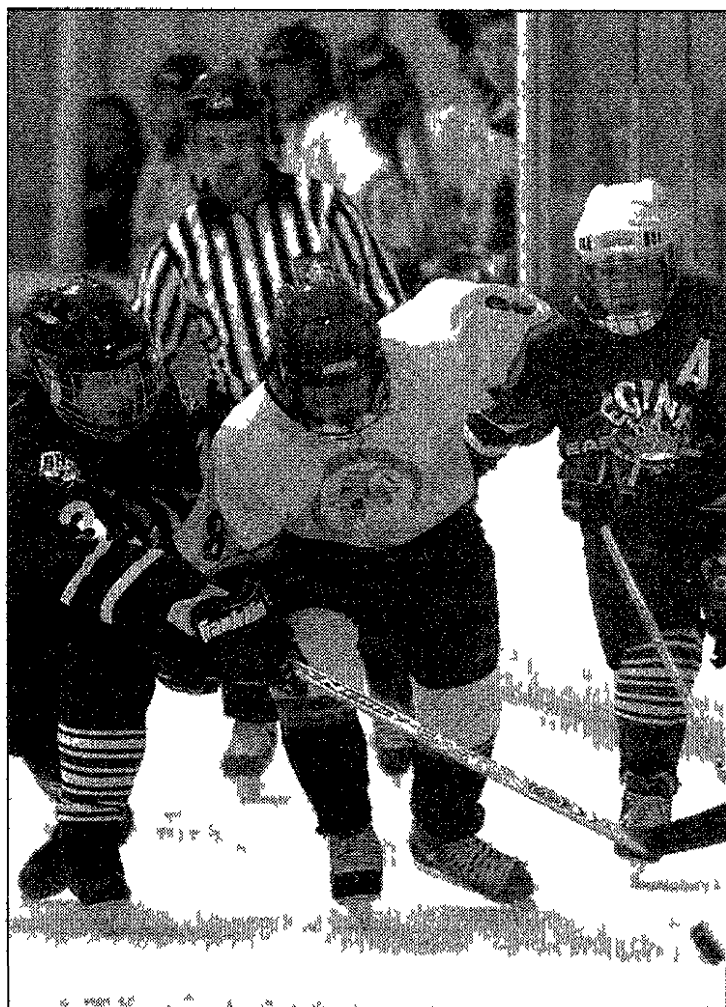
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Get on the ball. Read today's **SPORTS** coverage!



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PCS's Adrienne Cercone knifes through two Regina defenders during Tuesday night's 3-2 victory

PENGUINS

FROM PAGE C1
 against becoming complacent even though it had secured a 2-0 lead
 "I stressed to them that we had to go out and keep playing hard because Regina wasn't going to give up," she said "Two-goal leads can disappear quickly against good teams"
 Olivia Pennefather's unassisted goal on a breakaway 40 seconds into the third period put the home team up 3-0, however, Regina stormed

back with goals from Rachel Kare and Emily Blair to cut its deficit to 3-2
 "They pulled their goalie with a minute to go, but we managed to hold on, Callahan said "Things have been going well for us, but our schedule gets a lot tougher in the second half of the season"
 The Penguins return to action Saturday when they travel to the Suburban Ice Arena to take on Walled Lake Combined. The opening face-off is set for 5:30 p.m.
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PLYMOUTH

FROM PAGE C1
 Wilson knotted the score at 1:12 two minutes later on a goal assisted by Adam Gilikin and John Maurer
 Salem grabbed its only lead of the game with 8:50 left in the second period when Nathan Edelen scored off a pass from Nathan Werda. Joel Cheesman also picked up an assist on the tally
 The lead was short-lived thanks to a goal from

Plymouth's Jason O'Guinn four minutes later. Stamms' second goal of the game with 3:17 left in the second period gave the Wildcats a lead they would never relinquish
 Nick Rieckhoff's third period goal turned out to be an insurance marker as Maurer scored with 40 seconds left to make it 4-3
 Plymouth's Justin Desilets and Salem's Brandon DeMars both played well between the pipes for their respective teams
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THE WEEK AHEAD

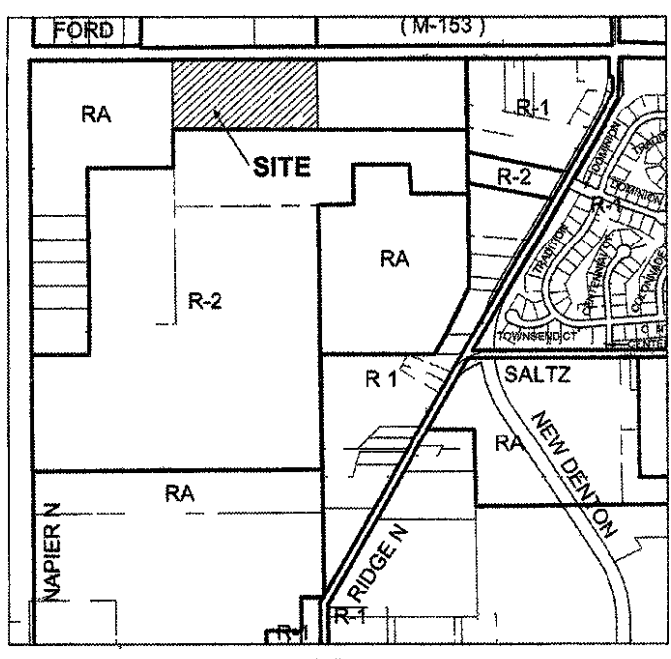
PREP BASKETBALL Friday Jan 7 Salem at W.L. Central 7 p.m. W.L. Western at Canton 6 p.m. Plymouth at Livon a Churchill 7 p.m. Monroe at Belleville 7 p.m. International Academy of Flint at Plymouth Chr st an 7:30 p.m.	BOYS SWIMMING Thursday Jan 6 Woodhaven at Plymouth at Canton High School pool 7 p.m. Belleville at Tps laris 7 p.m. Saturday Jan 8 Salem and Canton at Rock Kilgore Invitational noon	VOLLEYBALL Thursday Jan 6 Bloomfield Hills Roper at Plymouth Christ an 7 p.m. Saturday Jan 8 Canton at W.L. Central Invitational 9 a.m. Plymouth Christ an at Whitmore Lake Tournament TBA	Madonna vs Menlo College (Calif) TBA Wednesday Jan 5 UM Dearborn at Madonna 5:30 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.
PREP HOCKEY Friday Jan 7 Salem at Livonia Stevenson at Eddie Edgar Arena 6 p.m. W.L. Western at Canton at Arctic Edge Arena 8 p.m. Saturday Jan 8 Chelsea at Plymouth at Compuware Sports Arena 4 p.m. Taylor Truman at Belleville/Wilow Run 9 p.m. PCS Penguins at Walled Lake	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. Allen Park at Belleville 6:30 p.m. Saturday Jan 8 Salem at Wyandotte Invitational 10 a.m. Plymouth at Saginaw Heritage Tourney TBA	GYMNASTICS Thursday Jan 6 Canton at Northville 7 p.m. Saturday Jan 8 Canton at Rockford Invitational 10 a.m. MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL Saturday Jan 8 Siena Heights at Madonna 3 p.m. Schoolcraft at Delta CC 3 p.m. WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL Thursday Dec 30 (Peninsula Hoops Classic Menlo Calif)	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 Barr e Coits 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

**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 1943 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 10 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

RDK HOMES REZONING CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PARCEL NO 070 99 0001 000 FROM RA RURAL AGRICULTURAL (1 DWELLING UNIT/140 ACRES) TO R 2 SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (2 DWELLING UNITS/ACRE) Property is located south of Ford between Ridge and Napier Roads



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the Canton Township Administration Building 1150 Canton Center S prior to Thursday January 6 2005 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review

VIC GUSTAFSON Chairman

Publish December 19 2004 and January 6 2005

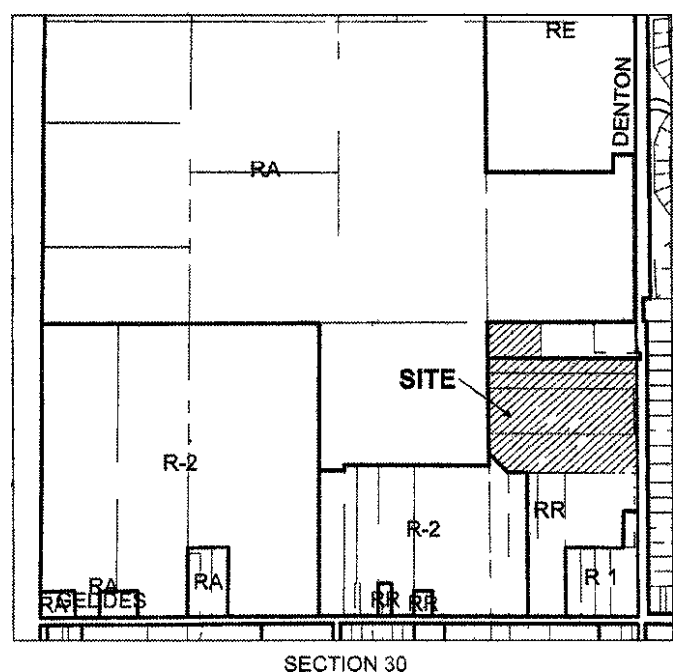
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**PLANNING COMMISSION
 CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

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 1943 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 10 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

BENNETTAN BUREN HOMES REZONING CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PARCEL NO 120 99 0010 704 FROM R-1 SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (1 DWELLING UNIT/ACRE) AND PARCEL NOS 120 99 001 1 000 120 99 0012 000, 120 99 0013 000 120 99 0014 000 FROM RR RURAL RESIDENTIAL (1 DWELLING UNITS/5 ACRES) TO R 2 SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (2 DWELLING UNITS/ACRE) Property is located west of Denton between Geddes and Proctor Roads



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the Canton Township Administration Building 1150 Canton Center S prior to Thursday January 6 2005 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review

VIC GUSTAFSON Chairman

Publish December 19 2004 and January 6 2005

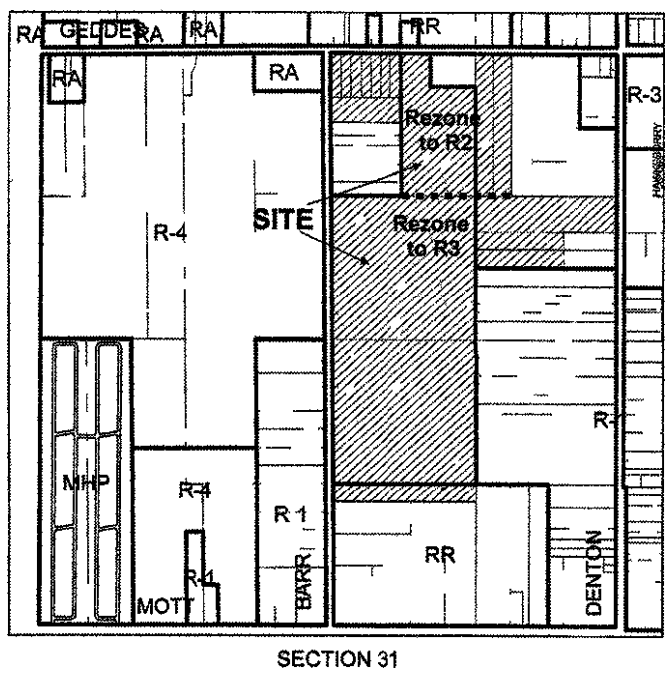
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**PLANNING COMMISSION
 CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

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 1943 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 10 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

PULTE REZONING CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PARCEL NOS 121 99 0012 000, 121 99 001 3 000 121 99 0024 002 121 99 0025 000 121 99 0026 000 121 99 0027 000 121 99 0028 000 121 99 0029 000 121 99 0030 000 121 99 003 1 000 AND 121 99 0032 000 FROM RA RURAL AGRICULTURAL RR RURAL RESIDENTIAL AND R 1 SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL TO R 2 SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL AND TO REZONE PARCEL NOS 121 99 0014 000 121 99 0015 001 121 99 0015 002 121 99 0038 000, 124 99 0001 000 AND 124 99 0002 000 FROM RA RURAL AGRICULTURAL AND RR RURAL RESIDENTIAL TO R 3 SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL Property is located south of Geddes between Denton and Barr Roads

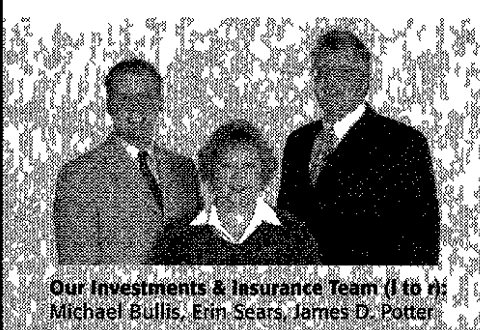


Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 Canton Center S prior to Thursday January 6 2005 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review

VIC GUSTAFSON Chairman

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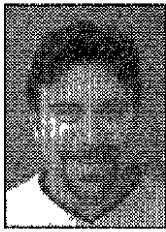
Lions' 2004: The good, the bad and the ugly

This football season had more than its share of moments for the Detroit Lions. One moment it didn't have was a playoff run and, for the 47th straight year, there will be no pro football championship in the Motor City. It's time once again to motor through the good, the bad and the ugly.

THE GOOD

The Lions broke their NFL record 24-game road losing streak. They did it in the opener at Chicago and won two more on the road as well. Joey Harrington played his best football away from home.

Winning three times on the road was



Mark Wilson

a definite highlight of the season. Harrington said, 'We have to keep that mindset into next year.'

They also found a running game. Kevin Jones was better than advertised. He became only the third rookie running back in Lions history to eclipse 1,000 yards.

I think it's a big-time positive for 2004, Jones said.

I agree with Kevin, coach Steve Marucci added.

The emergence of rookie linebacker

Teddy Lehman was also a huge positive. He is a keeper at any position he plays on the field.

Eddie Drummond showed he could be a tour de force on special teams. Fast Eddie returned four kicks for touchdowns before injury ended his season. He was one of three Lions to make the Pro Bowl.

Shaun Rogers was another. He was a standout at defensive tackle and is signed on long term. His \$15 million signing bonus is the largest in team annals. 'Big Baby' is worth every penny.

Roy Williams is another guy who proved that he can be a big-play guy in this league. When Charles Rogers gets back, we'll have terrific bookend receivers, Marucci said.

THE BAD

There just weren't enough big plays to turn a 4-2 start into a playoff season. Winning just two games in the last 10 was a bad thing for a team that showed so much promise. Dropped passes, penalties and missed opportunities littered the Lions' landscape.

The Lions lost six games by a touchdown or less, but that didn't impress team President Matt Millen or the head coach.

'Six wins just isn't acceptable. None of us around here should be happy with that, despite the one game improvement over 2003,' Millen said.

Marucci says it all the time. Most games in the NFL are decided by a touchdown or less, so that's really nothing to hang your hat on.

Besides Williams, there was never a good second option for Harrington in the passing game. Az Hakim and Tai Streets just didn't catch passes consistently enough in a league that thrives on home run receivers.

Fernando Bryant was signed for big money to shore up the cornerback spot opposite Pro Bowl player Dre Bly. He was injured too much to get a good read on whether he can be a star. The jury is still out on Chris Cash and Andre Goodman as well.

PLEASE SEE WILSON, NEXT PAGE

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WILSON

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

THE UGLY

Three games the Lions should have won prevented this team from playing this weekend. Blowing a 12-point lead against Minnesota in the fourth quarter and not closing off the Packers in Green Bay stung like a Lake Michigan winter wind. Losing that overtime contest at Jacksonville to a novice quarterback in David Garrard was a bitter pill, too. Win those three and its playoff time. Harrington getting booed at home was a

reflection of his inconsistency. Having his manhood questioned by Fox analyst Tony Suragusa was a low point for the third-year QB out of Oregon. The Lions will now look for a veteran signal caller capable of winning the job in 2005.

"We know we still have holes to fill and we began the process immediately of getting them filled," Millen said. "What we saw this year wasn't nearly good enough."

Mariucci himself was questioned. He is going into Year 3 and even he knows the honeymoon is over. That's just the league. Some say the NFL stands for Not For Long.

"We all have to do a better job and we will work this off-season to make sure that happens when we come back for camp in

July," a confident Mariucci said.

Going 3-5 at Ford Field was a step backward at home. The two blowout losses to the Packers and Eagles show how far the Lions have to go to be among the elite in the conference.

The draft is in just over three months. There is always free agency. For now, it's just another winter of our discontent made glorious summer by this sun of York. Shakespeare must have been a Lions fan.

Mark Wilson is host of the *Steve Mariucci Show* Mondays on WKRC 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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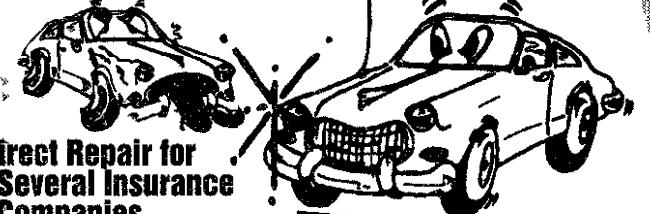
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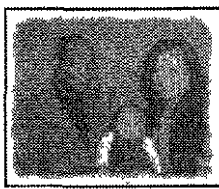
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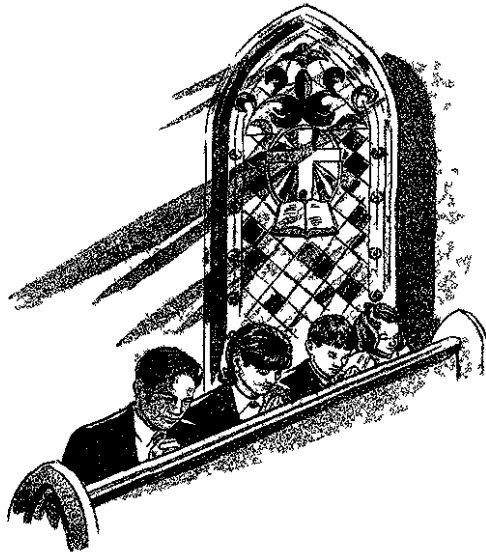
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Divine Worship 8 & 11 00 A M
Bible Class & SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A M
Monday Evening Service 7 00 P M
Kurt E Lambert Pastor
Richard Schumacher Principal/Youth Director

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
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Livonia • 427-2290
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10:00 a.m. Family Worship (Nursery Avail.)
http://www.timothyilivonia.com

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(248) 661-9191
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and Children's Church
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11:00 a.m. Traditional
Child Care provided for all services
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8:30 AM & 11:00 AM
PASTOR JAMES HOFF
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WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church
40000 Six Mile Road
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Northville, MI
248-374-7400
Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor
Traditional Worship and Sunday School
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Contemporary Worship
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First Sat 9:30 a.m.
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Tuesday & Friday 8:30 a.m.
Saturday 4:30 p.m.
Sunday - 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

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Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Schoolcraft Rds
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Sats 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.
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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
Munster Tuesday & Thursday 7pm
John Natuw www.churchofchristwest.org

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

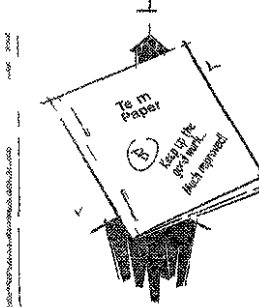
First Church of Christ Scientist Plymouth
1100 W Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI
734-453-0970
Sunday Serv ce 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Wed Evening Test many Meet ng 7:30 p.m.
Reading Room 550 South Main
Monday-Saturday 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
734-453-1676

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
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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

CHURCH OF GOD

Riverside Park Church of God
11771 Newburgh Road
Livonia
Corners of Plymouth and Newburgh
734 464 0990
Service Schedule:
Sunday School 9:30am
Sunday Worship 10:45am
Wednesday Evening 6:00pm



It's Easy To Criticize...

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

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

THE Observer & Eccentric NEWSPAPERS
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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.

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Saturday, January 8th
11:00 a.m.-noon in Farmington Hills.
12:30-1:30 p.m. in Livonia
2:00-3:00 p.m. in Plymouth/Northville.

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RELIGION CALENDAR

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

Blood Drive
 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

New schedule
 Beginning Jan 9 St Matthew's United Methodist Church begins a new schedule for Sunday morning Worship service begins at 9:30 a.m. followed by classes for all ages (nursery to adult) at 10:45 a.m. Fishin' for Friends & Faith is the Wednesday program running from Jan 19 to March 16 Optional buffet dinner is at 6 p.m. followed by program from 6:30-8 p.m. There is something for everyone Kids travel to different stations as they learn through games crafts songs and mission projects the evening's Bible message Adults study Wrestling with Angels through video and discussion Fees

are dependent on attendance and costs cover food curriculum and supplies Pre pay for a discount or pay as you go Dinner and program is \$40 program only \$25 Drop in dinner and program \$5 per night drop in program \$2.50 per night at St Matthew's 30900 Six Mile between Merriman and Middlebelt Livonia For more information call (734) 422 6038

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

Pasties fundraiser

Newburg United Methodist Church is making and selling Cornish pasties as a fundraiser The cost is \$3 each Order early Only 1000 pasties will be made To order call the church office at (734) 422 0149 There will be some one to take your order 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesday Wednesday Jan 11 12 Call in orders only Do not leave any orders on the answering machine They will be ignored Pick up times are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday Jan 20 and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday Jan 21 at 36500 Ann Arbor Trail Livonia

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

Concert

Unity Acoustic Coffee House presents The Cats and The Fiddle a group of 9 year old musicians 6 p.m. Saturday Jan 15 at Unity of Livonia 28660 Five Mile Livonia There is a \$5 donation. For more information call (734) 421 1760

Bible studies

Led by C. Jack Brinkman 8:30 p.m. Thursdays at the Birmingham YMCA 400 East Lincoln Brinkman wrote the book The Word of God Jesus Christ Part of the proceeds from book sales go to the YMCA



Passages
 Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

1-800-579-7355 ♦ fax 734-953-2232
 e-mail OEObits@oe homecomm.net

DENNIS J. WITKOP

Westland formerly of Dundee MI Age 53 died unexpectedly January 2 2005 at home The family will receive friends at Ochalek Stark Funeral Home in Milan on Wednesday from 6-9pm and Thursday from 2-5 and 7-9pm Funeral services will be held 11:00am Friday at the funeral home with Rev Richard Burstall of Azalia United Methodist officiating Burial will be a later date in Azalia Cemetery Dennis was born on April 16 1951 in Tecumseh to John and Helen (Lamson) Wittkop He graduated from Dundee HS in 1969 then attended U of M On October 25 1974 he married Leslie Williams and she survives He worked for Voltech Controls in Westland before joining Automotive Systems Inc in Auburn Hills where he was part owner Survivors besides his parents include a son Eric of Dearborn His two brothers David (Joan) of Milan Dale (Lee) of Allegan four nephews and a niece He was preceded in death by his grandparents

ROBERT PLANTHOLT

Age 83 of Brookings OR died December 27 2004 at his home of natural causes He served in the U.S. Army during WWII Mr Plantholt was a graduate of the Pratt Institute of Industrial Design in New York City and worked as an industrial designer his entire career Mr Plantholt moved to Brookings 10 years ago to be near the ocean he loved He is survived by his wife Elaine of Brookings three daughters Barbara Thompson and husband Butch Bonnie Shanks and husband Bob and Carol Plantholt a son Steven Plantholt and wife Melody a sister Ethel Laughlin and husband Grant and seven grandchildren Steven Jennifer Matthew Tim Kara Cassidy and Kory No services are planned Arrangements by Redwood Memorial Chapel Brookings OR

WILLIAM "BILLY" J. KIRBY

Age 44 January 4 2005 of Livonia Dearest son of Marguerite Dear brother of Michael (Tammy) and Mark (Linda), Brother in Law of Liz Gormley Nephew of Reverend Kaye Corning Gloria Lewis Joan and Quinto Serra Diane and Jim Wroblecki Caregiver Norma Rudloff He was preceded in death by his Father James Uncle Russ Aunt Jane and Caregiver Russell Dunning Funeral Mass Friday at 11am Instate at 10am St Maurice Catholic Church 32765 Lyndon Livonia Visitation Thursday 1-9pm at the R G & G R Harris Funeral Home 15451 Farmington Rd Livonia The family suggests contribution to The Michigan Special Olympics and Wayne County Association of Retarded Citizens

WILLIAM A. HOFSESS

Age 77 Beloved husband of Joan Loving father of Richard (JoLynn) Nicholas Debra Gaunt (Richard) Diane Hofsess (Joseph Giacomini) and Edward (Cathleen) Cherished grandfather of Jared, Jonathan Nicole Michelle Alex, David, Rachel William Preston and Ryan Dear brother of Helen Krist Margaret Hauser Virginia Krist, Donald, Annette French, Stephen Charles, Ronald the late Fred Clay Jr and Wayne Visitation and Funeral Mass Arrangements entrusted to the Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, downtown Farmington (248 474 5200)

WINNIFRED I. WOLFE

Age 85 of Plymouth, December 30 2004 Beloved wife of the late Charles Dear mother of John (Carol) William (Lana), Charles (Kristine), and the late Roger Also survived by nine grandchildren and one great grandchild Funeral service was held Monday January 3 2005 at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W Ann Arbor Road Plymouth (btwn Sheldon and Beck) Visitation was Sunday 2-9pm Internet at Riverside Cemetery Memorial contributions may be made to First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth 701 Church Street Plymouth MI 48170 To leave a message of condolence, log on to www.vermeulenfuneralhome.com

ELEANOR M. FOX

December 29 2004 Age 81 Beloved wife of Kenneth A Dear mother of Karen Sayles (Leslie) and Denise Lycos (Richard) Grandmother of Thomas Preston Bridget Gribble Mark Preston Kevin Lycos and Megan Lycos Great grandmother of Aidan Preston Graham Preston Erin Gribble and the late Shannon Gribble Funeral Mass was held Monday January 3 at 11am at Our Lady of Martyrs 32340 Pierce, Beverly Hills Memorial tributes to St John Health Providence Health Foundation 22255 Greenfield Rd Suite 225 Southfield MI 48075 or charity of donor's choice Obituary at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

GRETA JENSEN

Age 95 passed away peacefully at home December 23 2004 She was a Redford Twp resident since 1936 Beloved wife of the late Otto Jensen (5/31/90) Survived by many cousins in Sweden No services planned Memorials suggested to Salvation Army Eastern Michigan Division or Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America Arrangements by Fisher Funeral Home Redford Twp

KEITH A. JONES

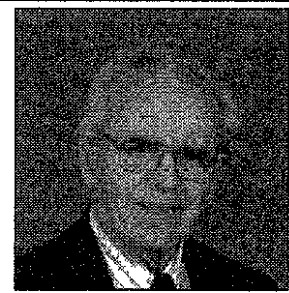
Age 21, California originally from Redford for 20 yrs Oldest son of Lori Jones Grandson of Lottie M West Brother of Ross & Skipper Funeral Services at St James Presbyterian Church 25250 W Six Mile Redford on Jan 8 2005 at 2pm

MARGARET E BELLES

Of Redford Age 76 Jan 01 2005 Beloved wife of the late Louis Dear Mother of Linda Smith Kenneth (Donna) Belles Robert (Kimberly) Belles and Janet Weidman Loving Grandmother of Michelle (Scott), Lauren, Nikki Grant Kelsey and the late Michael Great Grandmother of Hunter and Kendyll Dearest sister of Dorothy Hedges Dear Friend of Sylvia and Dick Kasten Funeral services were held Tuesday at St Hilary Catholic Church Redford Interment Cadillac Memorial Gardens West Arrangement by the Martenson Funeral Home Allen Park

MILTON LAVIOLETTE

Age 73 formerly of Ann Arbor & Livonia died December 3 2004 in California He is survived by son Douglas daughter Janice grandsons Charles and Douglas siblings Ronald Allen and Daniel Bonnie Andree Marlene Korne Nancy Warner and Marianne Watson A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday January 15 2005 at Ford Memorial United Methodist Church in Detroit



THE REV. MR. VERLE E. FRIDLEY, SR.

Age 83 of Anderson Indiana, passed away December 29 2004 after an extended illness Rev Fridley was born June 3 1921 and was a minister for over 50 years in churches in Lufkin TX Hammond LA Bastrop LA Baltimore MD Mishawaka IN Milwaukee WI Flint MI Clarkston MI and Sumter SC He was at various times a member of the Rotary Club and Kiwanis Club Verle was an avid reader dedicated pastor and loving husband father and grandfather He was also an accomplished amateur photographer and woodworker He is survived by his wife of 63 years Grace I (Muterspaugh) Fridley son Verle E Fridley Jr two grandsons Daryl E (Stephanie) Fridley of Cape Girardeau MD and Scott T (Wendy) Fridley or Anderson IN beloved niece Cheryl Muterspaugh (Raymond) Dorff of Baltimore MD treasured family members Lucille Fridley of Anderson IN Virginia Sample of Mishawaka, IN Claude and Ruth Fridley of Anderson IN, Louis Fridley of Middletown IN Alvin Fridley of Anderson IN Max and Sondra Fridley of Anderson, IN Stephen Fridley of Anderson IN Joseph and Ella May Fridley of Markleville IN Earl and Ann Muterspaugh of Muncie IN Elvis and Joanne Sullivan of Limestone TN Everett and Linda Muterspaugh of Pendleton IN Evelyn Muterspaugh of Anderson IN and numerous cherished nephews and nieces Funeral service was held Monday January 3 2005 at the Eastside Church of God with Rev Kerry Robinson officiating Burial followed at the Maplewood Cemetery A Scholarship Fund is being established at the Anderson University School of Theology



May You Find Comfort in Family & Friends

OBITUARY POLICY
 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 (example American Flags religious symbols etc.)
Deadlines.
Friday 5 PM for Sunday
Wednesday Noon for Thursday
(Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue)
 e-mail your obit to oeobits@oehomecomm.net or fax to **Attn: Obits c/o Charlotte Wilson 734-953-2232** For more information call **Charlotte Wilson 734-953-2070** or **Liz Keiser 734-953-2067** or fax to **866 818 7853** ask for Char or Liz

Blue-line stabilizer

Recently acquired Looby fits right in on Whalers' defense

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

LOO BY! LOO-BY! LOO-BY!

The chant echoed through the stands near the Compuware Sports Arena penalty box seconds after Plymouth Whalers defenseman Mike Looby (pronounced loo-bee) was directed there by the head linesman during the final minutes of the team's Dec. 28 game against Brampton.

LOO-BY! LOO-BY! LOO-BY!

It continued at an increasingly louder decibel level until the penalty-box door opened two minutes later and Looby bolted back out onto the ice to help the Whalers finish off a convincing 6-2 victory.

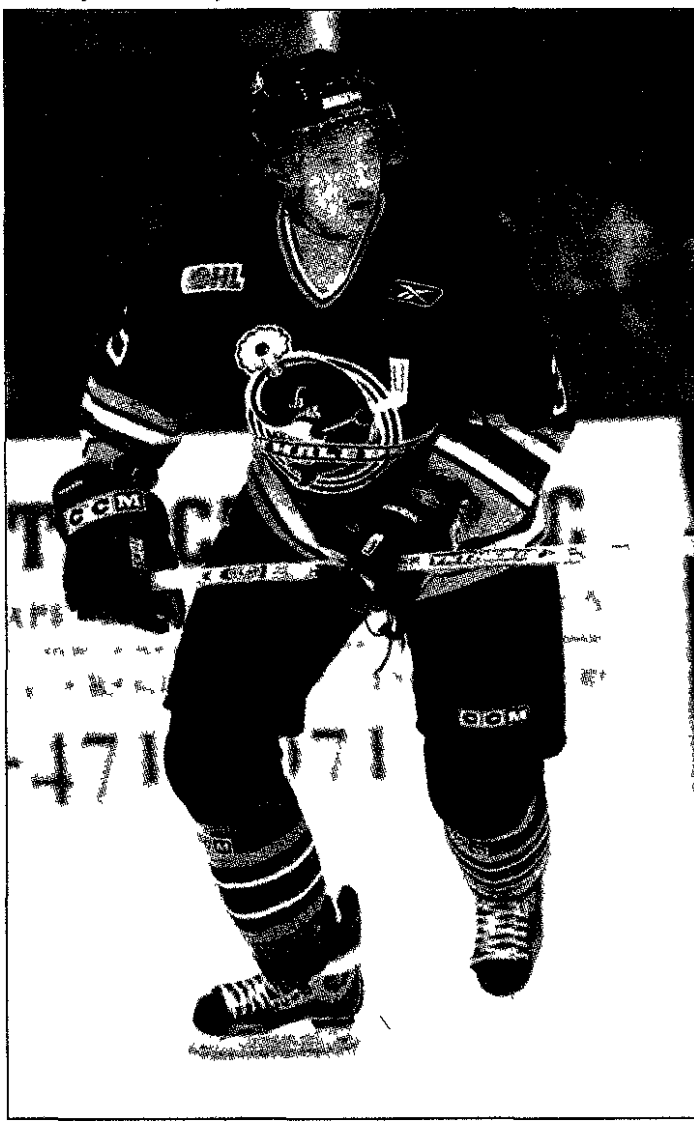
Complimentary chants aren't unusual at Whalers' games, but they're normally reserved for the organization's more familiar players who have spent at least a year toiling for the hometown team.

Looby has been a Whaler for just over three months, which shows how quickly Plymouth fans have grown to appreciate the 19-year-old's rugged and effective play on the blue-line and beyond.

GRADE A TRADE

In a trade that looks more shrewd with each passing Plymouth game, the Whalers acquired Looby from Sault Ste. Marie on Sept. 21 for a conditional seventh-round draft choice in the 2005 Ontario Hockey League draft. While he'll never burn a hole in the opposition's net with his scoring, the hard-working Brampton, Ont. native has proven to be a key element in the Whalers' efficient defensive corps this season.

"Mike has done everything we've asked him to do so far this season," said Plymouth general manager/coach Mike Vellucci. "In fact, he's been outstanding. He's one of our leaders in plus/minus and the other players like playing with him. He is a very sound player who we were fortunate to be able to acquire."



Plymouth Whalers defenseman Mike Looby has been a stabilizing force for the team's defensive corps since he was acquired in a trade with Sault Ste. Marie on Sept. 21. Known for his gritty work along the blue-line, Looby scored in his third consecutive game Tuesday night.

Whenever possible, Looby is paired with fellow defenseman Mike Knight against the opposing team's top offensive forwards. Through Dec. 30, Looby has accumulated three goals and seven assists, and has a team-leading plus-11 plus/minus rating.

"I was extremely happy when I got traded to Plymouth," said Looby, who spent one full season with Sault Ste. Marie following two years with the home town Battalion. "They weren't giving me the chance to do what I'm best at. I'm glad to get to play for an organization like Plymouth that has a great winning tradition."

HEAVY HEART

Looby's life was dealt a tragic blow on Nov. 19 when his father, Mike Looby, Sr., passed away suddenly at the age of 43. Looby was notified of the tragedy after he was pulled out of the Whalers' home game that night against Erie.

"My dad was the one who got me into hockey when I was young," Looby said. "He played triple A hockey, so he knew a lot about the game. He was a big part of my life."

Looby said his teammates and members of the Whalers front office were instrumental in helping him get through the trying days that followed his father's untimely death.

"Everyone was great," he said. "Some of the players and other members of the organization went up to the funeral, which meant a lot to me."

GRITTY GOAL

Looby's work ethic and dedication to the game were on display early in the post-Christmas game against Brampton.

"I went home over Christmas and caught something," he said. "I was sick as a dog the day before the game, but I wanted to play."

He not only played — he scored the game's first goal against the team he followed as a youngster.

His dad would have been proud.

ewright@oe.homecomm.net

New year brings renewed hope for struggling teams

Happy New Year, bowlers

Along with the onset of 2005, many leagues use the split season system, which means each team starts out tied for first place again and has a chance to win the championship during the second half.

Ten Pin Alley

Al Harrison

My team, a member of the Mayflower Wednesday Senior Men's Classic, finished the first half in 21st place out of 24 teams. A highlight, however, came from teammate Charley Orbecky of Taylor, who shot his first ever 300 score last week. His previous high was 299 about eight years ago. He also won an American Bowling Congress watch for going 100 pins over average for one game.

There are plenty of high average women bowlers in our area who can compete in scratch competition, which starts at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 5 at Cherry Hill Lanes, located at Inkster and Cherry Hill roads.

It is open any woman bowler who has shot a sanctioned 700 series. It will begin with three games of qualifying, cut to half the field and finishing with four finalists in head-to-head competition for the championship. Prizes will start at \$500 for first based on 40 entries with a \$50 entry fee. For more information, call Marion Saunders at (313) 563-2643.

563-2643

Over the past nine years, the Mayflower Wednesday Seniors in Redford have held the Senior-Youth Challenge tournament in which thousands of dollars in scholarship money had been awarded to the winning youth bowlers.

It turns out that this year there were no Saturday youth leagues at Mayflower Lanes. As a result, there could be no such competition in 2005.

The tournament committee met several times to decide what to do this year, and came up with an alternate plan, which is to schedule a tournament again on Saturday, Feb. 5 with members of all three senior men's leagues (Monday, Wednesday and Friday) to compete on that date, which normally would have been for the youth bowlers.

It is to be an ABC sanctioned event with eligibility limited to Mayflower Lanes senior league bowlers. If there are sufficient youth bowlers at Mayflower Lanes again next year, the event will be resumed as in the past years.

The Greater Detroit Bowling Association's semi-annual meeting is 1 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 16 at Renaissance Bowl in Detroit. This is where every GDBA league should send a representative to get immediate feedback on what is going on locally with bowling, as well as to participate in voting and have a voice in the process including approval of the 2003-2004 auditor's report and nomination of directors and officers of the GDBA Board of Directors.

Nominations at this meeting will be made for president, vice-presidents (four positions), members of the board of directors at-large

(four), Macomb County (two), Oakland County (one) Wayne County (two).

At the election in May, the leagues will elect its own representative based on the county where their bowling establishment is located.

They will also vote for line officers and directors at-large.

To be on the ballot in May, a member must be nominated at the January meeting.

Delegates to the March 18 ABC convention in Baton Rouge, La. will be elected at this meeting.

The financial statement has been approved by the auditor and will be available at the meeting. If anyone cannot attend the meeting and wants a copy, please call the association office. This is for the 2003-04 season and has the previous one for comparison.

My son, Donald, of San Francisco, was home for the holidays and of course we went bowling soon after the Wednesday league had finished.

He had left a solid 10-pin in the first frame, then threw 10 strikes in a row and left another 10-pin on the last ball for a 289 score.

Not bad for someone who only bowls about twice a year.

There is not a lot of bowling going on the Bay Area. There are only three bowling centers in the City of San Francisco and not many in the outlying area, compared to over 100 centers in our own backyard.

Woodland Lanes in Livonia had some good bowling going on in the Wednesday Trio as Arnie Goldman fired a 300 game and Tim Gerbasz 298.

Al Harrison is a resident of Livonia and a director of the Greater Detroit Bowling Association. He can be contacted at (248)477-1839.



Plymouth Whalers defenseman Mike Looby checks an opponent into the boards during a game earlier this season.

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there are a pile of them in today's **SPORTS** section



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Focus on
Wine

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Zaca Mesa: a Syrah pioneer

A good New Year's resolution: Stick with the guys who've done it the longest!

When it comes to Syrah from Santa Barbara County, Calif., that's Zaca Mesa winery. Although it may seem that domestic syrah is a new phenomenon, Zaca Mesa Winery, in Santa Barbara County's Santa Ynez Valley, first planted syrah in 1978.

Syrah is the great red grape variety of the northern Rhone Valley in France. It's responsible for wines known as Cote Rotie, St. Joseph, Cornas, Hermitage and Crozes-Hermitage.

Syrah also grows in the southern Rhone Valley, but is only a minor part of the wines known as Chateauneuf-du-Pape, Gigondas and Cote-du-Rhone Villages.

Southern Rhone wines are made principally of grenache, with small additions of a dozen other varieties, most important of which are mourvedre, cinsaut, counoise and syrah.

Shiraz, the Aussie name for syrah, is the principal red variety of Australia and can be found in wines made in western Australia, southern Australia, Victoria and New South Wales.

Syrah is approachable when young, yet ages up to 10 years. It grows in both cool and warm climates. Cool climate syrah provides fruit and good structure, while warm climate syrah gives jammy flavors and backbone.

The wine can exhibit flavors and aromas of cherries, spice, smoke, pepper, leather and roasted nuts.

The unique east-west orientation of Santa Ynez Valley allows for a marine influence from the Pacific Ocean. Daytime breezes moderate the warm summer temperatures, providing the perfect environment for slow, even ripening.

Like France's northern Rhone Valley, Zaca Mesa's syrah vineyards are planted on steep, rugged terrain. So rugged, in fact, that of the 750 acres on the Zaca Mesa Estate, only 242 are plantable.

For those readers who enjoy visiting wine country, Zaca Mesa is between Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo along California's central coast, in the town of Los

PLEASE SEE WINE, D2

Wine picks

Some other syrahs we like:

Incredible and tied in this category with 2001 Black Bear Block from Zaca Mesa 2001 Spring Mountain Syrah \$50. Cellar it.

Best at \$20 or under:

2002 Alexander Valley Vineyards Wetzel Family Estate \$20 2002 Bodegas Salentein (Argentina) \$18 and 2002 Goundrey Offspring Shiraz \$15.

Wallet friendly:

2002 Lindemans Reserve Shiraz, \$10.

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



QUAKER OATS

Get started!

The percentage of overweight children has doubled in the past two decades, according to the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey.

As a result, parents, educators, health professionals and food companies are brainstorming for solutions to help reverse this trend.

Parents can take the lead by establishing family-based, healthy eating habits. These include talking about healthy food choices, teaching portion control, explaining the benefits of whole grains, and being

a good role model.

Eating an oatmeal breakfast is key to establishing healthy eating habits as well.

Studies show that the percentage of 2- to 18-year-olds who are overweight or at risk of becoming overweight is almost 50 percent lower in oatmeal eaters than in children who don't eat oatmeal.

In considering whole-grain breakfast choices, it's helpful to think outside of the hot oatmeal box. There are many ways to get the delicious, wholesome goodness of oatmeal that don't require a bowl

PLEASE SEE BREAKFAST, D3

Oats are great whole-grain food

Like any single food, oatmeal in and of itself isn't the magic bullet for weight maintenance. However, science continues to prove that oatmeal does play a key role in helping to keep weight in check.

Two recent studies found that adults and children who consume oatmeal are significantly less likely to be overweight or obese.

"We learn more about the health benefits of whole grains, like oats, every day," says Mark Andon, a nutrition science research fellow for

Quaker Oatmeal

"The results from these new studies, which are consistent with earlier studies, offer additional proof that eating high-fiber, whole-grain food, like oatmeal, is related to lower body weight and body mass index."

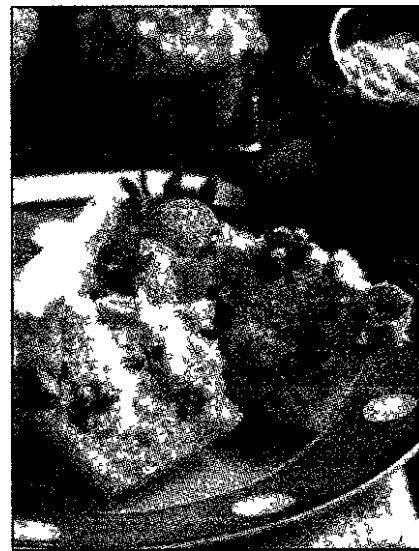
Upcoming recommendations from the U.S. Dietary Guidelines advisory committee are expected to affirm these findings by calling for three servings of whole grains each day.

As one of the most versatile whole grains around, oats can

be incorporated into a healthy diet in many ways — from fiber-rich baked goods to the traditional bowl of hot cereal.

Delicious banana oat muffins provide a great example of how easy adding whole grains when baking can be.

In this recipe, a quick-and-easy packaged bread and muffin mix gets a nutritional "boost" with the addition of wholesome whole-grain oats and fiber-rich dried plums. Before baking, the muffins are sprinkled with a crunchy



QUAKER OATS

PLEASE SEE OATS, D2

Banana oat muffins are easy to make

Side dish

Entertaining tips

The holidays may be over, but you still may decide to have winter gatherings to break out of the cold weather with a little fun.

Here are a few tips, courtesy of Maille Fine French Condiments.

Decorate your festive meal with the rich color and taste of beets. Boil beets for 35 minutes until barely tender. Drain under cold water, peel and slice into 1/4-inch pieces. Melt 3 tablespoons unsalted butter and cook 1/4 cup shallots. Stir in 1 tablespoon flour, add 1/2 cup chicken stock, 3 tablespoons Dijon mustard and 1/4 cup cream. Cook until thick, add beets and combine well. Add salt and pepper to taste and sprinkle parsley on top.

Wake up overnight guests with a spicy drink mixture. Combine 8 ounces tomato juice, 1 ounce vegetable cocktail mix, 3 dashes hot sauce, 2 tablespoons horseradish Dijon mustard, 1/4 teaspoon salt, pinch of black pepper and 2 celery sticks.

Parties often continue past the day of the celebration. To savor the surplus food, slice a piece of remaining moist turkey, or other cooked poultry, add a slice of sweet ham, soft herb cheese, extra crispy lettuce and cherry tomatoes (from leftover salad) and sandwich between 2 pieces of whole-wheat pita bread. Spread with extra-hot Dijon mustard to add a zesty taste to the day-after lunch.

To feed a large party, prepare a beef roast (about 6 pounds). In a small bowl, mix 1/2 tablespoon crushed black peppercorns, 1 tablespoon coarse salt, 1 tablespoon dried oregano, 1 tablespoon dried thyme, 2 teaspoons celery seeds, 1 teaspoon cayenne pepper. In a separate bowl, mix 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard, 2 tablespoons grated onion and 2 pressed garlic cloves. Rub mustard mixture into roast, and sprinkle the spice mixture over roast surface. Cover and refrigerate overnight. Bake roast for 2 hours at medium heat. Serve with horseradish mustard.

Watch when shopping. Brenda Varnado, a certified personal fitness and cardiovascular trainer with Oakland Personal Training in Rochester Hills, offers simple but effective tips to make grocery shopping more conducive to fitness and better nutrition.

Varnado offers tips for health shopping including: Start your shopping with the fruits and vegetables and other good foods. This will help you stay away from impulse buying of items you don't need such as junk or snack foods.

Watch the quality of foods you are buying. Watch for bruised or damaged vegetables and fruits. Look for the sugar contents in foods like butter and regular milk, then compare those with margarine and skim and low fat milk. Watch for higher fat content.

Learn healthy carbs vs. bad carbs.

For additional information, persons should go to www.youopt.com.

Raise your spoons in a salute to oatmeal

When your mother told you to "eat your oatmeal, it's good for you" she was right

Oats are so healthy that foods containing a certain amount may carry a health claim approved by the Food and Drug Administration, such as "Diets low in saturated fat and cholesterol that include soluble fiber from oatmeal may reduce the risk of heart disease." The part about a diet "low in saturated fat and cholesterol" is a reminder that a bowl of oats won't make up for a diet of ice cream and brownies.

January is National Oatmeal Month and a good time to consciously put oatmeal back in your diet.

Oats are a whole-grain food containing insoluble and soluble fiber. Insoluble fiber moves food easily through the digestive system. The most health benefits come from the beta-glucans, a type of soluble fiber shown to reduce blood cholesterol levels, particularly the LDL "bad" cholesterol. High LDL levels are consid-

ered a risk factor for heart disease, the leading cause of death in the United States. Scientists have compared oats to tiny sponges that pick up cholesterol and carry it out of the body.

Studies have shown that people who start the day with a breakfast high in complex carbohydrates (with fiber), like oatmeal, report less hunger and fatigue and greater alertness in the morning. "Instant" oatmeal, especially when processed with added sugar, may not have the same effect.

Either because of time constraints or the desire to lose weight, at least 17 percent of Americans regularly skip the morning meal. But studies show that people who skip breakfast take in more calories later in the day than people who eat three evenly spaced meals. Other studies show that breakfast skippers tend to have higher blood cholesterol levels as well.

Fresh fruit is a perfect topping for oatmeal. For an extra twist, mix berries with a tiny sprinkling of grated lemon or

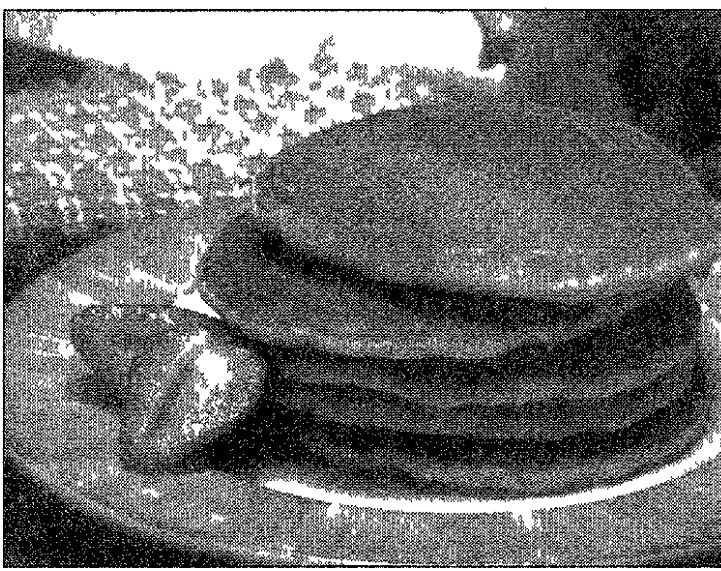
orange zest, plus two drops of vanilla extract. Dried fruit also works well, adding sweet chewiness for a satisfying contrast in texture. Most dried fruits are sweet enough that you won't need sugar. For a change of pace, have your oatmeal in these tasty pancakes.

OATMEAL PANCAKES

- 1 cup quick cooking (not instant) rolled oats
- 2 1/2 cups fat free milk
- 1/2 cup whole wheat flour
- 1/2 cup unbleached all purpose flour
- 1/4 cup toasted wheat germ
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon nutmeg or cloves as desired
- 3 egg whites lightly beaten
- 1 teaspoon vanilla or almond extract as desired
- Cooking spray

In a medium-sized bowl, blend together the oats and milk and let stand for 10 minutes.

In a large bowl combine whole wheat flour, unbleached



AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

January is National Oatmeal Month and a good time to consciously put oatmeal back in your diet, like in these pancakes.

flour, wheat germ, sugar, baking powder, salt and spice. Mix well.

Add egg white and extract to oat mixture and stir together. Add to the flour mixture and stir until moistened but with small lumps remaining. Don't over-mix. Let stand in the refrigerator for 30 minutes.

Preheat a nonstick frying pan or griddle coated with cooking spray over medium heat. Working in batches, pour 1/4 cup batter for each pancake onto hot pan.

Cook 3 to 4 minutes or until top starts to bubble and bottom is browned. Turn and cook 1 to 2 minutes longer, or until golden brown. Makes 18 pancakes.

Per pancake: 65 calories, less than 1 g total fat (less than 1 g saturated fat), 11 g carbohydrate, 4 g protein, 1 g dietary fiber, 174 mg sodium.

Recipe courtesy of the American Institute for Cancer Research.

Brochure on oats available

Awesome Oats: Easy and Delicious Recipes With Oats will help everyone enjoy new ways to include the whole-grain goodness of oats every day.

A completely updated, full-color version of this free brochure contains seven contemporary recipes, including around-the-clock ideas for main dishes like Cajun Chicken Blue and MuShoo Meatball Wraps, in addition to breakfast classics like Banana Bread Oatmeal and updated favorites like Honey Pot Oatmeal Cookies. Delicious oatmeal topping suggestions are included as well.

To order, e-mail oatoffer@aol.com or send your name and complete mailing address to: Awesome Oats, P.O. Box 487, Chicago, IL 60690-0487.

Allow three to five weeks for delivery. Offer good while quantities last.

BREAKFAST

FROM PAGE D1

Soft and chewy Breakfast Oatmeal is a great breakfast treat that can be enjoyed at home or on the go. Developed in the Quaker Oatmeal Kitchens, these muffin-like "cookies" make an excellent breakfast choice for several important reasons.

First, they're made with high-fiber whole-grain oats, whole wheat flour and less sugar than traditional cookies. Second, they're doubled up, literally, with a nut butter spread that adds protein and a flavor children love. One serving provides 2 grams of fiber, a complex carbohydrate that helps youngsters satisfy their hunger.

Another non-traditional oatmeal breakfast that can also serve as an afternoon energy-boosting snack is Winter Trail Mix.

With 3 grams of fiber per serving, this versatile combination of toasted old-fashioned oats, Quaker Squares ready-to-eat oatmeal cereal, dried apricot and apple chunks, dried cranberries, and roasted peanuts or almonds can be served any number of ways, such as:

- Stirred into vanilla or fruit-flavored, lowfat yogurt.
- Enjoyed with milk as a crunchy, ready-to-eat breakfast cereal.

- Packed up in individual resealable plastic bags for an on-the-go breakfast or snack.

For more information and tips on eating oatmeal and helping children maintain a healthy weight, visit

quakeroatmeal.com and the Quaker Oatmeal Strive for Five program, designed to help families have fun learning together.

This online program is an easy-to-use, five-step family nutrition program organized in weekly calendars that offer simple daily tips, activities and interactive tools recommended by the American Dietetic Association member experts.

BREAKFAST OATIES

- 1/2 cup firmly packed brown sugar
- 1/2 cup 60 percent vegetable oil spread with no trans fat

- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 1/4 cups mashed ripe bananas (about 3 medium)
- 1 cup all purpose flour
- 1/2 cup whole wheat flour
- 2 to 2 1/2 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups oats (quick or old fashioned uncooked)
- 1/2 cup broken fried banana chips (optional)
- 1 cup peanut butter, cashew butter or almond butter

*If using old fashioned oats add 3 tablespoons additional whole wheat flour.

Heat oven to 350° F. In large bowl, beat brown sugar and spread with electric mixer until creamy. Add egg and vanilla, beat well. Add bananas, beat well. Add combined flours, pumpkin pie spice, baking soda and salt, mix until blended. Add oats and, if desired, banana chips, mix until blended.

Drop dough by heaping measuring tablespoonsfuls 2 inches apart onto ungreased cookie

sheets. With narrow metal spatula, spread into 2- to 3-inch circles.

Bake 10 to 12 minutes or until edges are lightly browned. Remove to wire rack. Cool completely. Store tightly covered.

To assemble: spread 2 tea spoons peanut butter on flat side of one cookie. Press second cookie over peanut butter. Makes two dozen sandwiches.

Nutrition information (one sandwich): calories, 180; calories from fat, 80; total fat, 9g; saturated fat, 1.5g; cholesterol, 10mg; sodium, 150mg; total carbohydrates, 22g; dietary fiber 2g; sugars 9g; protein 5g.

Recipe courtesy of Quaker Oats.

WINTER TRAIL MIX

- 2 cups old-fashioned oats uncooked
- 1 1/2 cups Quaker Squares cereal
- 1/4 cup maple flavored syrup regular or light
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/2 cup snipped dried apple chunks
- 1/2 cup snipped dried apricots
- 1/2 cup dried cranberries
- 1/2 cup dry roasted peanuts or lightly salted almonds

Heat oven to 325° F. In large bowl, combine oats and cereal. In small bowl, combine maple syrup, oil and vanilla. Pour over cereal mixture. Mix until well coated.

Transfer to 15-by-10-by-1-inch baking pan.

Bake 20 to 25 minutes until oats are golden brown, stirring every 10 minutes.

Remove from oven. Immediately stir in remaining ingredients. Cool completely in pan on wire rack. Store loosely covered up to one week. Makes 6 cups.

Nutrition information for 1/2 cup with almonds (1/12 of recipe): calories, 170; calories from fat, 50; total fat 6g; saturated fat, 0.5g; cholesterol, 0mg; sodium, 75mg; total carbohydrates, 27g; dietary fiber, 3g; sugars, 12g; protein 4g.

COOK'S TIPS:

- Put individual servings of trail mix in resealable plastic bags to eat away from home.
- Stir into low-fat vanilla yogurt or low-fat cottage cheese for breakfast or a snack.
- Make a crunchy breakfast parfait by layering trail mix with fresh fruit (sliced bananas, chopped apples, grape halves, pineapple chunks) and lowfat yogurt.
- Serve cold with milk.
- Spread whole grain bagel half with peanut butter, sprinkle with trail mix, pressing lightly into peanut butter.
- Mix trail mix with light cream cheese spread on whole-grain bagels or whole wheat toast.
- Stir trail mix into pancake batter before cooking.

Recipe courtesy of Quaker Oats.

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Real Estate
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Robert M
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Legal rates often based on experience

Our law firm is billing our association for all its attorneys at the same hourly rate. One of our board members thinks that is not reasonable. What are your views?

Generally, hourly rates are based upon the experience and expertise of the attorney. If all the attorneys in the firm have the same degree of experience and expertise, than the same hourly rate is reasonable. However, if the senior partner is billing the junior associate at the same hourly rate, that may not be reasonable and you should consider retaining another law firm or recognizing that you may not be getting your money's worth.

Several of the co-owners in our condominium have made modifications to their windows without approval of the board. One of our board members says we should just wait until they sell the unit to get them to correct the problem. What do you think?

The association should enforce the condominium documents and rules and regulations uniformly and aggressively and consistently. A co-owner who has violated those restrictions should be pursued immediately so that the Board is not considered a do-nothing board and other co-owners are tempted to take liberties with the Association. The co-owner who has not obtained approval should be pursued through the Bylaw enforcement policy of the Association including, if necessary, the commencement of legal proceedings seeking injunctive relief, attorney fees and costs.

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.

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Owners of this transitional farmhouse-style home selected Board and Batten vinyl siding from LPVinyl to add architectural interest to the facade. Their use of vinyl, in combination with stone, provides an easy-care exterior year round.

Appearance is everything, make your house look good to boost sales appeal

BY KEELY SCHRAMM
STAFF WRITER

If "sell my house" is on your list of New Year resolutions, you'd better get busy. Buyers are picky, and selling your home could take longer than you think.

Picking a Realtor and listing your house is the easy part. Making your house appealing to potential buyers is the hard part.

Would you buy your house if you were looking at it for the first time? Do the walls need painting? How old is your carpet? Are the closets disorganized and full of junk?

"I tell my sellers to have their front door looking good," said Barbara Quinn, a Realtor with Century 21 Today in Farmington Hills. "First impressions are very important to buyers. If sellers have a dirty, nasty looking front door it's a turn off. Some people don't even want to walk in. Keep the sidewalks and driveways clean. Don't just shovel a path to the front door. Have your home look like a model. Pretend you're the buyer and look at the front door."

Then go inside and get rid of clutter and all the junk you've got lying around. Get a couple of bright throw pillows for your couch.

Renee Reyer, a Realtor with

Remerica Country in Canton has helped sellers decorate the blahs, she said. "The seller didn't know how to decorate. So I bought some pictures and rearranged the furniture when I was doing the open house."

Ask someone to walk through your house before you put it on the market. Would they buy your house? What do they like? Dislike?

Staging is important, said Shiela Dietz, a Realtor with Snyder, Kinney, Bennett & Keating in Birmingham. "Create an allusion for buyers so they can see themselves living there. Clean out your closets, throw things away, put out some fresh flowers. Have everything in its place so a potential buyer will say, 'Look how organized I would be if I owned this home.'"

Invest in things people can see like windows and carpeting. "An updated kitchen is a huge thing," said Alissa Nead of Coldwell Banker Preferred in Plymouth. "Furnaces and roofs are important, but you can't see them."

A house could be structurally sound, but if it's not pretty, people aren't going to be interested.

"You want your house to have neutral colors because people need to envision themselves living there," said Nead.

"You can always add your own toppings to vanilla."

Get rid of overgrown, tired looking bushes and trees. Look at your house from the street. Does it have curb appeal?

"A lot of people do drive by and won't even go inside if they don't like the outside," said Nead.

Here are some more tips from Janet Wickell, author of *Your Guide to Home Buying/Selling*.

■ The next time you come home, stop across the street or far enough down the driveway to get a good view of the house and its surroundings. View the property from the same position as a home buyer who is doing a drive-by.

■ What is your first impression of the house and yard area?

■ What are the best exterior features of the house or lot? How can you enhance them?

■ Start making a list of your positive and negative feelings about the property's appearance.

■ String low voltage lighting along your driveway, sidewalks and around landscaping elements.

■ Add a decorative street lamp or an attractive light fixture to a front porch.

■ Lighting that's visible through front windows should enhance the home's appearance.

■ Clean the windows and gutters.

■ Pressure wash dirty siding and dingy decks.

■ Trim tree limbs that are near or touching the roof.

Most buyers cannot visualize changes and often won't take a second look at a house if the first isn't appealing to them, said Wickell. Those who can visualize changes, and are prepared to make them, expect you to reduce the price of the house to compensate for the work.

■ If you can budget it, a fresh paint job does wonders for a dingy house. Drive around your town to find color schemes that are appealing.

■ How about a more attractive front door, maybe something with leaded glass inserts? If you can't justify the cost of a new door, consider replacing plain doorknob hardware with something more attractive.

If new hardware is beyond your budget, how about repainting or staining the door and polishing the hardware?

"If you brainstorm," said Wickell, "you'll find that there's a solution to most problems - one that lets you stay within your budget."

For more real estate tips from Wickell, and her free newsletter, visit www.homebuyingabout.com.

Board and batten: A cottage look updated in vinyl siding

(MS) - The booming popularity of all things country, from homestyle cooking to gardening to grandmother's furniture, has sparked a renewed interest in the cottage-, cabin- and bungalow-style homes associated with this less-hardcored lifestyle.

This, in turn, has rekindled the use of board and batten

construction, a vertically-installed siding where the seams or joints of wide boards are then covered by a narrower board or strip called a batten.

Historically used to give height to multi-storied houses in the Greek and Gothic Revival styles, this distinctive look is no longer limited to these 19th century styles, nor is

it relegated to the country.

Today, it's showing up in newer neighborhoods in both traditional and transitional home designs. It's also being used to update older homes, in both the city and the suburbs. Sometimes it's the only cladding used. At other times, it's a distinctive architectural element on a front porch, on

gable ends or on additions. It's often found in combination with other siding styles - clapboard or Dutchlap, for example - or with other materials like stone and brick.

For more information on LP Maxim Board and Batten, contact your local contractor, call toll-free (888) 820-0325, or visit www.lpvinyl.lpcorp.com.

Mortgage
Bits

Timothy
Phillips



First-time buyers have options

Find it easier to work with motivated borrowers who are eager to learn about the mortgage process. As such, I provide these young buyers plenty of online and print resources to better facilitate their learning. I also make sure I'm available to them via phone for those times when nerves and confusion flare up.

Mortgage choices for "Spring" borrowers are plentiful. A favorite choice of mine for these first-timers is the FHA's 203(b) mortgage because I can get approvals with very limited borrower work experience. In fact, 90 days on the first job out of college is usually sufficient for FHA underwriting.

I find FHA underwriters to be very flexible. I've received loan approvals for college students with part-time incomes who have fully-employed co-borrowers and for recent divorcees who have re-entered the work force after being out for years.

For down payment requirements, mortgage underwriters of all sorts want to see that borrowers have some "skin" in the deal. The bigger the down payment, the more forgiving they may be on other issues. The FHA asks for a 3 percent from the buyer, but at the same time allows that money to be gifted by an eligible donor.

For those with little or no established credit, some lenders accept alternative credit sources as proof of borrowers' credit worthiness. Cell phone companies, utility companies, landlords, and insurance companies rarely report credit history to the credit scoring agencies, but skilled mortgage professionals can use these positive credit histories to successfully 'build a first-timer's credit profile to more easily qualify them for a home purchase.

Borrowers with both established credit profiles and solid work histories may enjoy 100 percent mortgage approvals for their purchases which require nothing down and feature quite competitive interest rates. The very strong buyers may be able to avoid PMI, private mortgage insurance, for their 100 percent purchase, thus bettering their cash flow that much more.

This is the second 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.

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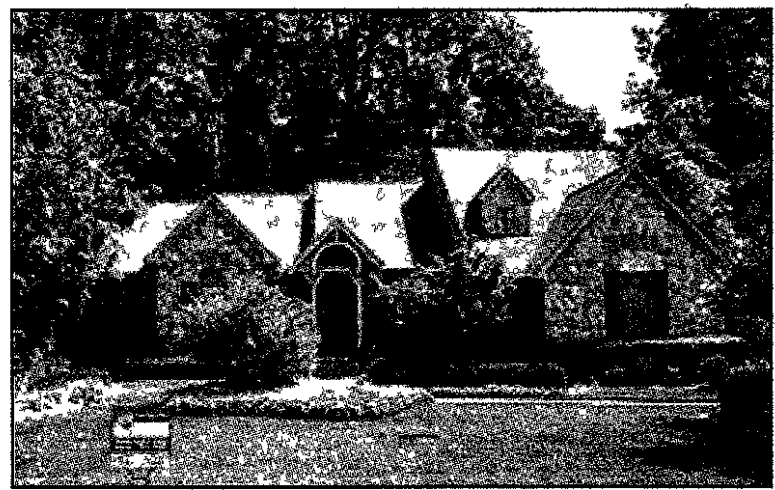
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HOMES SOLD IN WAYNE COUNTY

These are the Observer & Eccentric area residential real estate closings recorded the weeks of Aug 23 27 at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office Listed below are cities addresses and sales prices

7764 Alton \$179 000	41520 Metaline \$237 000	28970 Rosslyn \$86 000	28999 Roycroft \$120 000	16168 Delaware \$153 000	35300 College \$180 000
4651 Art ey \$194 000	45447 M chael \$254 000	29176 Rosslyn \$145 000	18946 Stamford \$163 000	19303 Delaware \$108 000	37663 Colonial \$134 000
42269 Ashbury \$180 000	1735 Morrison \$194 000	28419 Sheridan \$117 000	28960 Terrence \$117 000	18403 Denby \$140 000	1335 Cra g \$217 000
383 Az z \$320 000	45429 N Stonewood \$185 000	33021 Sher dan \$185 000	3441 Trillum \$140 000	12059 Farley \$115 000	38573 Deer Creek \$179 000
40754 B uesprings \$284 000	44505 N Umlerland \$132 000		17879 University Park \$131 000	18515 Garfield \$139 000	8023 Donna \$150 000
6835 Bostonh l \$235 000	7855 Oxford \$499 000	33545 E ght Mile \$354 000	18304 Unvers ty Park \$191 000	20070 Garf eld \$123 000	2016 Eastport \$110 000
2765 Calloway \$363 000	3404 Parklawn \$238 000	33827 E ght Mile \$238 000	18505 Westbrook \$119 000	18402 Gaylor \$188 000	7719 Gary \$155 000
4695 Clover \$310 000	47838 Pav ilion \$510 000	34997 Andrea \$510 000	29019 Westfield \$139 000	16971 Glenmore \$152 000	33530 Harvard \$243 000
1556 Commodore \$219 000	48100 Picad illy \$379 000	14242 Barbara \$379 000	15450 Woodr ng \$215 000	8930 Inkster \$156 000	2550 Hawley \$176 000
1584 Commodore \$212 000	45051 Quaker H II \$235 000	37568 Bloomf eld \$235 000		17236 Lennane \$280 000	39137 Hayward \$140 000
131 Concord \$231 000	1399 Rand \$238 000	33650 Bloomfield \$198 000	465 Ann \$225 000	17148 Lennane \$140 000	31502 Hazelwood \$263 000
41778 Conner Creek \$337 000	3864 Ravensfield \$198 000	11865 Camden \$198 000	356 Auburn \$160 000	7475 Lennane \$270 000	32261 Hillsdale \$156 000
328 Country Club \$359 000	47705 River Woods \$337 000	14591 Cavell \$337 000	1690 Cassidy Place \$110 000	14674 Lenore \$232 000	34515 Hively \$156 000
41750 C eston \$192 000	7783 Rutherford \$440 000	14539 Country Club \$440 000	1704 Cassidy Place \$188 000	15611 Lexington \$225 000	6241 Hunter Pointe \$156 000
297 Dartmouth \$255 000	751 Sanda wood \$449 000	36880 Curtis \$449 000	9445 Corinne \$507 000	18633 Lexington \$201 000	30303 Julius \$130 000
40795 Deer Pines \$85 000	42486 Saratoga \$112 000	16129 E len \$112 000	11689 Deer Creek \$273 000	18745 Lex ngton \$438 000	29675 Lacy \$233 000
39887 Edmunt on \$196 000	709 Scottsdale \$198 000	31557 Fa rfax \$198 000	49561 Donovan \$183 000	9951 Nathaline \$174 000	29685 Lacy \$137 000
598 Erme ald P nes \$85 000	502 Sprngf eld \$420 000	11728 Farm ngton \$420 000	193 Ham lton \$165 000	17651 Olympia \$137 000	29725 Lacy \$221 000
7324 Emerson \$260 000	530 Spr ngf eld \$419 000	11748 Farmington \$419 000	724 Irvin \$173 000	24651 Pilgrim \$232 000	30010 Lacy \$211 000
47205 Fa riawn \$270 000	41563 Strawberry \$228 000	11754 Farmington \$228 000	43824 Joy \$169 000	19963 Po nc ana \$254 000	31615 Mackenzie \$167 000
47291 Fa rawn \$250 000	1723 Tradition \$173 000	11770 Farm ngton \$173 000	1440 Lunden \$173 000	15397 Pomona \$635 000	32028 Mackenzie \$150 000
8341 Forrest \$189 000	42254 Trent \$330 000	11778 Farmington \$330 000	15102 Maplewood \$180 000	11314 R verdale \$260 000	7590 Manor \$90 000
45722 Founta n V ew \$355 000	42297 Trent \$302 000	31829 Gable \$310 000	8860 Mayflower \$388 000	11324 R verdale \$134 000	7624 Manor \$90 000
7074 Foxr dge \$280 000	42334 Trent \$310 000	18461 G ll \$310 000	9147 Mayflower \$281 000	11403 R verdale \$254 000	7633 Manor \$90 000
7080 Foxr dge \$288 000	911 Tynda l \$242 000	18262 G llman \$242 000	39711 Mayville \$129 000	26139 Ross \$220 000	305 Marigold \$141 000
43824 Fredericksburg \$195 000	43509 W Arbor Way \$125 000	15782 Golfview \$125 000	702 N Harvey \$285 000	12864 Royal Grand \$249 000	354 Marigold \$139 000
45707 Graystone \$185 000	15852 W Lakev ew \$173 000	27566 Grandon \$173 000	42082 Oak \$230 000	14813 Seminole \$315 000	358 Marigold \$150 000
41474 Hanford \$230 000	1560 W Lakev ew \$165 000	28778 Grandon \$165 000	40515 Orangelawn \$165 000	19335 Seminole \$193 000	364 Marigold \$141 000
41524 Hanford \$214 000	6609 Weatherfie d Way \$315 000	36282 Hammer \$315 000	9377 P neview \$305 000	20091 Seminole \$365 000	414 Marigold \$138 000
1359 Hendr e \$405 000	2221 Woodmont \$228 000	36971 Ladywood \$280 000	51165 Plymouth Lake \$202 000	6650 Ontario \$650 000	452 Marigold \$139 000
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7397 Kingsbr dge \$255 000		33106 Middleboro \$53 000	11751 Sycamore \$284 000	15391 Woodbine \$150 000	34435 Nancy \$119 000
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43617 Lotus \$244 000		20324 Hugh \$217 000			39162 Brookf eld \$136 000
48317 Manhattan \$450 000		15423 Knolson \$225 000			39178 Brookf e d \$154 000
351 Mant on \$248 000		36971 Ladywood \$280 000			39182 Brookf eld \$130 000
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 <p>ANN ARBOR \$309,900 Best lot in sub Tudor woods on side & back on cedar sac Spacious kitchen overlooks FR w/vau deck cngs & skylits 6 panel drs t/o Spac kt & "R open to private yd New db front drs w/leaded glass 1st floor ndry (CEP49POT) 734 453 6800</p>	 <p>BRIGHTON \$299,900 6 bed 2880 sq ft lakefront home Sandy beach and dock Large 30 deck facing lakeside to watch the world fly Den w/f replace cathedral ceiling and skylights 2 1/2 car garage (OESLY56CLA) 248 437 4500</p>	 <p>CANTON \$418,900 Beautiful Home On A Lot Backing To Trees And Stream Sunny Gourmet Kitchen Study W/ench Doo s Includes A 2 way FP to FR H W Flrs In Foyer Kit & Nook Luxu ous Vau ted Master Suite F nshd Basement (OEL38SAN) 734 591 0333</p>	 <p>CANTON \$409,500 Fabu ous Home On Supurb Lot P ofessona y F n Lower Level W/3rd Full Bath Den ofc & Add'l Fam y Rm Beautiful Hdwd Flrs In Entry & Through Kitchen & Nook Great Coen Fir Pan brdge Overookng Fam rm W/tp (OEN55HEN) 248 347 3050</p>	 <p>CANTON \$320,000 This Is The One You've Been Waiting For Transferring Owns Are Sad To Leave This Beautiful & Spacious 4br 2 5 Bth Colonial Situated on a Premium Cedar sac Lot 2 Story Foyer W/hdwd Fl Formal Lvng & Dnng Rm (OEN26WOO) 248 347 3050</p>	 <p>CANTON \$234,900 Coonal 3 bedrooms 1 5 bath w/eye catching staircase Newly updated kitchen Natural fireplace hearth and doorwall to a ge fenced yard off fam y Coon Home w/ran y ncloud (OESLY34DER) 248 437 4500</p>	 <p>CANTON \$217,500 Great Value In The Desirable sun flows Village Sub Transfere Perfect Updates Include New Roof Furnace Air Cond Pant Landscape All Newer Carpet Turn Key & Move Right In Large Eat n Kitchen (OEN29BRU) 248 347 3050</p>
 <p>COMMERCE \$269,900 Don't Miss Close to V age of Millford Immaculate 4BR coonal on lg prof indscop corner lot Tastefu y decorated thru out Floor to ceiling brick nat FP n FR Country vng but close to amenities Warranty nc (OEP50CHE) 734 453 6800</p>	 <p>DEARBORN \$530,000 Great Ba Nawe Items Roof Gutters Parking ot Kt Eec Serv Furn A/C Pumb Sprinkler Sys In Office Bsmnt Bar Owns 2 Dart Mach nes Juke Box 2 Poker Mach Near Ford Roug Te mis Avail Incl Liquor Lcns (OEL14SCH) 734 591 0333</p>	 <p>DETROIT \$95,000 Beautifully Updated Bungalow In Warrendale Updated Kit Spacious Mast Bed W/ots Of Storage Nwr Wndws & Doors Nwr Furn & C A Part F n Bsmnt W Full Bath Nwr D ve New Roof Nw Appliances not A Drve By (OEL31GRE) 734 591 0333</p>	 <p>FARMINGTON HILLS \$310,000 Excellent Condition 4 Bdrm Brk Coonal Wth lng ound Pool Ceramic Entry Kitchen & More Large Family Room W/replace & Doorwall To Large Deck Formal Dnng Room & Lvng Room (OEN58WOR) 248 347 3050</p>	 <p>GARDEN CITY \$174,900 Beautiful Garden City Ranch Everything Has Been Done Vny Sdng Roof Wndws Hardwood F s Electrical Plumbing Master Bdrm Has Cathedral Ceiling Jacuzz Walk In Closet Hdwd Flrs n Lvng & Dnng Rm (OEN45DON) 248 347 3050</p>	 <p>GENOA \$599,900 Custom Cape Cod on air cost 12 acres w/ a pond and 24X36 pole barn 13 fireplaces oak kitchen w/ceramic tile walk out basement w Florida room and hot tub 3 5 car garage central air and ntercom (OESLY67HAC) 248 437 4500</p>	 <p>GENOA \$309,900 Premium location on golf course 3 bedroom 3 5 bath n prestigious neighborhood Marble foyer circular stairway P ofessona y f nshd basement (OESLY68PN) 248 437 4500</p>
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CHARLOTTE JACUNSKI Livonia Homes (734) 377 3282 Stevenson High \$124 900! 2 Bdrm home on 56x183 wooded lot 2 1/2 car garage major updates Large lot w/ wooded view! 3 Bdrm 2 5 bath Colonial w/ finished walk out Family room Library 1st floor laundry major updates Stevenson High \$342 500! NW Livon a brick ranch 3 bedroom 2 5 baths family room master suite w/ walk in closet great finished bsmt 1st floor laundry 2 5 attached garage Major updates \$279 900 CENTURY 21 ROW (734) 464 7111 Charlotte Jacunski

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4 Bdrm 2 5 baths backs to wood 14438 Parklane Drive Open Sun 1/9/05 1 4pm (734) 462 6041

JUST LISTED! \$50 000+ IN UPDATES! Gorgeous 4 bdrm 2 5 bath 2 story Open maple kitchen w/nook Family room w/replace Finished bsmt Hardwood floors Neutral decor 2 car attached garage \$274 900 (BR347) Century 21 TODAY (248) 462 8800 www.century21today.com

EXCEPTIONAL VALUE in this very nice 3 bedroom ranch in nice Hartland neighborhood with easy access to M 59! Convenient U shaped kitchen with adjacent dining area leads to decks for entertaining! Partially finished basement 2 car attached garage invisible fence sprinkling system and blacktop drive Hartland Schools \$206 500 Take M 59 East of US 23 to North on Bullard to West on Countryside following open signs to 2520 Sun Terrace BRING YOU ICE SKATES! Wonderfully designed newer 2 story home on private lot sports Lake Tyrone Home includes beautiful kitchen with maple cabinets and ceramic floor spacious dining room with natural fireplace and pine floors Living room with scenic views All 3 bedrooms have walk in closets 2 covered porches 30x16 cedar deck 22x50 garage w/ 2nd level bonus room and 220 amp service Dock included too! Hartland Schools \$487 000 KEY TO HAPPINESS! Enjoy lakefront living on private lot sports Tyrone Lake! Home is charming and immaculate w/many quality features 3 bedrooms 2 5 baths wood floors in lovely kitchen dining area leads to 18x16 deck gas fireplace in great room and 2 car garage! Dock included too! Hartland Schools \$465 000 ENGLAND REAL ESTATE 888 211 9560 810 632 7427

3 bdrm custom ranch Updated kitchen & bath family room 1st floor laundry 2 5 car attached garage Major updates \$209 900 (40SUS) Century 21 Row 734 464 7111

Clean 3 bdrm 2 bath brick ranch on deep lot Attached 2 car garage partly finished bsmt Important updates \$179 999 (41MER) Century 21 Row 734 464 7111

MOVE IN & ENJOY! Clean & well cared for 3 bedroom 1 5 bath home offers newer vinyl windows hand crafted kitchen cabinetry partially finished basement w/half bath large breakfast room w/doorwalk to deck and 2 car detached garage! Livonia Schools \$225 900 ENGLAND REAL ESTATE 888 211 9560 810 632 7427

MOVE RIGHT IN & DOWN Clean 3 bdrm updated brick ranch Finished bsmt w/ full bath Oversized garage immediate occupancy \$172 000 Leah Gauthrop Century 21 Row 734 464 7111

Looking for a NEW home? Be sure you look in your Observer & Eccentric Classified section for all the newest local listings!

CHEAPER THAN RENT! SELLER WILL ASSIST WITH CLOSING COSTS! Wonderful Opportunity! Highland 2 bedroom home with lots of updates Brand new appliances including stove refrigerator washer dryer and built in microwave Home is professionally remodeled move in ready Large fenced in lot \$124,950 (R 119)

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CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Snow crystal
- 6 Chimp or human
- 11 Leaky
- 13 Mississippi port
- 14 Egyptian god
- 15 Ms. Farrow
- 16 Lunched
- 17 Fix amt
- 18 Rubble maker
- 20 Makes a phone call
- 22 Fasten securely
- 23 Animal that barks
- 25 Soda-can opener
- 26 Painless
- 27 Lack ng
- 29 Deli sandwich
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- 40 Getz or Musial
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- 43 Sweetheart
- 45 Equator
- 46 Segment

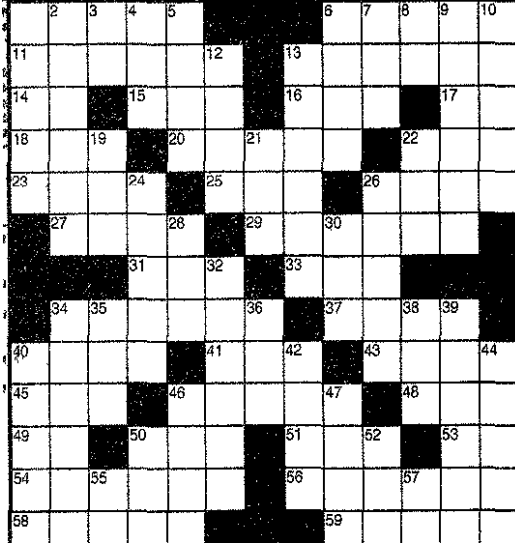
DOWN

- 1 Army posts
- 2 Granted
- 3 A mortgage
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- 22 Royal command
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- 24 Snow boot
- 25 Burnish
- 26 Aurora
- 27 to Socrates
- 28 Plays a banjo
- 29 Hawthorne s town
- 30 Use a shovel
- 31 Rental agreement
- 32 Baseball events
- 33 Passed the word
- 34 High note
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THIS HOME HAS BEEN Freshly painted with many updates. Newer windows, doors, roof, garage door and opener. Almost 1200 sq ft with 3 bedrooms and 1 1/2 baths. Nice 2 car rooms has family room and fenced yard. \$164,950

Century 21 Hartford North
734 525 9600

Midland 3280

LOOKING FOR SPACE & PRIVACY? FHA/VA terms. Brick 3 bdrm 2 bath home w/1st floor laundry & 4 car garage. Large fenced yard. Tons of updates. Appliances stay. \$154,999

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Northville 3280

4 BEDROOM 2 BATH Bi Level w/ hardwood floors thru out plus new windows. Family room has impressive stone fireplace. 2 car attached side entry garage. \$234,900 (A, J, T, W, E, D)

REMERICA HOMETOWN (734) 459 6222

SPACIOUS OPEN FLOOR PLAN 50 k below market value. 3200 sq ft \$469,000. Must Sell! 248 722 4928

Plymouth 3347

PLYMOUTH Spectacular custom home on 2+ acres in desirable country area. High end finishes you would expect w/ 1st floor master, 3 1/2 baths, vaulted ceilings. \$679,900. Stephen Wickland 734 747 7177. Charles Reinhart Co Realtors #2410430

JUST LISTED!

WELL MAINTAINED 4 bedroom 2 bath ranch w/finished bsmt. Great room w/gas fireplace. Beautifully updated bath. New trim, new carpet & freshly painted thru out. \$219,900 (TE114)

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Redford 3350

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AFFORDABLE & UPDATED RANCH has new kitchen bath w/ new windows carpet, eec, lra, C/A & punb g. F st too. 3 rdry Attached garage. \$92,500 (LE199)

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JUST LISTED!

BRICK RANCH 3 Bdrm 2 bath Din g room Bsmt All appliances stay C/A 2 car garage. Freshly painted Updated electrical. Home wa ranty \$175,000 (D129)

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TO LOOK IS TO BUY! FHA/VA terms Spacious 3 bedroom 1 1/2 bath bungalow w/ partially finished bsmt w/updates, fenced yard w/stock & home wa ranty \$32,500

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Southfield/Lathrup 3350

COZY 3 BDRM RANCH Brick & aluminum exterior. Updates include roof, carpet & paint throughout. Good for 1st time home owner. \$129,500

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JUST LISTED!

SOUTHFIELD Well maintained 3 bed room 1 1/2 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)

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South Lyon 3400

SUNNY SPACIOUS 3200 sq ft home for sale by owner. \$399,999. 4 bdrm 2 1/2 baths. Agents we comed (248) 974 9665. For more info HNO com id# MI19087

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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 floor ng. (LA104)

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Wayne 3424

STANDS ALONE This 3 bedroom brick ranch is perfect and beautiful. Offers family room w/ fireplace. Finished basement w/bath is dry walled and carpeted. Dining room, 2 1/2 car garage and all updates including gorgeous new kitchen. Just \$149,900. Call Today!

CLASSIC This 1924 cape cod has been completely renovated. 3 bedroom formal dining room, 2 full baths, bsmt and garage. Plus deck with hot tub and long list of extras including new kitchen backs to nvr. Now just \$154,900

Call The Anderson's Century 21 Dynamic
(734) 728 7900

West Bloomfield 3440

JUST LISTED!

AFFORDABLE! Only \$174,900. Move in condition! 3 bdrm ranch w/finished bsmt & over sized 2 car garage. Updated kitchen, 1st floor laundry, C/A, fireplace all appliances stay. (M1707D1) DEBI ISAAC (248) 505 6911 CENTURY 21 TODAY (248) 360 9100

DESIRABLE COLONIAL 4 bdrm, 3 1/2 baths. New furniture, humidifier, windows & doors. All appliances stay. Great neighborhood. \$299,900

LOVELY HOME IN GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD Immediate occupancy. Updated, freshly painted granite floors, new carpet & new kitchen. 1st floor laundry. Home warranty. \$259,900

Century 21 M.J. Corporate
Tristree Service
248 851 6700

IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY 2270 sq ft 4 bedroom 2 1/2 bath brick home w/many updates, hardwood floors, central air, living room, formal dining room, family room w/ fireplace & kitchen w/ breakfast room. Walk out lower level. Patio. 2 car garage. \$244,000 (TA688)

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JUST LISTED!

UPPER STRATS LAKE PRIVEGAS come w/ 1.5 244 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 (R0440)

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JUST LISTED!

SPOTLESS! 3 bedroom ranch on over sized lot. New windows, remodeled kitchen, bath & more. Home Warranty included. \$87,900 (OZMAG)

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CENTURY 21 ROW
734 464 7111

WYANDOTTE Ready to move! Clean 3 bdrm 1 1/2 bath ranch w/ partially finished bsmt, hardwood floors, natural fireplace enclosed 3 season sunroom. Appliances stay! \$164,900

CENTURY 21 PREMIER
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JUST LISTED!

LOVELY COLONIAL Shenandoah Lake. 3 1/2 bdrm 3 bath Colonial. 3 1/2 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)

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JUST LISTED!

ONLY \$158,900 All brick 3 bdrm 1 1/2 bath ranch. Living room & family room. Newer kitchen w/all appliances, adjoins deck. Loads of storage space. Ceram c floors thru out. Central air, many updates. 2 car garage. Beautiful yard w/gardens. (PE261)

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JUST LISTED!

MOVE RIGHT IN! 3 bdrm 1 1/2 brick colonial on 1.3 acre lot. Spacious & new tra. Basement, fenced yard. \$158,900 (33MAR)

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\$100 MOVE IN! BRAND NEW 3 bdrm Tri level, 1100 sq ft. Carpeted, landscaped. DEMPSTER A ROSS REALTY 734 626 8300

Westland 3445

JUST LISTED!

MOVE RIGHT IN! 3 bdrm 1 1/2 brick colonial on 1.3 acre lot. Spacious & new tra. Basement, fenced yard. \$158,900 (33MAR)

CENTURY 21 ROW
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Westland 3445

JUST LISTED!

MOVE RIGHT IN! 3 bdrm 1 1/2 brick colonial on 1.3 acre lot. Spacious & new tra. Basement, fenced yard. \$158,900 (33MAR)

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Westland 3445

JUST LISTED!

COURT SETTING FOR outstanding newer 2 story home. Family room w/ fireplace, dining room, 2 car attached garage. Home Warranty. \$184,900 (NI254)

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QUET NEIGHBORHOOD Very nice 2 bedroom home. Many updates. garage. \$83,000

SOLID HOME 3 bedroom full brick home. Basement & 2.5 car garage. \$139,900

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Westland Livonia Schools 3 bedroom brick & vinyl ranch full basement. 2 car garage. \$140,000 L.C. 734 678 5400

White Lake 3450

JUST LISTED!

BEAUTIFUL COLONIAL 1998 Built 4 bdrm 2 1/2 bath home w/3 car attached garage and full bsmt on ONE ACRE beautiful landscaped lot. Master suite w/soaking tub & separate shower. 2nd floor laundry alarm system, brick pavers & sprinklers. Call for details \$289,900

KAREN BROWN
248 348 3000 ext 212
RE/MAX 100

Beautiful new built 1 1/2 story 2600 sq ft 4 bdrm 3 1/2 baths walk out to prime 1.92 acre lot. Hardwood floor, soaring ceilings, fireplace. 2nd story bdrm suite. Close to x ways, schools & lakes. \$354,900. Ask for Shelly (248) 539 8700

Thompson Brown Realtors

Wixom-Commerce 3480

COMMERCE 4 bedroom 2 bath quad level. Great Area. Needs work. 2053 Pauls Way. \$234,000 (248) 668 0109

Ypsilanti 3490

BUILT 2001 Spacious 3 bdrm 2 1/2 bath 1858 sq ft colonial. Huge master bdrm w/bath. Great room w/soaring ceiling. Par al finished bsmt. 2 car attached garage. \$232,900 (G9724)

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Wayne County 3570

INKSTER 3 bedroom for sale by owner. Land contract \$4,000 down. Weak credit okay. (734) 578 3579

ROMULUS Starting up or slowing down! FHA/VA terms. 3 bdrm 1 bath brick ranch w/partially finished bsmt. Large fenced yard & 2 1/2 detached garage. \$119,900

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JUST LISTED!

SPOTLESS! 3 bedroom ranch on over sized lot. New windows, remodeled kitchen, bath & more. Home Warranty included. \$87,900 (OZMAG)

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734 464 7111

WYANDOTTE Ready to move! Clean 3 bdrm 1 1/2 bath ranch w/ partially finished bsmt, hardwood floors, natural fireplace enclosed 3 season sunroom. Appliances stay! \$164,900

CENTURY 21 PREMIER
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Country Homes 3610

BELLEVILLE RANCH HOME 4+ acres 3 bdrm 2 bath 2 tiered deck w/built in hot tub. 2.5 car attached garage. 40x42 pole barn w/kitchen & bath. \$349,900 (734) 697 8894

CONDOS 3720

SKYLINE - MODEL 3BR 2BA comes with stove refrigerator garbage disposal & more! Lot rent specials \$39,800

SKYLINE 3BR 2BA This home has it all! All Appliances CA deck shed landscaped lot & more! \$29,900

GREAT STARTER HOME! 2BR 2BA all appliances window air shed on a nice lot! \$12,500

Others Priced From \$14,000 to \$60,000

Novi Schools QUALITY HOMES at **HIGHLAND HILLS ESTATES** on Sealey Rd N of G and Rive bet Meadowbrook & Haggerty Rds. Call Joanne or Sue (248) 474-0320 or (248) 474-0330

CONDOS 3720

LIVONIA Beautifully remodeled 1 bdrm Livonia condo. New kitchen cabinets & counters floor freshly painted new doors updated bath in unit laundry carport & bsmt storage. \$99,900. View this home on michellemichael.com

Michelle Michael
ReMax Classic 248 737 6800

NOVI Detached Nov ranch condo 3 bdrms & baths den formal dining room spacious kitchen & breakfast nook. 1st floor laundry premium location 2 car attached garage finished bsmt. \$267,900. View this home on michellemichael.com

Michelle Michael
ReMax Classic 248 737 6800

NOVI Seller will assist with closing costs on this sharp Nov 1 bdrm condo. Finished walk out bsmt. Great room w/fire place. 1st floor master bdrm 3 baths overlooks pond garage golf course community by immediate occupancy. \$204,900. View this home on michellemichael.com

Michelle Michael
ReMax Classic 248 737 6800

BELLEVILLE Beautiful 3 bedroom 1 1/2 bath condo. Completely remodeled. Immaculate. \$96,900. 734 699 8694

INGHAM IN TOWN Top floor condo with treetop and ravn views. Vaulted ceilings in main living area. Built in entertainment center with fireplace and doorwall to private patio. Granite kitchen. For lease furnished \$2400/mo. For lease unfurnished \$2100/mo. \$369,000

Call (248) 646 1400

BLOOMFIELD HILLS ADAMS WOODS By owner 3 Bdrm 2 1/2 baths end unit immediate occupancy. \$289,000 (248) 539 2247

CANTON 2 bdrm 1 1/2 bath Townhouse in Bedford Villas. Attached garage. Full bsmt. New furnace. 97 new windows & carpet. GE appliances. Available now. \$159,900. After 5. 734 454 4707

CANTON Outstanding! Absolutely must see. Upper end Condo unit features 2 bdrm 2 baths. Pergo floor ng throughout. The floors in bathroom. Open kitchen snack bar overlooks vaulted great room/dining room. Combo lg master suite w/private full bath. All appliances stay. Finished bsmt. 2 car attached garage. \$313,533. 5867 ext 186 even ngs. eekends ca. 734 981 6674

CANTON PRIVATE END UNIT 2 Bdrm 1 bath condo overlooking secluded wooded area. Oak kitchen hardwood floors great room w/doorwa l leading to balcony. 1st floor laundry. Appliances stay! \$159,900

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JUST REDUCED! Attractive 3 1/2 bdrm 2 bath ranch great to raise a family n! Finished basement & attached garage. Large tree! Lot. Immed occuancy. RE/MAX 100 (248) 348 9000 THE FIRESTONE TEAM

Linden Schools OPEN SUN JAN 9 1 4pm HERE IT IS! Home Spolless and tastefully decorated. 2 bedroom condo w/walk out bsmt setting has beautiful white kitchen with snack bar opening to comfortable great room with doorwall to deck. Fireplace 1/2 bath and private office in custom finished walkout lower level. 1st floor laundry and 2 car attached garage. \$214,000. Take US 23 to Owen Road ext to West to Linden Road take Linden Road North of Creekwood Condominiums following open signs to 207 Inglewood.

ENGLAND REAL ESTATE
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NOVI GOLF COMMUNITY immaculate detached 2 bedroom condo w/walk out bsmt. 4 bdrm 2 1/2 bath fireplace. Mantel cabinets crown moldings tile & marble in kitchen + foyer. 2 decks lower screened + much more! \$315,000

By Owner (248) 926 6558
Open House Sunday 1 5

SKYLINE - MODEL 3BR 2BA comes with stove refrigerator garbage disposal & more! Lot rent specials \$39,800

SKYLINE 3BR 2BA This home has it all! All Appliances CA deck shed landscaped lot & more! \$29,900

BENDIX GREAT STARTER HOME! 2BR 2BA all appliances window air shed on a nice lot! \$12,500

Others Priced From \$14,000 to \$60,000

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CONDOS 3720

NOVI-NEGOTIABLE Mint 2 bed 1 1/2 bath remodeled brick 2 story condo w/family room & full finished bsmt. 1100 sq ft. Gorgeous kitchen. Immed occuancy. RE/MAX 100 (248) 348 9000 THE FIRESTONE TEAM

Plymouth
2 BEDROOM GROUND LEVEL Ranch condo unit. Great room has gas fireplace. Appliances included. Underground enclosed garage w/ elevator. \$227,900 (ACCDEO)

REMERICA HOMETOWN (734) 459 6222

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SOUTHFIELD Gorgeous 2 bdrm 2 1/2 bath townhouse condo w/finished bsmt & lots of storage. Large master bdrm. Updated kitchen w/new counters & appliances in unit. Laundry. Great location. \$134,900 (WO250)

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SOUTHFIELD \$1000 BUYER CREDIT! Best value for 2 bdrm 2 bath ranch condo 1st floor laundry. Full bsmt 2 car attached garage. \$169,900 (EL255)

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JUST LISTED!

SOUTHFIELD \$1000 BUYER CREDIT! Best value for 2 bdrm 2 bath ranch condo 1st floor laundry. Full bsmt 2 car attached garage. \$169,900 (EL255)

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WEST BLOOMFIELD Gorgeous 3 bdrm 2 1/2 bath end unit. Great room w/soaring ceiling. 1st floor laundry. 2 bdrms up. 1st floor laundry. Hardwood floors. 2 car garage. Private setting. \$344,900 (GA735)

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WEST BLOOMFIELD Wooded setting for 3 bdrm 2 1/2 bath townhouse condo. 2 story great room w/door wall to deck. 1st floor master suite. Library. White kitchen. Huge basement. \$289,900 (SA475)

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WEST BLOOMFIELD Wooded setting for 3 bdrm 2 1/2 bath townhouse condo. 2 story great room w/door wall to deck. 1st floor master suite. Library. White kitchen. Huge basement. \$289,900 (SA475)

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In Wixom

at Commerce Meadows on Wixom Rd 4 miles N of 95 (248) 684-6796

at Stratford Villa on Wixom Rd 3 1/2 miles N of 95 (248) 684-9068

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2nd floor Heat included \$850 (248) 547 7128

BIRMINGHAM In town Newly renovated 2 bdrm 1 5 bath lower flat 1400 sqft c/a \$1275 248 379 2993

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Farmington Hills
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This Classification continues in Section G

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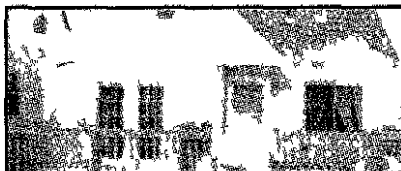


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REDFORD Cute Updated Bungalow
Two bedroom home offers 2 car garage never carpet roof vinyl windows furnace hot water heater & updated bath formal dining room with French doors leading to large deck with deep lot.
(E95CHE) 734-455-5600 \$107,900



LIVONIA Won't Last Long
Three bedroom 1 bath Ranch with Livonia schools finished basement with office & wet bar Newer appliances roof central air w ndows updated kitchen bath and new 2 car garage. Florida room & full in 5600 fenced yard.
(E12HAL) 734-455-5600 \$169,900



WESTLAND A Must See
Three bedroom Colonial with eat in kitchen sun room formal dining room large living room 100 x 131 lot 2 car garage and basement.
(E05PAL) 734-455-5600 \$146,900



REDFORD Large Brck Bungalow
Three bedroom 1 bath home on large lot Complete roof tear off 02 Walls w ndows-50 copper plumbing updated electrical hardwood throughout 2 car garage great for mechanics.
(E21CRO) 248-349-5600 \$139,900



LIVONIA Welcome Home
This Rosedale Gardens Ranch boasts 3 bedrooms 2 car garage finished basement with FP & being sold by it's original owner. Come experience the new recreation center & approx 1.342 acres of pie land no lot no lot no 48 developed parks.
(E28MAY) 248-349-5600 \$165,900



DETROIT Beautifully Updated Colonial
Fabulous 3 bedroom 1 1/2 bath brick home in desirable area offers updated kitchen roof furnace central air & most w ndows Two car garage finished basement with ba large wood deck privacy fence & so much more.
(E95CHE or PEN) 734-455-5600 \$179,900



NORTHVILLE Gorgeous Townhouse Condo
Two bedroom townhouse Condo with walk in closet 3 1/2 baths great room with fireplace dining room kitchen 2 car attached garage 2 story foyer with neutral colors hardwood floors many upgrades finished basement CA and home warranty.
(E50EDG) 734-455-5600 \$274,900




CANTON Abundant Space
Large 4 bedroom 2 1/2 bath Colonial with 2 car attached garage finished basement family room with fireplace & doorwall to deck oak kitchen with large garden bay window ceramic floor & doorwall Newer furnace central air shingles & w ndows.
(E80CHA) 734-455-5600 \$250,000



LIVONIA Only The Best Here
Stop looking & start enjoying your new Condo. The outstanding 2 story 3 bedroom 2 1/2 bath home was built in 2001 & sh res new to bottom. Loaded with upgrades premium floor ng cherry cabinets Cor an counters & custom window treatments.
(E60FAR) 248-349-5600 \$244,900




HARTLAND Pristine Inside & Out
Three BR 2 BA Home Kitchen with oak cabinets & skylight LR with FP MBR with walk in closet & full bath FR (option third BR) with surround sound wet bar & built in refrigerator Ceramic bath on main floor laundry walk out to paver patio for BBQ All appliances inside and out Appliances and home warranty included.
(E51NEW) 248-349-5600 \$199,900



PLYMOUTH Perfection Plus
Premium lot with paved for a four bedroom 2 1/2 bath Colonial with 3 car attached garage fireplace in living room open dual staircase basement huge deck comes with plenty of closet space & elegant custom awnings.
(E77FOX) 734-455-5600 \$489,000




CANTON Neat Clean Neutral Condo
Living room has fireplace with marble surround finished basement skylights in bath & over stairs Large fenced patio All this offered in this 2 bedroom 1 1/2 bath townhouse.
(E71VIN) 734-455-5600 \$142,000



DEARBORN Facing Beautiful Woods
One bedroom 1 bath Condo in high rise with new carpet in living room and bedroom Freshly painted throughout A lot of storage space.
(E00GAR) 734-455-5600 \$88,000



CANTON Look No Further
Cantons Gentry Village stunning Ranch with custom decor throughout Cathedral ceilings & fireplace in the family room Open floor plan Master with private bath Beautifully treed lot with state Full basement new CA 04 Move in & enjoy.
(E94GLE) 248-349-5600 \$329,900



LIVONIA Brighton Airy Ranch
The open floor plan & finished basement make this 3 bedroom Ranch with 2 car attached garage a great home Updates inside and out Appliances and home warranty included.
(E85NOR) 248-349-5600 \$184,900



REDFORD Move In Condition
Newly updated 3 bedroom 1 1/2 bath brick Ranch in south Redford school district Finished basement oak kitchen hardwood floors updated bath vinyl windows 2 car garage in ca deck Great coat on.
(E00COL) 734-455-5600 \$136,500



CANTON You Can Have It All!
Charming 3 bedroom 2 bath brick Ranch offers a family room with full brick fireplace 2 car attached garage finished basement hardwood floors under carpet + new roof w ndows & updated patio door hot water heater.
(E83HIL) 734-455-5600 \$215,000



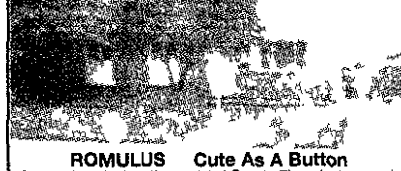
FREEDOM TOWNSHIP Custom Built in 2000
20+ acres offers this wonderful 4 bedroom 2 bath Colonial with 3 car attached garage walk out basement gambrel barn stone fireplace in family room cedar deck & panoramic views.
(E10BET) 734-455-5600 \$439,900



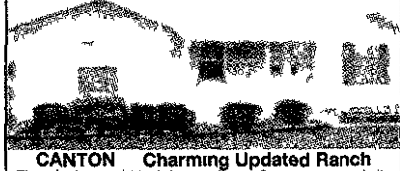
CANTON Why Rent? Check This Out
First floor master Condo with large basement prep for full bath One car attached garage Low association fees & utility bills Second floor loft/bedroom All appliances included Clean & move in ready.
(E22HUN) 248-349-5600 \$144,800



SOUTH LYON Great Golf Community
Four bedrooms 2 1/2 baths former builders model Numerous upgrades Neutral deco Crown & chair molding large master bedroom pro landscaped & brick paver & walkway Three car heated garage 1 year home warranty Walk to the course.
(E02ROY) 248-349-5600 \$499,000



ROMULUS Cute As A Button
Come take a look at this updated Ranch Three bedrooms 1 bath finished basement newer windows fenced yard Very clean and not too far from freeways & shopping.
(E03WAL) 734-455-5600 \$137,900



CANTON Charming Updated Ranch
Three bedroom 1 1/2 bath home offering 2 car garage partially finished basement newer kitchen cabinets & flooring vinyl windows furnace & central air Family room with cathedral ceilings & neutral fireplace.
(E10HAN) 734-455-5600 \$194,900



GARDEN CITY New Detached Condo
Desirable style custom zed to your taste 2 or 3 baths 2 car attached garage day light window in basement brick vinyl exceptional floor plan You love it.
(E32BIR) 734-455-5600 \$187,400



WESTLAND Prime Westland Location
Close to shopping & restaurants yet quiet little neighborhood Big back yard 3 bedroom 2 bath brick Ranch with basement & garage Sellers replaced roof w ndows furnace CA hot water heater & plumbing Flo da room Hardwood floors.
(E02KEN) 248-349-5600 \$159,900



NORTHVILLE Northville Colonial
Updated 4 bedroom 1 1/2 bath home on beautiful tree lot Fresh paint new carpets & w ndows throughout Two new doorwells 02 Large master bedroom with walk in closet Close to expressways schools & shopping Home warranty included.
(E49SCC) 248-349-5600 \$289,000



CANTON Custom Built Home In 2005
New construction on approx 1 acre 4 bedrooms 3 1/2 baths 4 car attached garage & full walk out basement Foyer opens to formal dining room & library open staircase to over level living room with three piece master w th jetted tub granite in kitchen.
(E50ROL) 734-455-5600 \$955,000




CANTON Exceptional Colonial
Charming 4 bedroom 2 1/2 bath Colonial with 2 car attached garage full basement family room with fireplace & vaulted ceiling kitchen with oak cabinets island & appliances Large yard with brick paver patio & sprinkler system.
(E81BAY) 734-455-5600 \$316,900



CANTON Gourmet Kitchen
Appliances included FR with gas FP & hardwood floor 2 car attached garage Updates roof windows HWH paint on pets covered front porch & extra door Crown molding MBR with oak ceiling & access to both Bar basement.
(E21BEL) 248-349-5600 \$220,000



SOUTH LYON Centennial Farms
Phase II 2 bedroom 2 bath 55+ walk out Ranch with ceramic foyer and kitchen Florida room Crown molding neutral decor formal dining room and large kitchen.
(E04LEX) 248-349-5600 \$160,000



NORTHVILLE Saltbox Colonial
Four bedroom 1 1/2 bath home with 2 1/2 car garage formal DR LR & finished basement with FR Large kitchen with breakfast nook overlooks yard & pool Three tier deck & beautiful landscaped Tons of updates One year home warranty Northville schools.
(E47WES) 248-349-5600 \$289,900




MILFORD Nothing To Do But Move In
Remodeled top to bottom & cathedral ceilings Open kitchen overlooking great room master suite with bath & French doors to patio formal living room with grand staircase All in this 3 bedroom 2 bath home with 2 car attached garage.
(E23CHA) 734-455-5600 \$329,900



SOUTH LYON Awesome Find!
Enormous 3 bedroom 2 bath Colonial with 2 car attached garage basement family room gas fireplace & ceramic surround Cathedral ceilings & open floor plan Formal dining room newer kitchen appliances stay master bath with jetted tub.
(E08BUC) 734-455-5600 \$339,900




SOUTH LYON 55+ Ranch Condo
Two bedroom 2 full bath with main bath recently updated with handicap access Kitchen updated with extra cupboards & built in breakfast table Covered front porch AC Florida room finished lower level with bath & guest room Single car garage.
(E64CAM) 248-349-5600 \$155,000




NORTHVILLE Not Too Many Left!
Historical district opportunity Neighborhood offers 3 bedroom family room screened porch and on a court near downtown Never furnace hot water heater Northville schools Near expressways and shopping Home warranty included.
(E15LIN) 248-349-5600 \$285,000



CANTON Great Neighborhood
Wonderful spacious Colonial offers 4 spacious bedrooms and 2 1/2 baths Family room with gas fireplace brick paver patio & wood deck back yard Quick occupancy must see Also available for lease.
(E33PON) 248-349-5600 \$299,900



WATERFORD Curb Appeal & Updates
Lake views in this beautiful 3 bedroom Ranch home Custom entry doors newer roof windows doorwall kitchen cabinets and counters with appliances Partially finished basement and more.
(E60MAP) 734-455-5600 \$159,900



DEARBORN Own & Rent
Spacious upper/lower apartment Exterior has brick/laumum siding Great Dearborn location Total of 3 bedrooms nicely finished basement a lot of storage 2 car garage and 2 private balconies.
(E32HOR) 734-455-5600 \$185,000



NOVI Immaculate Colonial
Four bedroom 2 1/2 bath home with updated kitchen & brick/ceramic patio Newer windows garage door roof & sprinkler Natural fireplace park like back yard Walk to schools & h storai cad downtown One year home warranty.
(E81NCN) 248-349-5600 \$329,900



NORTHVILLE Links of Northville Condo
Beautiful neutral decor 2 bedroom suites with bath & walk in closet Granite kitchen counters 2 car garage full basement with carpet Clean & neutral Ready for quick occupancy Upgrades & extra throughout Pool & club house.
(E28LOC) 248-349-5600 \$308,500



CANTON Light, Bright Colonial
Three bedroom 1 1/2 bath home with updates throughout including kitchen to family room with natural fireplace windows galore 2 car garage rec room in lower level and patio + deck for entertaining.
(E62HER) 248-349-5600 \$209,900



WESTLAND Stretch Your \$\$\$s
Charming 3 bedroom 1 1/2 bath brick Ranch with 2 car garage nice finished basement Newer tile nace electric most carpet updated bath Hardwood floors in most rooms and home warranty.
(E84DEN) 734-455-5600 \$139,900



LYONS Location! Location!
Lovely 3 bedroom 2 1/2 bath Colonial backing to large 6 acre pond Two car attached garage walk out basement family room with gas fireplace walk in closet in master bedroom large deck overlooking the pond.
(E08BAR) 734-455-5600 \$244,900




CANTON A True Gem
Picture perfect Colonial with all the updates including roof windows kitchen with granite counter top extensive crown moldings Nestled deep in sub with cul de sac location Gorgeous fenced yard with deck and garden pond.
(E10CHE) 248-349-5600 \$249,900




NORTHVILLE Northville Condo
Exquisite masterpiece best decor bas this Tuscan inspired Condo History kitchen one s Sub Zero refrigerator Living room custom marble floor & back splash custom lighting Finished lower level awesome.
(E44LOC) 248-349-5600 \$499,900



LIVONIA Updated Brick Ranch
This is a best buy Great 3 bedroom 1 1/2 bath Ranch is move in ready Newly finished basement with newer Berber carpet Dream 2 car garage with furnace and cabinets Appliances and home warranty included.
(E19LEO) 248-349-5600 \$194,900



PLYMOUTH Spacious Colonial
Four bedroom 2 1/2 bath home with 2 story foyer with hardwood floors high ceilings on main floor crown molding in great room & dining room large bath with garden tub in master stand in kitchen fireplace in great room door walk to patio.
(E66WEN) 734-455-5600 \$346,900




TAYLOR Updated Taylor Ranch
Three bedroom 1 1/2 bath home with open floor plan updated kitchen with appliances updated bath newer furnace central air 2 car garage.
(E53BUR) 734-455-5600 \$117,900



COMMERCE Lovely Home
You'll love coming home to this beautiful 3 bedroom 2 1/2 bath with first floor master bedroom & first floor laundry Stainless steel appliances Large yard with pro landscaped fireplace in living room Two car garage & full basement.
(E68COM) 248-349-5600 \$300,000



WEST BLOOMFIELD Morris Lake Value
West Bloomfield schools Minutes from the conveniences of Orchard Lake road 3 bedroom contemporary Colonial with attached garage & finished basement Brick paver driveway & extensions Two story great room with cathedral ceiling.
(E50LOC) 248-349-5600 \$469,900



LIVONIA A Rare Find - Hidden Pines
Absolutely fabulous! Need we say more about this 3 bedroom 2 1/2 bath Ranch in very desirable Hidden Pines There's a family room with fireplace living room dining room with bay full basement and more Too many updates to list and quick occupancy too.
(E92SHE) 248-349-5600 \$319,900



Relocation Services
800-448-5817



Birmingham
248-642-8100

Clarkston
248-620-7200

Commerce Twp.
248-363-1200

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248-652-8000

Royal Oak
248-280-7777

Troy
248-524-1600

West Bloomfield
248-626-8800

Plymouth
734-455-5600

Grosse Pointe
313-886-5040

St Clair Shores
586-778-8100

Shelby Twp
586-731-8180

Chesterfield Twp.
586-949-5590

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586-294-3655

Staring Heights
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NORTHVILLE

NORTHVILLE GOLF COMM
Sophisticated 4 BR 3 1/2 bath home w/ an elegant floor plan & many custom upgrades thru-out. A kitchen perfect for entertaining and so much more.
349-6200 24102783 **\$800,000**
248-348-6430

NORTHVILLE

QUALITY WORKMANSHIP*NEW CONSTRUCTION Beautiful Stonewater colonial w/4 BRs 3 1/2 bath & 3550 SF of custom details! Brazilian cherry flrs in granite kitchen. Circular staircase W/O bsmt & more!
349-6200 24128568 **\$699,900**
248-348-6430

NOVI

A HOUSE BEAUTIFUL DESIGN
Magnificent home elegant LR DR gorgeous kitchen & brkfst area w/great views of the woods library spacious FR 4 lrg BRs charming mstr suite A remarkable palace!
349-6200 57HIL2 **\$599,900**
248-348-6430

CANTON

TANTALIZING TOTTENHAM!
4 BRs 2 1/2 BAs 2983 SF Hampton model Lndscpr sprinkler paver patio Huge mstr ste & BA Quick close 23G2588 **\$394,999**
734-455-7000

NORTHVILLE

STEP INTO THE GARDEN Charming ranch has moved the garden indoors 3 BRs 3 baths w/recently renovated kitchen & hardwood floors Skylights to enlighten the spirit
349-6200 24091943 **\$365,000**
248-348-6430

PLYMOUTH

RICH W/ HISTORY & LOADED W/CHARM!
A rare & unique blend of early century character & new construction amenities. Extr remodeled Custom trim work cherry hwd flrs 2 full baths 1st flr office/den 23P40810
\$339,900
734-455-7000

LIVONIA

NEW CONSTRUCTION w/Livonia schools
This 4 BR 2 1/2 BA colonial has 2144 SF bsmt & 2 car/gar Ceramic tile in BAs oak cabs & flr in kitchen nook 1/2 BA & foyer Curtis Creek an 11 hm development
24004538 **\$324,900**
734-591-9200

LIVONIA

LOCATION QUALITY VALUE & CHARM
3 BR brk ranch built 1988 2 1/2 BA FR w/frpc full bsmt 2 car att gar a secluded setting w/mature trees (approx 3/4 acre)
24112385 **\$314,900**
734-591-9200

WHITMORE LAKE

BEAUTIFUL BUILDER'S MODEL Backs to golf course Quiet country living Many upgrades in this open flr plan Cstm wall coverngs & wndw trtmnts Fully lndscpd incld irrigation system 23T7995 **\$298,500**
734-455-7000

LIVONIA

POPULAR BURTON HOLLOW SUB
4 BRs 2 BAs 2193 SF Open flr plan w/vaulted cigs in LR DR & kitchen New roof (04) wndw & DR Fla rm overlooking lndscp & fenced yrd 24142312 **\$269,000**
734-591-9200

FARMINGTON HILLS

LIVE IN THE CITY W/A COUNTRY FEEL
Totally rebuilt in 98' Extra wide oak staircase 1st flr MBR and bath 19x10 ceramic & oak kitchen Deep 70 x 292 lot backs to woods & Gill schools 348-6200 24124594 **\$254,000**
248-349-6200

CANTON

WELL MAINTAINED CANTON HOME
4 BR 3 full bath home Beautiful kitchen, redone in 99 Fam rm w/fireplace Freshly painted neutral Lots of landscaping updates Roof replaced in 01 349-6200 24151331 **\$244,900**
248-348-6430

CANTON

OUTSTANDING SPACIOUS COLONIAL! 3 BR 1 1/2 bath colonial w/numerous updates Basement 90% finished w/new ceramic shower Beautiful exterior & interior One show will sell!
24125659 **\$234,900**
734-455-7000

ALLEN PARK

SPACIOUS COLONIAL! Lovely hm totally renovated & expanded in 92! Over 2900 SF! LR area & FR! Multiple BR suites-perfect for guests or extended family!
349-6200 24079621 **\$239,000**
248-348-6430

CANTON

PICTURE PERFECT COLONIAL! Three BR colonial built in 1998 Clean neutral decor Family room fireplace mstr BA A great home and fantastic value 24123327 **\$235,000**
734-455-7000

CANTON

ORIGINAL OWNERS! 2081 SF 4 BR cstm quad w/gourmet oak kit w/eat-on island roof 00 wndws 03 crpt 02 mstr suite w/FP & jacuzzi Skylgt pool patio & deck 24115974 **\$229,900**
734-591-9200

LIVONIA

4 BR 2 1/2 BA IN LIVONIA! 2 car att gar Newer roof, furnace HWH wndws & more Just hit the market! Fin bsmt fam rm w/3 bedrooms and 2 full baths near Oakwood Hospital Nicely appointed upgrades include finished basement 24137797 **\$179,900**
734-591-9200

CANTON

GREAT STARTER HOME! 3 BR 1 1/2 bath Upgrades in the last six years incld roof furnace A/C kitchen carpet wndws doorwall BA etc etc Bonus - oversized garage 23L41617 **\$219,000**
734-455-7000

CANTON

3 BR CONDO Better-than new 3 BR 2 1/2 bath w/2-car gar & full bsmt Open design w/frpc & deck that backs to commons Clean & ready to move in! Great price Quick occup 349-6200 24156050 **\$227,000**
248-348-6430

DEARBORN HEIGHTS

NORTH DEARBORN HTS CONDO w/2 lrg BRs plus a 13x10 loft 2 1/2 BAs vaulted ceiling in GR fin bsmt 2 car att gar and very low association fee Very striking decor 24056714 **\$214,900**
734-591-9200

WESTLAND

SHOWS LIKE A MODEL Absolutely exquisite! 2000 SF 2 1/2 baths living room deck 2 car attached garage C704 **\$214,900**
734-326-2000

FARMINGTON HILLS

CONDO LIVING AT ITS BEST
Beautiful 2 story unit backing woods Freshly painted neutral Pergo flrs maple kitchen cabs Fireplace & soaring ceiling in great room Full bsmt 349-6200 24141317 **\$210,000**
248-348-6430

WHITMORE LAKE

EAGLE GARDENS - GREAT OPPORTUNITY Take advantage of this mint condition home 3 BR 1 1/2 baths doorwall leads to lrg deck w/hot tub Nicely fin bsmt adds add'l living space Stove and refrigerator stay 349-6200 24127401 **\$209,900**
248-348-6430

NORTHVILLE

WALK TO DOWNTOWN Updates in 1994 FR addition Kit w/white cab all appliances hardwood floors roof in 94 plus furnace/ca siding 2 sheds a great buy 349-6200 24130106 **\$199,900**
248-348-6430

CANTON

GREAT CANTON RANCH IN FELLOWS CREEK SUB!
Cul-de-sac location! 3 BRs 1 1/2 baths! Kit updated w/oak cabinets solid surface counters Full unfin bsmt Great deck off FR Brck/vinyl exterior! 349-6200 24139909 **\$194,900**
248-348-6430

DEARBORN

DUPLEX IN DEARBORN Live in one side rent the other Offering a 2 car gar for both sides bsmt 2 BRs up & lots of character One side offers C/A Well cared for brck bldg w/updates 23F4571 **\$192,000**
734-455-7000

LIVONIA

WELL MAINTAINED BRICK RANCH
3 BRs Great location New roof and garage door Doorwall to patio off of family room with fireplace All appliances stay Nice landscaping with fenced yrd 24094217 **\$185,900**
734-591-9200

LIVONIA

A MUST SEE! 3 BR 1 1/2 BA brick ranch in Rosedale Gardens Updates A/C 04 re-fin hwd flrs lndscp in frnt & back prvcy fence copper plmb Fin bsmt w/glass block windows 24151396 **\$184,900**
734-591-9200

LIVONIA

WELL MAINTAINED NEWER RANCH
Extra lrg country setting backs to woods 3 BRs 2 BAs Lrg deck w/hot tub great for entertaining Kit remodeled in 2004 Hurry!! This gem won't last long 349-6200 24142314 **\$179,900**
248-348-6430

DEARBORN

VINTAGE 1421 SF BRK BUNGALOW with 3 bedrooms and 2 full baths near Oakwood Hospital Nicely appointed upgrades include finished basement 24137797 **\$179,900**
734-591-9200

SOUTH LYON

COUNTRY LIVING IN THE CITY For Sale or lease Nicely updated 3 BR 2 BA ranch Lrg kit mstr w/jet tub LR w/hwd flrs lrg 2 car gar Walking distance to S Lyon Lease \$1150/month 349-6200 24085323 **\$177,900**
248-348-6430

LIVONIA

LIVONIA / STEPHENSON DISTRICT Updated 3 bedroom 1 1/2 bath ranch w/beautiful bay window In desirable Spring Valley Sub Newer roof windows A/C vinyl and furnace Partially finished Bsmt 349-6200 24076943 **\$172,000**
248-348-6430

DEARBORN HEIGHTS

NEW CONSTRUCTION Here is a great opportunity to make this brand new house your home Quality built new construction w/3 BR 1 1/2 BA 1350 SF bsmt 2 car att gar Visit Samsellshouses.com 24124861 **\$169,900**
734-591-9200

EASTPOINTE

EASTPOINTE 3 BR 3 BA 2 1/2 car detached garage brick home New bay wndws new HWH CA fin bsmt Florida rm 23L16144 **\$160,000**
734-455-7000

GARDEN CITY

COMPLETELY UPDATED HOME
A beautiful kitchen & priv elegant mstr ste are just two of the updates in this mint condition 3 BR 3 BA bungalow Come see all the others! Walk to elem & high school 348-6430 24131460 **\$159,900**
248-349-6200

DEARBORN HEIGHTS

STOP YOUR SEARCH! This home is a sparkling gem you must see 3 BRs 1 1/2 BAs w/walk-out bsmt new furn C/A newer crpt flr drwy wndws eat-in kitchen & DR 24115068 **\$154,900**
734-591-9200

DEARBORN HEIGHTS

GREAT CURB APPEAL On this broadfront brick ranch Newer roof windows 2 1/2 car mechanic s size garage and secluded street complete the picture 24139439 **\$154,900**
734-591-9200

DEARBORN HEIGHTS

CHARACTER GALORE WITH 4 BR 2 1/2 BA What a great value New windows copper plumbing vinyl siding & gutters finished bsmt hwd flrs 2 car garage and great neighborhood 349-6200 24143101 **\$149,900**
248-348-6430

GARDEN CITY

LOTS OF UPDATES This 3 BR ranch has just what you're looking for Updated kitchen with ceramic floor newer carpet newer furnace and new windows A270 **\$145,000**
734-326-2000

REDFORD

ATTRACTIVE 1 1/2 STRY BUNGALOW
1100 SF 3 BRs 1 1/2 BAs bsmt & gar Updates incld roof furn kit cabs & counters electrical Heated garage is a handyman's woodwork dream Lndscp & fenced yrd 24150285 **\$145,000**
734-591-9200

DEARBORN HEIGHTS

3 BR/2 BA UPDATED RANCH MOVE RIGHT IN! Newer bathroom \$6,000 in new windows perfect hwd flrs Kitchen & bath in basement investment potential! All appliances stay 349-6200 24133637 **\$144,900**
248-348-6430

DEARBORN HEIGHTS

HAWTHORNE HILLS SUB 3 BRs 1 1/2 BAs finished bsmt 10x14 Florida rm 2 car side entry garage All new items roof wndws furnace w/AC hwh kit all appliances stay 23113275 PC070182 **\$142,900**
734-591-9200

LIVONIA

READY FOR YOU TO MOVE IN! 152 SF 3 bedroom brick ranch located in South Livonia (schools) newer tile bath and 2 car garage 24138583 **\$140,000**
734-591-9200

WESTLAND

AFFORDABLE CONDO 2 lrg BRs bsmt attached gar 1 1/2 BA Very large living room extra space for that computer A lot of new amenities & a great location 23C7502 **\$135,502**
734-455-7000

REDFORD

THE BEST IN THE SUB! 1470 SF 3 BR/1 bath Totally remodeled kit bath newer roof (house & garage) Fin d bsmt Newer windows hwd flrs 4 seasons sunroom w/heater & a/c 349-6200 24146334 **\$134,990**
248-348-6430

ROMULUS

COUNTRY LIVING IN THE CITY 3 BR 2 BA ranch with lots of features master bedroom with jetted tub dining room 1st floor laundry 108x120 lot 2 car garage Must see F160 PC220532 **\$129,900**
734-326-2000

NOVI

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKING! 2 BR condo w/bsmt 1 1/2 BA Novi schools Seller offering concessions to buyer immediate occupancy Small family room leads to private patio 23O24643 **\$129,643**
734-455-7000

DEARBORN HEIGHTS

UPDATED RANCH Well cared for 3-BR 1 1/2 bath home w/natural flpc Newer roof gutters bath oak kit cab Refin hwd flrs fin bsmt w/lav 2 1/2 car gar & fncd yd 349-6200 24155688 **\$124,900**
248-348-6430

TAYLOR

EASY LIVING RANCH CONDO Quiet private setting for this well maintained 2 BR ranch unit Spacious lower level family room Exceptionally clean neutral decor Lovely patio 23K22231 **\$124,000**
734-455-7000

BELLEVILLE

END UNIT FRESHLY PAINTED, wndw treatment incld & all appliances Kitchen w/oak cabinets lrg master suite w/WIC covered patio & near Belleville Lake Quick xway access 24132779 **\$123,900**
734-591-9200

DEARBORN HEIGHTS

3 BR 1 1/2 BA colonial Lrg LR remodeled kit newer furn-Air & H2O updated wndws updated elec Nice loft-FR upstairs 24148835 **\$119,900**
734-591-9200

WESTLAND

TOTALLY UPDATED 3 BR w/new vinyl siding & Livonia schools Updates include carpet elec closet & BR doors BA new floor in kitchen & new roof Great buy C760 **\$117,900**
734-326-2000

LIVONIA

3 BR BUNGALOW Full brk w/lrg MBR All appls incld 2 stoves fridg wshr dryer freezer & microwave Furniture is negot M177 **\$116,900**
734-326-2000

REDFORD

GREAT 3 BR HOME w/fin bsmt & nice open floor plan Updates incld furn & Air wndws updt kit extra insulation & built-in china cab off kit 24137145 **\$116,000**
734-591-9200

REDFORD

TOTALLY REMODELED Looks like brand new This bungalow has an all new interior flng kit BA & paint Newer roof furn & wndws too 24122259 **\$114,900**
734-591-9200

INKSTER

UPDATES GALORE! This 3 BR brick home w/fin bsmt & 1 1/2 car garage features newer roof wndws furn & C/A plumbing, circuit breakers & more Clean & bright! A620 **\$112,000**
734-326-2000

REDFORD

UPDATES! UPDATES! SO MUCH FOR SO LITTLE! Newer kitchen bath c/a furnace roof windows HWH copper plumbing & fresh paint Computer rm/den on first floor The perfect turn-key starter home!
349-6200 24139198 **\$109,900**
248-348-6430

TAYLOR

MOTIVATED SELLER! Just move right into this stunning 3 BR brick ranch located in Taylor You will be surprised at this beautiful home H272 **\$108,900**
734-326-2000

REDFORD

3 BR UPDATED RANCH Updates kit w/new flr & dbl SS sink crpt wndws roof on house & gar steel entry dr copper plmb Some appls stay 24149016 **\$108,900**
734-591-9200

WAYNE

BEAUTY WARMTH & VALUE 1170 SF 3 BR brk ranch Updt kit & bath w/custom cabs Open floor plan new flng thru out Parks & school nearby 2 car garage & home warrnty G388 PC220572 **\$99,900**
734-326-2000

WAYNE

GREAT OPPORTUNITY! Cute 2-3 BR bungalow vinyl sided home on a 46x159 lot Has lrg covered patio & fenced yard Newer roof shingles & siding All appliances stay J445 **\$99,900**
734-326-2000

REDFORD

CUTE CLEAN & UPDATED Features well used space in open flr plan New wndws & newer rf 2 BRs 2 car gar, fresh paint lrg eat-in kit & nice lot w/ prvcy fence & more 24123999 **\$95,900**
734-591-9200

HARPER WOODS

GRACEFUL LIVING IS FOUND HERE
Cozy 2 BR ranch has vaulted ceils Hwd flrs & new wndws new plush carpet in BRs fresh paint thru-out Bck yrd has prvcy fence K189 **\$93,900**
734-326-2000

REDFORD

COZY STARTER HOME Well cared for 2 BR features updt kit and bath furn less than 1 yr old new shingles on roof Nice fenced yard D186 **\$90,000**
734-326-2000

INKSTER

AMAZING BUY Brk ranch with full fin bsmt & garage Remodeled kit w/oak cabs Hwd flrs remodeled bath B110 **\$89,900**
734-326-2000

WESTLAND

EXCELLENT LOCATION! Open floor plan Originally a 3 BR & can easily be converted back again New oak kit new copper plumb new H2O furn A/C 5 yrs K564 **\$88,500**
734-326-2000

WESTLAND

ABSOLUTLY METICULOUS Loft condo totally updated bath berber carpet new windows hardwood floors laundry & tons of storage H814 **\$74,900**
734-326-2000

DETROIT

COZY 4 BR, 1 1/2 BA HOME investor special New wndws heated porch updated electrical seller to repair cracks in driveway or give concessions 23C3240 **\$60,000**
734-455-7000

Observer & Eccentric

Apartment

Jobs and Careers

Condos/Townhouses 4020

BLOOMFIELD HILLS 2 bed room 2 bath Renovated lake front heat carpet \$995/mo 248 891 1918/248 891 4203

Canton Clean with updates 3 bdrm 1 1/2 bath condo Sheldon & Warren \$850/mo Credit check 734 459 7289

CLAWSON Luxury Townhouse
447 N Rochester Road 2 bedroom 1 1/2 bath luxury townhouse with fireplace air full basement with hookups and we Absolutely Adore Pets! \$820 (248) 354 9119 Ext 206

CLAWSON Luxury Townhouse
526 Fourteen Mile Road 2 bedroom townhouse with fireplace central air hook ups for washer & dryer and we Absolutely Adore Pets! \$780 (248) 354 9119 Ext 206

CLAWSON 841 Broadacre
North of 14 Mile East off Crooks Spacious 2 bed 1 1/2 bath townhome features pretty updated kitchen with hard wood floor full basement private entrance cute yard carpet Minutes to Somerset downtown Birmingham \$965 with any days in December rent free! One cat OK with fee EHO Call weekdays for appointment
The Benelcke Group
(248)642 8686

COMMERCE Brand new 2 bdr both master suites 2 1/2 bath 2 car attached fireplace private patio & entrance appliances \$1200/mo (248) 212-4555

FARMINGTON 1 bdrm condo heat & water included. Close to downtown \$650 No pets or smoking (248) 474 4565

FARMINGTON HILLS 1600 sq ft 2 bedroom 3 bath finished bsmt no pets \$2000/mo \$3000 security 248 477-0189 248 489 3938

Farmington Hills FREE RENT
2 & 3 BEDROOM TOWNHOMES
•1400 1600 sq ft
•Central Air
•Full Size Washer/Dryer
•Sparkling Pool
•Covered Parking
•Short Term Leases
•From \$1 225
•Halted between 11 & 12 Mile

Foxpointe Townhouses (248) 473-1127
Condo tons apply

FARMINGTON HILLS DELUXE
1850 sqft 2 bdrm 2 1/2 bath fireplace c/a 2 car garage \$1395/mo 248 544 2240

LIVONIA 2 bdrm 2nd floor No pets non smoker preferred \$660 includes heat/water Available now 734 634 5458

NOVI Furnished Condo 3 bdrm 3 bath 2 car garage bsmt Short term leases For more information contact 248 866 5963

NOVI 2 BEDROOM attached garage rec room all new no pets 9 mile & Haggerty Lake & pool privileges \$1250/mo (248) 932 3311

Condos/Townhouses 4020

NOVI/WALLED LAKE
Shore line condo s 1 Bedroom \$675 Immediate occupancy Garage Meadow Management Inc 248 348 5400

REDFORD Plymouth Road & Inkster Road area Large 2 bedroom townhome newly remodeled Includes heat & water with appliances \$750/mo + security Immed occupancy 248 388 2904

ROYAL OAK 2 bdrm updated townhouse New appliances Bsmt Woodward & 13 Mile \$930+security 248 540 3641 \$930+security 248 540 3641

ROYAL OAK
123 Amelia Approximately 1550 sq ft + full basement 2 huge bedrooms 1 1/2 baths formal dining room fireplace central air hookups for washer & dryer Pets ARE welcome \$1200/mo (248) 354 9119 Ext 206

ROYAL OAK (North) Luxury Townhouse
2115 Starr Road 2 bed room 1 1/2 bath luxury townhouse with fireplace air basement with hookups We Love Pets \$820 (248) 354 9119 Ext 206

ROYAL OAK Luxury Townhouses
2708 Rochester Road 3501 Kent Court 2 bedroom 1 1/2 bath luxury townhouse with fireplace air full basement with hookups and we Absolutely Adore Pets! \$820 (248) 354 9119 ext 206

SOUTH LYON Condo Lovely colonial townhouse 2 bdr new carpeting newly decorated Neutral colors Full bsmt Garage deck Non smoking & ref Avail now \$945/mo + utilities (248)652 0213

West Bloomfield Huge new townhouse 2 bdrm 2 1/2 bath fin walkout bsmt garage fire place \$1695 248 661 6009

WESTLAND 3 bdrm condo Non smoking Incl appliances carpeting garage pool \$860/mo 734 612 2782

WHITE LAKE 1600 sq ft Townhouse 2 bedrooms 1 1/2 bath \$800/mo 248 790 3733 or 248 464 1921

CANTON
2 bdrm 1 1/2 bath appliances No pets \$735/mo (248) 514 0585

EVERGREEN & FORD RD
2 bdrm duplex with bsmt near Fairlane & UofM \$495 + security Avail now! 248 398 2904

WAYNE Large 2 bdrm all appliances Great neighborhood garage air & full bsmt water age \$685 (734) 276 5363

WAYNE 1 bed newly decorated c/a New appliances & carpet Deck large laundry room \$575 734 722 9590

Westland 2 bedroom Full basement Clean & neat Quiet neighborhood Immediate occupancy From \$645/mo Call Jamie 734 721 8111

Flats 4040

CLAWSON 1 bedroom large kitchen large backyard front & rear entrance Dogs ok \$650/mo 248 515 4791

DEARBORN 3 bedroom 900 sq ft family room living room private basement new paint \$750/mo 734 462-4057

FERDALE Beautiful large 1 bdrm upper w/den in great area Wood floors C/A laun dry garage walk to down town A MUST SEE! \$695 + utilities (248) 548 5946

FERDALE 3 bedroom + den lower updated hardwood floors Pets neg \$895/mo Great location! 248 854 3232

BIRMINGHAM 3 bdrm C/A fireplace all appliances bsmt & garage \$1095 Small fee RENTAL PROS 248 373 RENT

BIRMINGHAM 3 bdrm new designer kitchen & bath finished bsmt 2 car garage \$1195/mo ShareNet (248)642 1620

BLOOMFIELD 4 bdrm brick 2 car garage Bloomfield schools \$1150 Small fee RENTAL PROS 248 373 RENT

CANTON 4 bdrm 2 1/2 bath 1800 sq ft finished bsmt great neighborhood \$1800 734 981 5382 248 249 0698

Canton IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY
4 Bdrm brick colonial 1 1/2 baths large kitchen w/ dining area family w/ natural fireplace newly decorated new carpet new roof bsmt C/A 2000 sq ft attached garage \$1 500/mo & sec Century 21 John Cole Realty (313) 937 0804

CANTON Several Homes available starting at \$650 & up Rent to Own or could be O down 734 521 0240 Code #01

Clarencville schools 2 bdrm all appliances fireplace garage \$800 Small fee RENTAL PROS 248 356 RENT

DEARBORN spacious ranch bsmt garage \$750 Small fee RENTAL PROS 734 513 RENT

DEARBORN HEIGHTS 2 Bdrm Small pets OK \$1000/dep \$900/mo Ready now (248) 231 2142

DEARBORN HTS Newly remodeled 3 bdrm new carpet no pets appliances incl \$1000/mo 313 561 0484

DEARBORN HTS bungalow 2 baths bsmt garage \$725 Small fee RENTAL PROS 734 513 RENT

DEARBORN HTS Open House Jan 16 clean nice neighborhood 3 bdrm 1 bath appliances \$790/mo \$1100 deposit (313) 303 9357

DEARBORN HTS Open Sat Jan 8th 10-12pm 3 bdrm bsmt garage appliances \$1095/mo 248 231 0074

DEARBORN HTS Remodeled 3 bdrm ranch garage immediate occupancy option to buy \$700 248 788 1823

Detroit 14592 Dolphin Fenkel & Lasher Option to buy possi ble 3 bedroom Basement \$500 month 248 476 6498

Detroit 6872 Grandville Warren/Argyle Option possible 3 bdrm bsmt garage \$650 248-476 6498

FARMINGTON Clean 3 bedroom 1 1/2 bath basement 2 1/2 garage fenced yard \$1200/month + dep. 12 mo lease discount! Call Tom 248 207 4537

FARMINGTON Tiny 1 bdrm house Appliances quiet wooded area Pet fee \$305/mo + utilities (248) 357 1132

FARMINGTON HILLS 3 bdrm 1 bath 932 sq ft Fenced 1 1/2 car garage \$950/mo Available now 248 763 6151

FARMINGTON HILLS 3 bdrm all appliances pets welcome \$925 Small fee RENTAL PROS 248 356 RENT

FARMINGTON HILLS Cute clean appliances cottage type 2 bdrm all appliances including washer/dryer c/a blinds deck storage shed no bsmt/garage neighborhood Rent or lease w/option to buy \$1250/mo Agent 248 875 7388

FARMINGTON HILLS ranch pets negotiable 10 Mile & Middlebelt \$850 Small fee RENTAL PROS 248 356 RENT

GARDEN CITY 2 bedrooms living room family room/fire place 1200 sq ft large yard \$950 248 361 1015

Homes For Rent 4050

HOWELL
4 Bdrm 2 1/2 bath 1st floor master 2 car 1 acre walkout built 1997 1 1/2 ac D19 prox imity \$1150/mo Jan Taylor 810 923 9083 810 227 5005

HOWELL TRIANGLE LAKE
Cozy 3 bdrm ranch 2 bath lakefront Buy/Rent \$1050 mo w/ all appliances 517 546 7450 520 818 9289

INKSTER 2 bdrm bsmt Westwood Schools Section 8 \$700/mo plus security deposit Immediate occupan cy 734 564 1810

INKSTER remodeled ranch bsmt new carpet fenced \$695 Small fee RENTAL PROS 734 513 RENT

INKSTER Sharp 3 bedroom ranch immediate occupancy 2 1/2 car garage Option to buy avail \$600 (248) 788 1623

LEASE WITH OPTION ALL NEWLY REMODELED
REDFORD 3 Bdrm 1000 sq ft 20411 Kinloch \$900 WARREN 3 Bdrm 1000 sq ft 3880 Bart Ave \$875 DETROIT 4 Bdrm 1400 sq ft 2 bath fireplace 18610 Tiramet \$825 Reb (248) 521 5706

LIVONIA 3 Bdrm 2 1/2 bath Colonial finished bsmt/c appliances Non smoking/pets \$2000/mo 248-478 6803

LIVONIA 3 bdrm brick ranch 3 bath family room fireplace finished bsmt garage \$1200/mo 248-478 0213

LIVONIA 1 bdrm person house No pets! \$500 mo \$700 deposit Month to month lease (734) 425 3695

LIVONIA 3 bdrm attached garage deck appliances \$850 Small fee RENTAL PROS 734 513 RENT

LIVONIA 5 Mile & Levan area 3 bdrm 1 1/2 bath family room C/A large yard great home excel lent area! \$1100/mo + security Avail now 248 388 2904

LIVONIA/ARCOLA 3 bdrm O down or rent \$1000/mo & others No Section 8 FIA 313-362 0120

LIVONIA/GREAT HOME Good area 3 bdrm \$950/mo Rent to own or O down No Section 8 FIA (313) 362 0120

LIVONIA 1/2 Middlebelt 3 bedroom 1 1/2 acre appli ances full bsmt 2 car garage 734 207 5123

MELVINDALE Cute 2 bedroom ranch immediate occupancy Option to buy available \$550 248 788 1823

NORTHVILLE Updated & very clean 2 bedroom basement garage large lot Near down town \$1175 248 474 0927

Novi 3 bdrm large family room living room dining room bsmt garage & appliances \$1 500 or sale at \$230 000 248 225 3600

NOVI 2 br 2 bath 2 car garage on 2 acres All appli ances Backs to N Novi Park \$1 000/mo 248 926 8990

OAK PARK 14135 NINE MILE 2 bdrm finished room in bsmt \$790/mo (248) 569 0082

Pleasant Ridge Cozy 3 bdrm Wood floors appliances 696 & 175 (313) 884 3989

PLYMOUTH Walk to down town 3 bdrm 1 1/2 bath fenced yard all hardwood floors \$1225/mo 734 455 7295

PLYMOUTH 3 bdrm brick executive home fireplace fenced yard attached garage Just remodeled new paint & carpet xtra computer room lease available \$1250/mo TYME 734 455 5566

PLYMOUTH TWP 2 bedroom 1 1/2 bath all appliances air fenced yard basement No dogs Avail mid Jan \$1100 Credit ref 248 661 3641

PLYMOUTH Near Town Victorian 2 bed lower wood floors high ceilings Garage bsmt \$975/mo Lg 1 bed carpet xtra computer room garage prime area \$750 734 591 6530 / 455 7653

REDFORD Charming S Redford brick bungalow clean move in 3 bdrm 1 bath 1 car garage \$1100 734 634 6070

REDFORD 3 bdrm brick ranch 1000 sqft bsmt garage pos sible rent to own \$900/mo + security (248) 471 4550

REDFORD 3 bdrm bungalow new paint & furnace bsmt Appliances 15889 Lennane \$900/mo (248) 701 2295

Homes For Rent 4050

REDFORD 2 & 3 bdrm house as 1 1/2 available now \$675 \$800 Small fee \$1250/mo RENTAL PROS 248 356 RENT

Redford BAD CREDIT? YOU CAN STILL BUY A HOME WITH O DOWN IN ANY AREA!
Short term employment OK Bankruptcy OK Call Randy Lennane METRO FINANCE 248 709 2244

REDFORD TWP 1 bdrm \$495 2 bdrm \$695 3 bdrm \$995 5 bdrm Call Dave (313) 255 5678

ROYAL OAK Charming 3 bdrm bungalow in town all appliances bsmt \$1175/mo ShareNet (248) 642 1620

ROYAL OAK Sharp Updated 3 bdrm wood floors fireplace finished basement \$1250/mo ShareNet (248) 642 1620

ROYAL OAK Very clean & updated 3 bdrm washer/dryer bsmt near town \$1075/mo ShareNet (248) 642 1620

SOUTH LYON Lakefront Silver Lake 2 bdrm 2 bath walk out & garage Immediate occupancy \$1295 Meadow Management Inc 248 348 5400

SOUTHFIELD Lease this completely remod eled 1800 sq ft 3 bedroom 2 bath home with 2 car garage on 2 lots for \$1250/mo (248) 787 7300 Coldwell Banker Schwelzler 2685 Union Lake Rd

SOUTHFIELD remodeled 4 bdrm 1600 sq ft pets nego tiable \$850 Small fee RENTAL PROS 248 356 RENT

SUPERIOR TWP Brand new home 2 car garage 4 bdrm home 2 1/2 bath 1800 sq ft \$1700/mo (586) 841 3541

SYLVAN LAKE Lakefront 4 bdrm approx 1600 sq ft \$1800/mo 248 521 1978

TROY Spacious 3 bdrm freshly painted new carpet fireplace 2 car garage \$1295/mo ShareNet (248) 642 1620

WALLED LAKE 2 bdrm appli ances large lot pets welcome \$700 Small fee RENTAL PROS 248 356 RENT

Waterford Newer 4 bdrm 2 1/2 baths bsmt attached garage & available immediately! \$1 600/mo or for sale at \$215 000 (248) 225 3600

WAYNE 2 bedrooms base ment garage fenced yard \$900/mo 248 766 5607

WAYNE 3 bdrm Rent to Own or O down \$700/mo (734) 521 0240 Code #03

WESTLAND 2 bdrm 1 bath duplex A/C full bsmt new carpet all appliances no Sect 8 \$750/mo (734) 216 1208

WESTLAND 3 bdrm bsmt appliances option to buy \$750 Small fee RENTAL PROS 734 513 RENT

WESTLAND 3 bdrm 1 1/2 bath c/a finished bsmt appliances new carpet painted no pets 1 275 \$925 (734) 591 9163

WESTLAND Available now appliances fenced yard \$650 Small fee RENTAL PROS 734 513 RENT

WESTLAND 3 bdrm \$700/mo Rent to Own or could be O down (734) 521 0240 Code #02

WESTLAND (Merriman/ Palmer) Nice 2 bedroom ranch carpet fenced \$750 monthly 313 418 9905

Mobile Home Rentals 4070

HOMES FOR RENT
3 bdrm 2 bath \$595/mo All appliances and a/c included
Closet & convenient to shopping & entertainment Call Today! 734 495 0012 Located College Park Estates 51074 Met Rd Canton MI 48118 (Between Geddes & Mich Ave off Ridge Road)

Southern Rentals 4090

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Beachfront condos and homes available Century 21 Homes Southern 1 (800) 255 9487 51074 Met Rd www.c21marco.com

PALM COAST FL Beautiful new luxury 3 bdrm oceanfront condo Heated pool many amenities (248) 689 1069

St Augustine/Palm Coast Fl Are you ready to try some thing new? Located between St Augustine & Daytona Beach Beach 3 bedroom condo spectacular southern exposure ocean front Heated pool work out room gated community Rents monthly only \$2500 per mo 248 360 1508 or 1 800 728 2762

Vacation Resorts/Retals 4110

ARUBA Week of March 5 2005 at Marriott Aruba Surf Club 1 bdrm rents for \$200 per night For more info (248) 645 6076

Rooms For Rent 4140

CANTON Near I 275 Non smoking & non drinking Quiet room male \$295/mo New No lease 734 394 1567

GARDEN CITY
Sleeping room furnished No drngng \$75 weekly security 734 731 2657 734 427 2778

REDFORD AREA
\$85 per week shared utilities 313 534 0109

REDFORD(West) Large Room Bath clean furnished sleep Cable Security Working Male \$110/wk Other availabilities (313) 387 9884

REDFORD SOUTH BACHE
LORS ROOM FOR RENT 313 937 3716

Office/Retail Space For Real/Lease 4220

Birmingham Executive Suite
Starting at \$550 Call Victoria (248) 203 2626

FARMINGTON HILLS
Grand River & 10 Mile Retail Space 1300 4480 sq ft CERTIFIED REALTY INC 248 471 7100

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Office Space Available 150 sq ft & up Several Locations Great Rates CERTIFIED REALTY INC (248) 471 7100

Farmington Hills 2 room 1st floor windowed office suite Convenient parking (248) 539 8710 Thompson Brown Realtors

GARDEN CITY PRIME FORD ROAD & VENNY
2400 sq ft freestanding build ing (formerly JJ Pub) Ideal for many retail uses Renovate to suit \$3700/mo + security 248 388 2904

Great Office Space Below Market Rates in Southfield CBD
Mark Plaza from 500 4 500 sqft Rachele Downs Trammell Crow Company 313 442 4889

NEW PRIVATE OFFICES
•Prestigious Troy or Southfield Address
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All you need is your brief case!

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NORTHWESTERN & 13 MILE
2 room suite self contain ed with pr vate entry Main office 14 x14 Available Jan 15th \$750 per month
Call (248) 626 9400 Agent

PLYMOUTH
off ce space presently law offices \$950/mo 734 453 5020

Plymouth 1200 SQ FT
Retail Space on An Arbor Rd just W of Lilley Good visibility overhead door \$1600/mo gross Call for more information \$18 kbpsos@ccim.net Bela Sipos 734 747 7888 eyes 734 684 8813 Reinhart Commercial #235523

Commercial/Industrial For Rent/Lease 4280

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WAYNE
1000 to 3000 square ft Office/Warehouse space Excellent cond 734 728 7200

Lease/Option to Buy 4580

Canton Garden City Howell Northville Wayne
Owner will finance or rent to own Bad credit OK 5 nice homes to choose \$124 900 to \$229 900 Free recorded into 24 hrs 889 356 6102

FOR LEASE
1 275 exposure Offices from 168 2 700 sq ft mo to mo leases available JA Bloch & Co/Gach Realty (248) 559 7430

Garden City and Westland</



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Help Wanted-General 5000

DRIVER Growing Livonia based medical equipment company needs full time driver...

DRIVER FLATED/TRANSPORT No experience necessary will train. Must have good driving record...

DRIVER TOW TRUCK Will train Full time full bene fits. Phil's 76 Service Northville...

DRIVER CDL NEEDED Must be flexible and willing to assist in other areas where required...

DRIVER For Plymouth manufacturing company Must be dependable and have current CDL...

DRIVER/WAREHOUSE With chauffeur's license Start \$9 \$10/hr. Chance for advancement...

DRIVERS FULL TIME OTR CDL CLASS A & B Needed For moving company in Farmington...

DRYWALL Exp Must be fast & good with mud & repairs. Knowledgeable serious & reliable only...

Environmental LAB PACK SALES REP Environmental firm seeks aggressive and motivated Sales Representative...

FINANCIAL AID TECHNICIAN Part time position 29 hours per week. Interested applicants please refer to our website...

FLORAL DESIGNER Experienced for full or part time. Call 248 477 8931

FRONT DESK PERSON For Livonia Chiropractor must be reliable outgoing people person 25 hrs Experience...

GENERAL LABORER Full time with general knowledge in drywall framing & finished carpentry...

GENERALIST/HANDYPERSON Livonia YMCA 25 30 hrs per week. Mechanical aptitude & a good attitude a must...

GET PAID TO WAVE! Temporary day time opportunity must be outgoing and energetic...

GLAZIER Leading glass company looking for experienced full time residential glazier...

HAIR DESIGNERS & NAIL TECHS Acrylic experience newly remodeled salon with a new attitude in Royal Oak...

HAIR STYLIST & NAIL TECH Booth rental Farmington Hills area. Ask for Carol...

HAZARDOUS WASTE FIELD CHEMIST Chemical background and CDL with HW Endorsement desired...

Hotel Maintenance Personnel Experienced Immediate positions available. Full time Hotel experience preferred...

HVAC INSTALLER Experienced person to run crew. Competitive wages BC/BS & more to ambitious person seeking a career...

HVAC SERVICE Are you a top notch technician? Join our group of professional commercial & residential experience...

JANITORIAL Office Cleaning W/ok area. Part time Evening hours \$8/hr. Call (248)990 1718

Help Wanted-General 5000

LANDSCAPE SUPERVISOR Responsible for managing all aspects of landscape projects. Experienced & CDL required...

Loan Officer Choose a new career path in 2005. Unlimited income potential. Benefits commensurate with mortgage training...

MACHINIST CNC Lathe operator set up & close tolerances necessary. BC/BS 401K Southfield area...

MACHINISTS EXPERIENCED CNC Lathe & Mill EDM Centerless ID OD 7 yrs minimum exp for all postions...

MAILING Printing firm looking for person to manage direct mail department. Experience with mailing equipment a must...

MAINTENANCE HELPER NEEDED For apt complex in Westland. Exp preferred. Benefits Fax resume to 734 729 5448...

MAINTENANCE TECH Part time for Southfield based computer co. Mon Fri 8am 12pm shift. General repairs electrical plumbing & grounds clean up...

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN Full time experienced for Canton apt complex. Great opportunity for right person. Please call 734 397 1080...

MANAGER Experience in automotive electronics administrative and operational. Computer knowledge required...

MARKETER NEEDED Earn income marketing to other local businesses. Call 248 756 2246 for info. Liberty Tax Service

MECHANIC (small engine) Repair & perform regular maintenance of equipment including blowers walk behind mowers & snow blowers...

MECHANIC/EXPERIENCED All phases auto & truck Certification helpful. 313 532 8210

MEDICAL BILLER Exp a must. Orthotic pros that exp preferred. Full time benefits. Pete 734 513 8210 or fax 734 513 8219

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST Personable organized experienced energetic for established W Dearborn Medical Office. Send resume to 2019 Russell Dearborn MI 48128

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST With at least 2 3 years experience in a medical setting. Will need to handle busy front desk greating filing archiving registration phones and insurance verification...

MORTGAGE PROCESSOR AND LOAN OFFICERS Still growing W Bloomfield office seeks 3 full time loan officers and 1 processor. Live leads daily! Exp encouraged only! Call Patrick 248 932 4060 or fax resume to 248 932 4144

PHOTOGRAPHERS Earn top \$ photographing weddings. If you have the desire to be the BEST come join our team! Edward's Wedding Photography is the nation's oldest and most respected family owned studio serving Detroit and suburbs...

PHOTOGRAPHIC DIGITAL TECHNICIAN Must know Windows Windows Explorer Windows XP Photo Editing software PhotoShop preferable. Color management helpful but not necessary. Pay commensurate with ability...

PLUMBER 2 1/2 years minimum exp required. Health retirement & truck. Call after 4pm (313) 218 7744

PUBLICATIONS MANAGER EVENT PLANNER Public sector association seeking experienced high energy creative Publications Manager/Event Planner to develop implement and oversee publications communications and educational conferences and to provide administrative support oversight excellent editorial and organizational skills a must. Bachelor's degree and 5 or more years of relevant exp preferred. Special consideration to applicants with WordPerfect and Excel proficiency. Send resume to Human Resources PO Box 247 Northville MI 48167

RESIDENT MANAGER Part Time needed for small Berkley Apt Community Housing Included. Please fax resume to 248 352 6737 or call 248 352 3800 Ext 1239

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!

ROUTE DRIVER Livonia vending company needs a dependable efficient route person. Good physical condition & driving record required. Will train excellent pay full benefits. Fax resume 734 427 8370. Email servicefirm1@yahoo.com

ROUTE SUPERVISOR Livonia vending service seeks an energetic hands on person. You must have experience in managing drivers or service personnel. This is an excellent opportunity to join a well established and growing team. Excellent pay full benefits. Email resume to servicefirm1@yahoo.com or fax to 734 427 8370

SALES & CUSTOMER SERVICE Licensed insurance agents & financial services reps needed. Great earning potential. Send resume to 248 380 2818

SALES ASSISTANT Part Time We are looking for organized friendly and energetic sales assistants. Flexible hours \$10/hr. Fax resume to 734 464 7232 or email to career@hbdadvantage.com

SECURITY POSITION For apt community 12 MI & Telegraph area part time 11am 4am 248 356 0400

SERVICE SHOP MANAGER Reasonable for managing vehicle service shop. Must be able to set & monitor maintenance schedule set priorities & find and order parts. Experience & CDL a must. Fax 734 397 5909

SHIPPING & RECEIVING POSITION Dearborn area truck dealer ship s looking for a person with some experience in shipping & receiving. Computer knowledge a plus. Full time Willing to train if you're new to the field. EOE. Fax resume to 313 584 5681 Attn Sandy

SNOW PLOW TRUCKS & BACKHOES NEEDED for Metro Detroit area. Paid every 2 weeks. Call Customers Outdoor Services (248) 676 0700

SNOW REMOVAL / SIDEWALK CREWS \$10 \$12 per hour. Call (810) 231 9717

SPECIAL ED TEACHERS Part time Sub contractor Advocate for students w/ramatic brain injury. Fax 313 535 9835

STYLIST WANTED Farmington Station & spa Great staff Great pay Flexible hours 248 478 7870

SUPERVISOR Working supervisor needed for DC environment 2 years minimum experience overseeing daily operations. Heavy lifting forklift experience strong communication skills required. \$475 \$525 per week to start. Call 988 247 9945 extension 28 or fax resume to 804 966 1940

SUPERVISOR Specialized Pharmacy Services (SPS) of Livonia is seeking an individual to manage 15 25 pharmacy employees. SPS is a leading provider of pharmacy services to over 3000 residents in long term care facilities. Candidates must have previous supervisory experience in either a retail or pharmacy setting. This position will be responsible for daily product on operations of either the day or evening shifts and will rotate weekends. Previous pharmacy experience is preferred. We offer a competitive salary and comprehensive benefit package. For immediate consideration forward your resume and salary requirements to Human Resources Supervisor SPS Inc HR Dept PO Box 3347 Livonia MI 48151 e mail jobs_sps@omnicare.com or by fax resume to (734) 513 9418 attn Supervisor. No phone calls please. EOE

Help Wanted-General 5000

ROUTE DRIVER Livonia vending company needs a dependable efficient route person. Good physical condition & driving record required. Will train excellent pay full benefits. Fax resume 734 427 8370. Email servicefirm1@yahoo.com

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Surface Grinders OD/ID Grinders Sunnen Hone Operators Polishers CNC Lathe Operators CNC Mill Operators Full time positions with excellent benefits. Experienced only need apply in person. Link Tool & Mfg 9495 Inkster Rd Taylor MI 48180

Help Wanted-General 5000

TELEMARKETERS Part time or full time for CPA firm. Experience necessary. Call Bruce 248 417 4095

TILE TECHNICIAN Virginia Tile Co in Farmington Hills has a full time position open. Cand dates must be energetic & detail oriented. This position entails sorting of materials UPS shipping & receiving responsibilities. Hi to exp a plus. Benefits profit sharing & 401K Call HR Manager (248) 476 7850 ext 2264 or fax resume (248) 476 3828

TRUCK DRIVERS WANTED CDL Class A & B Local & overnight routes. Fax resume to 734 354 0310

WAREHOUSE MANAGER Shipping receiving counter sales. Full time Oak Park location (248) 399 7901

WAREHOUSE RECEIVER The Better Health warehouse is looking for Receiver with 1 yr exp full time with benefits. Salary based on experience. No calls please. Email resume to koryrilling@thebetterhealth.com or fax 248 344 7555

Warehouse/Facility Support Responds bid adult to maintain small warehouse light maintenance limited driving w/out vehicle. Good driving record a must. Fax resume to (734) 454 7165 or mail to Warehouse 47616 Galton Dr Plymouth MI 48170

Waterproofing Contractor Part/full time Electrical & plumbing preferred. Call Terry (810) 229 0940

Accounting Assistant A/P A/R for busy Novil builder. Must be proficient in Excel Quickbooks exp helpful. Excellent benefits salary commensurate with exp. Fax resume to (248) 471 1971

ACCOUNTING/PROPERTY ADMINISTRATOR Commercial real estate management co seeks individual with strong accounting and interpersonal skills to work in small office setting. Must be skilled in Quickbooks Microsoft Word and Excel. Knowledge of commercial leases and MNN reconciliations helpful. Send resume to Property Manager c/o Rice & Backman CPA s 6230 Orchard Lake Road Ste #100 West Bloomfield MI 48322

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/AP CLERK Email resume pem@peminvestments.com

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/BOOKKEEPER Experience for Livonia accounting firm. Show us have exp with telephone client contact filing invoicing payroll processing tax return and financial statement processing. General ledger Applicant should have working knowledge of Word Excel Outlook and Quickbooks. Create ve Solutions and Ultra Tax are a plus. Experience in a professional office setting is required. Must be able to multi task. Send resume to Box 1038 Observer & Eccentric 36251 Schoolcraft Rd Livonia MI 48150

LEGAL SECRETARY Full time for small Bloomfield Hills firm. Candidate should have prior legal experience. Word Perfect and Word skills. Local on experience a plus. Fax resume to 248 644 7141 Attention Carol or Email grentrop@rentropmorrison.com

LIVONIA LUMBER CO Seeking a self starter for clerical duties. Attention to detail a must. Benefits Apply in person at 11940 Merriman Rd Livonia

OFFICE MANAGER/BOOKKEEPER Exp Prefer QuickBooks Part time Call (734) 525 3123

PERSONNEL COORDINATOR ETS Staffing established employment agency seeks a Personnel Coordinator to provide outstanding service to our temporary workers & customers. Duties incl interview screening & placing personnel at Metropolitan Detroit area factories & offices. Full time or part time. Send your resume via email livonia@etsstaffing.com or fax to (734) 425 2700

RECEPTIONIST Garden City real estate office hiring part time (4-6 hrs) position. RELIABLE reasonably local good phone etiquette and strong computer skills a must. Mon Wed (4-8pm) Sat (9-5pm) Serious applicants (734) 525 7900

RECEPTIONIST Immediate opening clerical. Must have excellent communication skills. Willing to go beyond the call of duty. Strong work ethic and computer literate. Please fax resume 248 427 1909 Attn Human Resources

RECEPTIONIST for Lighthouse of Oakland County will also serve as Development Department assistant for spec a projects and Raisers Edge. Three yrs exp as Admin strat ve Assistant nonprofit preferred. Must have proven skills in office software applications. Send resume and salary requirement to Lighthouse of Oakland County 46156 Woodward Ave Pontiac MI 48342

Help Wanted-Office 5020

CASHIER PART TIME Victory Honda of Plymouth has immediate opening for part time cashier. Some even gns & Saturdays required. If enjoy a fast paced environment & working with the public please apply in person at 315 Ann Arbor Rd Plymouth. No phone calls please

Clerical Assistant Entry level Looking for clerical assistance for billing department. Computer experience a must. Currently in Plymouth soon to move to Novi. Competitive salary & benefits. Fax resume to 734 455 9428 or email to swrona@generalmedinc.com

CLOSING DEPARTMENT Needs exp Processors Full time Good benefits Fax resume to 866 276 7197

DATA ENTRY Could earn \$15/hour and up! Medical billing Training provided PC required! Call 7 days 1 800 935 1311 ext 308

DATA ENTRY Work from home Flexible hours! \$5555 Great pay \$5555! Personal computer required 1 800 913 2823 ext #100

DATA ENTRY Flexible Hours \$5555 GREAT PAY \$5555! Serious responsible applicants w/personal computer work from home 1 800 913 2823 ext #63

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FILE CLERK POSITION available for busy West Bloomfield law office. To start immediately. Please contact Sarah @ 248 855 7977

FRONT OFFICE Romus manufacturer seeking part time bright & cheerful front office general clerical person. Knowledge of Microsoft Office products good organizational ability & general office experience required. Mail resume to Office Manager PO Box 279 Wayne MI 48184 or fax to 734 721 3490

GENERAL OFFICE Experience Full time only. Call for interview 313 537 5400

HUMAN RESOURCES/OFFICE MANAGER Highly experienced. Fax resume (248) 360 9978

INSURANCE AGENCY seeks full time consultant/customer service rep. Wage + benefits. Send resume w/vac rec u to merts to Box 1034 C O Y Press & Argus 323 E G and R ver Howell MI 48843

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RECEPTIONIST Immediate opening clerical. Must have excellent communication skills. Willing to go beyond the call of duty. Strong work ethic and computer literate. Please fax resume 248 427 1909 Attn Human Resources

RECEPTIONIST for Lighthouse of Oakland County will also serve as Development Department assistant for spec a projects and Raisers Edge. Three yrs exp as Admin strat ve Assistant nonprofit preferred. Must have proven skills in office software applications. Send resume and salary requirement to Lighthouse of Oakland County 46156 Woodward Ave Pontiac MI 48342

Help Wanted-Office 5020

CASHIER PART TIME Victory Honda of Plymouth has immediate opening for part time cashier. Some even gns & Saturdays required. If enjoy a fast paced environment & working with the public please apply in person at 315 Ann Arbor Rd Plymouth. No phone calls please

Clerical Assistant Entry level Looking for clerical assistance for billing department. Computer experience a must. Currently in Plymouth soon to move to Novi. Competitive salary & benefits. Fax resume to 734 455 9428 or email to swrona@generalmedinc.com

CLOSING DEPARTMENT Needs exp Processors Full time Good benefits Fax resume to 866 276 7197

DATA ENTRY Could earn \$15/hour and up! Medical billing Training provided PC required! Call 7 days 1 800 935 1311 ext 308

DATA ENTRY Work from home Flexible hours! \$5555 Great pay \$5555! Personal computer required 1 800 913 2823 ext #100

DATA ENTRY Flexible Hours \$5555 GREAT PAY \$5555! Serious responsible applicants w/personal computer work from home 1 800 913 2823 ext #63

DENTAL RECEPTIONIST Full time for friendly modern Livonia office. Dental exp helpful. Exec pay & benefits. Fax resume 734 427 1233

FILE CLERK POSITION available for busy West Bloomfield law office. To start immediately. Please contact Sarah @ 248 855 7977

FRONT OFFICE Romus manufacturer seeking part time bright & cheerful front office general clerical person. Knowledge of Microsoft Office products good organizational ability & general office experience required. Mail resume to Office Manager PO Box 279 Wayne MI 48184 or fax to 734 721 3490

GENERAL OFFICE Experience Full time only. Call for interview 313 537 5400

HUMAN RESOURCES/OFFICE MANAGER Highly experienced. Fax resume (248) 360 9978

INSURANCE AGENCY seeks full time consultant/customer service rep. Wage + benefits. Send resume w/vac rec u to merts to Box 1034 C O Y Press & Argus 323 E G and R ver Howell MI 48843

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/AP CLERK Email resume pem@peminvestments.com

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/BOOKKEEPER Experience for Livonia accounting firm. Show us have exp with telephone client contact filing invoicing payroll processing tax return and financial statement processing. General ledger Applicant should have working knowledge of Word Excel Outlook and Quickbooks. Create ve Solutions and Ultra Tax are a plus. Experience in a professional office setting is required. Must be able to multi task. Send resume to Box 1038 Observer & Eccentric 36251 Schoolcraft Rd Livonia MI 48150

LEGAL SECRETARY Full time for small Bloomfield Hills firm. Candidate should have prior legal experience. Word Perfect and Word skills. Local on experience a plus. Fax resume to 248 644 7141 Attention Carol or Email grentrop@rentropmorrison.com

LIVONIA LUMBER CO Seeking a self starter for clerical duties



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Help Wanted-Medical (5000)

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
For Canton Internal medicine doctor. Must be mature well experienced in internal medicine. Ability to follow closely and anticipate doctor's protocol a must. New MA students and lack of experience need not apply.
Fax resume Attn Theresa (734) 981 5094

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Part time Phlebotomy experience required. Fax resume 248 474 1548

Medical Assistant
For busy ENT office in Farmington Hills. Full time + benefits. Duties include ear washing & blood pressure. Fax resume w/salary requirements to Attn Karen 248 737 0636

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Full time clinical duties in Farmington Hills. Must be certified. Staff starter a must. Benefits package. Call Sherry 248 477 9081

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
OB/GYN office Farmington Hills. Experience necessary. Must have nursing skills and computer skills. Contact Elaine (248) 489 1070

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Part time Mon Wed Fri hours 9am-6pm. Must know EKG injections vital signs. For fun Farmington Hills Family practice. Fax resume 248 478 7680

MEDICAL BILLER
Cynthia. Experienced. Full time. Needed full time in growing practice. Send resume to PO Box 250428 W Bloomfield MI 48325

MEDICAL BILLER
Mitchell Home Medical has an immediate full time opportunity at our corporate office in Ypsilanti. Must possess 2 to 3 years experience with insurance and private payment billing. DME billing experience preferable. Working knowledge of HCCP & ICD 9 coding. Excellent wages and benefits including 401K. Fax resume to (734) 572 0472 or email to shayden@mtchellhomeomedical.com

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST
Experienced friendly team player needed for new Livonia office. Duties include phone collecting co-pays & balances, referrals & patient coordination. Please email resume to middlebelt@scglobal.net

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST
Full time immediate opening for physician's office in Farmington Hills. Email resume medjobs4u@aol.com

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST
Exp for internist office. 30-32 hrs/wk. Fax resume to 734 464 9797

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Specialized Pharmacy provides services to long term care facilities throughout Michigan.

DRIVERS WANTED
To deliver food for Chrs & other restaurants to businesses and residential customers. Lunch & Dinner shifts. Must use own vehicle. Call 248 482 1100 Ext 1. Between 9am-11am or after 2pm.

EXP MANAGER
For upscale Italian restaurant. Must be aggressive and assertive. Have wine & liquor knowledge. Also versed in all front of the house operations. Please fax or email resume 313 359 4421 or tony@bandiamolitalia.com

FLIGHT CLUB
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Help Wanted-Medical (5000)

PHYSICAL THERAPIST
For rehab facility. Flex time. Fax resume 248 827 1119

Physical Therapist
Full or part time. Dearborn Ypsilanti, Ann Arbor. Call 734 844 0900. Fax 734 844 0808

RECEPTIONIST
For busy family practice full time. Experience preferred but will train. Also needed full time Med. Cal Assistant. Call Judy 734 464 9540 or fax 734 464 0438

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For busy family practice full time. Experience preferred but will train. Also needed full time Med. Cal Assistant. Call Judy 734 464 9540 or fax 734 464 0438

Help Wanted-Food/Leverage (5000)

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17700 Haggerty Road Livonia

CAKE BAKER
Evenings
Also Part Time Kitchen Help Days
Elite Sweets Livonia (248) 476 3900

CASHIERS WANTED
Westland Great pay flexible hrs. Ideal for homemakers. Example 5-9 (248) 755 8779

COOK
Waltonwood at Twelve Oaks a Luxury Senior Apartment Community in Novi is in need of a Prep Cook with home style cooking experience. EOE. Apply in person at 2475 Huron Circle, Novi MI or call 248 735 1500 for more information.

DELI SANDWICH COUNTER PERSON
FT or PT. Apply in person. NY Del 19215 Newburgh Livonia

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Help Wanted-Food/Leverage (5000)

Food Service Director
A Luxury Senior Property in Oakland County is seeking a Food Service Director for an immediate full time position. Must have dietary manager experience strong supervising skills and also be able to prepare food with proper food presentation. EOE. Please fax resume to Resumes 248 855 1630. Attention: Laura

RESTAURANT HELP
The Loose Leaf Tea & Bake house located in downtown Birmingham is accepting applications for weekday day time help. Duties will include light food prep, ice salads, sandwiches, crepes for our growing lunch business. No experience is required but a customer friendly attitude is a must. Call (248) 283 0260 or visit 172 N Old Woodward @ 8:10 a.m. or 2:5 p.m. only

Sandwich Maker/Prepwork
Mon-Sat 10:4-8:50 to start. Call Tony @ Maya's Deli N Plymouth 734 453 8870

WAITSTAFF
Full/Part time Flexible schedule at an Irish sports pub. Sheehan's On The Green 5 Mile E of Haggerty 734 420 0646

WAITSTAFF
Waltonwood at Twelve Oaks a luxury Senior Community in Novi is seeking responsible mature dedicated individuals to fill full time and part time waitstaff and dishwasher positions. Must be flexible and able to work weekends. EOE. Apply in person. Waltonwood at Twelve Oaks 27475 Huron Circle Novi Michigan (behind 12 Oaks Mall off 12 Mile Rd) or call (248) 735 1500

Help Wanted-Health & Fitness (5100)
DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS
Part time position. Interested applicants please refer to our website: <http://www.schoolsports.com> for job description and qualifications. Apply online applications along with photocopies of college transcript must be received in Human Resources by no later than 4:30 on Friday January 14 2005. An Equal Opportunity Employer

ACCOUNTING MANAGER
Metro Detroit Area company seeks a qualified individual. This position requires an individual with knowledge of A/P A/R Payroll G/L Job Costing Construction knowledge and Supervisory skills. A must. Must be able to multitask and work in a quick changing environment. Please send your resume to: **GES/JP**
34400 Glendale Ave
Livonia MI 48150
Fax (734) 513 9560
Email: john@hvac-ges.com
No Phone calls accepted

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And ready for a new career? Consider a real estate profession with CENTURY 21 Town and Country in downtown Plymouth! A phenomenal marketing program internet exposure and free training to build your skills! Full time agents can earn \$50,000.00 or more in their first year! Contact Chris Patrick for a confidential interview 734 455 5800

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The #1 CENTURY 21 Firm in America has openings for self motivated sales associates at our beautiful downtown Birmingham office. We have the training tools support staff marketing technology private offices and great location to take your real estate career to the next level. Talk to other real estate companies then come talk to us. We will show you why CENTURY 21 Town and Country is the industry leader. The advantage can be yours! **CALL Margie Duncan at 248 642 8100 to find out more**

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GM Certified used salesperson needed. Contact Scott Schmidt at Lou LaRiche Chevrolet (734) 453 4800

AUTO SALES NEW & USED
CRESTWOOD DODGE (734) 421-5700

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With 10 years experience in mature sales people to sell vacations to incoming calls. No cold calling. \$80.00 per hour plus commissions averaging \$500 to \$1300 per month with \$2500 potential. 30 to 40 hours per week. Dearborn 313 278 4100

EXP SALESPERSON NEEDED
For Window treatment. Uholstery shop. Please Call Gina 248 890 6647

LA FONTAINE AUTOMOTIVE GROUP
In Dearborn Toyota Honda Kia Suzuki Scion and Hyundai all in one location. Michigan's largest import dealer is looking for 4 new car salespeople. Excellent career opportunity. Great pay play demo plan benefits program and training available. Don't miss out. Please fax resume to 313 278 2545

LEASING AGENT
Part/Time for Westland Apts. Leasing/ Customer service exp preferred. Must be reliable. 734 425 0052

MEDIA SALES EXECS
desiring high end income career position. 10 positions available in all areas of Michigan. Proven successful experience necessary. Laptop required. Please submit resumes Attn: HR EMS 881 US 131 North White Pigeon MI 49099 or call (610) 695 0282

New Year New Career
Seeking sales professionals w/an interest in time home furnishings & interior design to fill a few key sales positions. Exp preferred but will train. Exp compensation benefits & paid training. If you are interested in a career with a well established growing company please call (734) 525 0559 or fax resume (248) 554 9577

OPPORTUNITIES UNLIMITED
Looking for full time real estate agents (if unlicensed we can recommend schools) incommarable training. North West Livonia location. Serious inquiries only. Call Tim Reilly (734) 591 0333

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OUTSIDE SALES REP
Needed for roofing/siding supply warehouse. East Side/Detroit/Downriver area. Knowledgeable in commercial & residential roofing along with sales exp. Many extras. Please apply at Wayne Oakland Building Supply 25018 Plymouth Rd Redford

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career opportunities in financial services with Primmica a member of Citi Group. Call Dan Schulte at 248 348 7654 for details

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7800-7930 Animals/Pets. 7800 Animal Services. 7820 Breeder Directory. 7840 Birds & Fish. 7860 Cats. 7880 Dogs. 7900 Farm Animal, Vestock. 7920 Horses & Equipment. 7870 Horse Boarding-Commercial. 7890 Household Pets-Others. 7910 Pet Grooming & Boarding. 7930 Pet Services. 7950 Pet Supplies. 7970 Sporting Goods. 7990 Tools. 8000 Trade Or Sell. 8020 Wanted To Buy.

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REAL ESTATE SHOWCASE | Thursday January 6 2005

The 2005 Subaru Outback Wagon

Advertising Feature

Thursday DriveTime



BY DALE BUSS

Often over the last several years, in their efforts to obliterate the wants and needs of the automotive public, car makers have come up with "solutions" that have been, to put it kindly, overdone. So when the sport-utility-vehicle craze began a decade ago, the Big Three answered in part with new models that were so massive, so high off the ground and generally so overwhelming that some of them hogged the road unforgivably, proved physically difficult for many owners to handle and were almost impossible for some would-be passengers to enter - not to mention the fact that they threatened to dip down into the single digits in mileage performance. Similarly, over the last few years, the auto industry has perceived its customers clamoring more and more for so-called "crossover" vehicles that combine the best characteristics of SUVs, vans and cars into a whole new breed of solution. The problem with that approach initially was that it produced eyesores like the Pontiac Aztek. And even now, some new vehicles represent so much hybridization that, by trying to serve many masters, they serve none at all. They can execute no clear purpose. But when it comes to Subaru, I'm happy to report that the company didn't seem to have been affected by all this misplaced strategy when it came to developing and executing the 2005 Outback Wagon. The earlier versions of the vehicles were clearly meant to be regarded and enjoyed as small station wagons, and that's even more the case with the new version of Outback that has been redesigned for 2005. And yet Subaru has managed to introduce some dramatic improvements in the new version of the wisely conceived Outback. The exterior is shaped a bit, is sharper-looking and less boxy than before. The new Outback series definitely is larger outside and roomier in many ways inside. And the design of

the interior is more attractive, functional and comfortable than before. The Outback Wagon is an attractive vehicle. Two honeycomb-like bars split the grille horizontally, among other things clearly distinguishing it from its sibling Legacy models. The new design flows better than the old one. For example, the wagon's roof line drops steadily rearward from the front doors back, providing an aerodynamic touch. And yet, the wagon's designers didn't forget the practical demands that come with posing as a cargo hauler. They provided, among other things, a wide step-on rear bumper that is every bit as practical as a platform for penetrating deep into the cargo hold as are the large steps that are designed into humongous SUVs. Subaru builds the Outback in sedan and station-wagon styles, making each of them available in two varieties of four-cylinder engines and one six-cylinder engine. Subaru's signature all-wheel drive is available across the Outback line, in slightly different configurations. The top-of-the-line models are powered by a 3.0-liter, flat-six-cylinder engine, but its horsepower has been increased to 250. The XT also is provided with 250 horsepower, but that emanating from a turbocharged, intercooled four-cylinder engine. The Outback Wagon version I drove came only with the base 168-horsepower, four-cylinder engine, but I was far from disappointed in its performance. Acceleration was powerful and smooth and actually more redolent of a six-cylinder engine, delivering a rated 23 mpg in the city and an impressive 28 mpg



The Subaru Outback Wagon delivers 23 mpg in the city and an impressive 28 mpg on the highway.

on the highway. My evaluation took place mostly during the snowy week around Christmas, but the all-wheel-drive competence of the Outback Wagon came through time and time again in getting me over and through the many unpaved streets of northern Oakland County. In the 2005 models of the Outback line, the center of gravity has been lowered for improved handling and safety, and while I never drove a 2004 Outback, it only makes sense to assume that these improvements evidenced themselves in the fine job that the 2005 Outback Wagon did in navigating the recent wintriness of these parts. Apparently, much of the improvement in the 2005 Outback line came inside the vehicles. And I can see where some of it was made. For example, even in the 2.5 I Wagon that I drove, retailing for a suggested \$24,850, there was a nicely designed interior featuring helpfully grippy cloth seats, a pleasant cockpit designed rendered in brushed-nickel finishes, and others that are black and taupe, easily comprehended climate controls, and even front-seat heaters. And the rear cargo room was very adequate, befitting the fact that this was, after all, a station wagon. The 2005 Outback Wagon is put together the way small station wagons are supposed to be.

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PURE ENTERTAINMENT!

HOT TICKET - Nothing warms you up like a good case of the blues ... well, at least at the Anti-Freeze Blues Festival.

3

TABLE HOPPING - You thought eating the forbidden fruit was bold? Try eating at Eve restaurant, a culinary adventure indeed.

8

Laughing in the face of Winter



Cold is good, freezing even better when you sample some of the area's best seasonal activities. Page 6

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Obscure & Eccentric | Thursday, January 6, 2005 • (***) E1

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126th UMS Season

DJ Spooky's Rebirth of a Nation

A Performance Work by Paul D. Miller,
aka DJ Spooky That Subliminal Kid
FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 8 PM
Power Center

On the cutting edge of the hip-hop
and avant-garde music scene,
DJ Spooky makes his UMS
debut with a compelling remix of
D.W. Griffith's monumental and
controversial movie, *Birth of a
Nation*, combining footage from
the silent film with other video
imagery and a live audio mix.

FREE EDUCATION EVENTS:

SYMPOSIUM: Race and Early Film
SUNDAY, JANUARY 9

12:30-3:30 PM Screening of *Birth of a Nation*
3:45-5:00 PM Panel Discussion
7:00-8:30 PM Screening of *Within Our Gates*
Natural Sciences Building Auditorium
803 N. University Ave.

NETWORK Reception

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14 6:15-7:45 PM
Michigan League Hussey Room and Concourse

Presented in partnership with the U-M Office of Academic
Multicultural Initiatives. Media Partners WEMU 89.1 FM
and Michigan Chronicle/Print Page. The event is part of the
U-M Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Symposium and the celebration
of African American Dance.

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Sam Shalabi

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12 8 PM

Hill Auditorium
Presented in partnership with the Michigan Radio Station
Michigan League Hussey Room and Concourse
Michigan Community Center for Conferences and Special Services

FREE EDUCATION EVENT

Community Reception

Michigan League Hussey Room and Concourse
Michigan Community Center for Conferences and Special Services

Symphonic Rhythms

THURSDAY, JANUARY 13 8 PM

Hill Auditorium

Michigan League Hussey Room and Concourse

Michigan Community Center for Conferences and Special Services

Ronald K. Brown

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16 8 PM

MONDAY, JANUARY 17 8 PM

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Film

'Dracula 3000' stinks up the final frontier

What in the galaxy is Count Dracula
doing roaming around a spaceship?
Well, what better place is there for a
vampire than the eternal night of space?

That's the premise of *Dracula 3000*, a
sci-fi stinkeroo that is at video stores now.
The story: In the year 3,000, a space salvage
vessel with the usual crew of misfits comes



**Beyond
Bad**

**Greg
Kowalski**

across the giant hulk of the
freighter Demeter, which
had disappeared 100 years
earlier.

A quick check of the
cargo reveals 50 wooden
coffins, one of which con-
tains Count Dracula, who
we learn had planned to
leave the Transylvania star
system and seek new blood
elsewhere in space. Soon
enough, the count is on his
feet and picking off the
crew one by one.

Not even brave captain
Van Helsing can save them from the evil
count's clutches and ultimately, the only way
to stop him is to send the ship hurtling into
a nearby star.

That's about it.

There is a germ of the idea here. If you
have read Bram Stoker's *Dracula* you will
recognize the Demeter as the ship that car-
ried Dracula to London. Van Helsing, of
course, is the vampire slayer and another
character here is named Mina, also derived
from the book.

If the producers had chosen to convey the
experience of what the crew of the Demeter
might have faced with Dracula on board
and transported it to outer space, this story
might of had a chance. But with bland
direction, dreary script and too many silly
plastic teeth, this is a rather anemic affair.

Not even a special appearance by Udo
Kier — who should know something about
vampires considering his film experience in
the genre — can breathe life into the mess.
The abrupt ending doesn't help matters. It's
as if the producers said, "OK, that's enough.
Let's stop."

The only bright moments involve a sexy
android who is, of course, immune to the
count's toothy advances.

But if you really want to seek a grand
space adventure, try *Leprechaun 4*. In this
one, the little feller causes mayhem on a
spaceship. It's utterly ridiculous and quite
amusing, in contrast to the other
Leprechaun films, which are just dumb.

Greg Kowalski believes Dracula should stay firmly
planted on or in the earth. He can be reached at
(248) 901 2570 or at gkowskioe@homecomm.net

Osmo Vanska road etc
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26 8 PM
Hill Auditorium

PROGRAM

ukkonen Piano Concerto No. 3 in E-flat Major Op. 52
Prokofiev Piano Concerto No. 1 in C Major
Op. 10/14, 1/12
Sibelius Symphony No. 2 in D Major Op. 43/12/1-6/2

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Get out and do something fun this week end
- **Star struck** E5
Find out what's in the stars for you this week Read your horoscope
- **Cover story** E6
Catch a fast ride through winter on skis or a snowboard at Michigan resorts
- **On stage** E7
Rodgers & Hammerstein's musical The King and I is an old story that always manages to sound fresh and new
- **Table hopping** E8
Eve Aronoff runs a scratch kitchen following her preference for bolder flavors seasonal ingredients at Eve in Ann Arbor
- **Drinkology** E10
Don Eduardo Silver Tequila is mellowed by three distillations Drinking it neat or on the rocks allows you to experience the strong agave aromas and lime citrus characters
- **Music** E12
Creole Stomp is entertaining and educational too
- **Family fun** E13
Climb inside the cab of Grave Digger and learn more about these wheels that can jump 20 feet in the air and run over cars at Monster Trucks An Xtreme Exhibition

Filter

PURE ENTERTAINMENT

Observer & Eccentric

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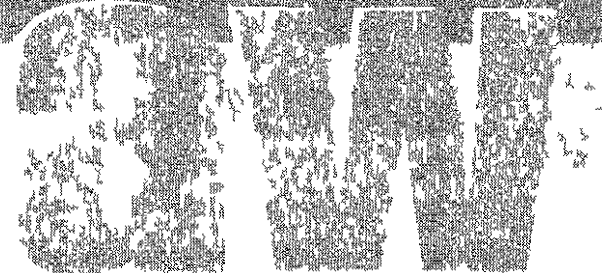
A Home of omni-cars News Publications



Savoy Brown headlines the festival on Friday. It features legendary musician Kim Simmonds, (second from left), known for playing 'British Blues Guitar'

Hot Ticket

Let's get ready to



Winter making you blue? Adjust your attitude with some smokin' hot blues at the sizzling two-day Anti-Freeze Blues Festival Friday and Saturday at the Magic Bag in Ferndale. An eclectic mix of blues musicians will grace the stage, including Savoy Brown and Roomful of Blues.

Brown, a British blues and boogie band, is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year and headlines Friday.

Roomful of Blues, a horn-filled, swinging band that attracts young rockabilly dancers and a more mature crowd, headlines Saturday.

'We love playing the Bag,' said Chris Vachon, Roomful of Blues guitarist. 'It's like home for us.'

The festival is a benefit for The Detroit Blues Society, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting an appreciation for the blues.

Roomful of Blues will perform songs from its 18th CD, *Standing Room Only* (Alligator Records), to be released this month. The band is also celebrating its coveted 2004 WC Handy Blues Award for 'band of the year' and best blues instrumentalist/horns.

Like Savoy Brown, Roomful of Blues has played for years - 36 to be exact. The eight-piece band based in Rhode Island plays jumping blues, R&B, soul and a bit of 1940s and 1950s jazz. Vachon said they've played with BB King, Stevie Ray Vaughan, Eric Clapton and Carlos Santana.

Over the years, 44 musicians have played with Roomful of Blues. All were established, disciplined musicians, which is why the band's reputation has remained solid for so long.

'We have people coming to our shows who will say they saw the band perform in the late 1960s and they keep coming back,' Vachon said. 'What's really cool is there's also a strong younger crowd.'

Vachon currently leads the band. It was formed in 1967 by former members Duke Robillard (also formerly of the Fabulous Thunderbirds) who now leads his own

The Anti-Freeze Blues Festival takes the sting out of winter

BY LANA MINI
STAFF WRITER

THE ANTI-FREEZE BLUES FESTIVAL

What: A benefit for the Detroit Blues Society

When: 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday Jan. 7-8

Where: The Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale (248) 544-1991

Admission: \$20 each night

Friday: Savoy Brown with RJ & the Rhythm Rockers, Rattlesnake Shake and The Alligators

Saturday: Roomful of Blues with Doug Deming's Jeweltones featuring Greg Fingers Taylor, Lady Sunshine & the X Band, The Sunny Girl Band

For more information: Visit www.themagicbag.com

See related story on 10.

band The Duke Robillard Band. Co-founder keyboardist/pianist Al Copley moved to Europe in 1984 where his solo career flourishes.

The philosophy of Roomful of Blues: Fill the dance floors at festivals in Italy, France, Turkey and Russia and nightclubs in France, Spain, Switzerland and the U.S. The folks in Turkey really like the

blues, Vachon said. 'We find blues is something people relate with worldwide.'

The horn and guitar-fueled sound is so popular they play year-round.

'I never thought I'd be lucky enough to play guitar for a living, I was an electrician before this gig. But I've been playing in the band since the 1990s, I have no intention of stopping.'

Standing Room Only features mostly original songs.

The current lineup was too new on our last CD, so there weren't a lot of original songs. 'We're really excited about this new release,' said Vachon.

Despite lineup changes, the energy of Roomful of Blues' live show is always the same.

'Our goal at each show is to go out and kick butt. It's danceable and we never get tired of it. Even when we're not touring, we're playing local clubs on the East Coast,' said Vachon.

SAVOY BROWN

With founder and guitarist Kim Simmonds, a legend among England's guitarists from the 1960s British blues era, Savoy Brown has played with Clapton, Mick Taylor, Peter Green and others.

The band has nearly two dozen CDs and recorded the popular *I'm Tired, Louisiana Blues* and the Motown remake of *I Can't Get Next to You*. Early Savoy Brown band members later formed the 1970s sensation Foghat.

Simmonds has been the one constant in the band that has had more commercial success in the U.S. than in the United Kingdom. Music enthusiasts say Savoy Brown's style paved the way for other blues-influenced rock bands like Led Zeppelin. Today Savoy's rock/blues sound is sometimes acoustic and other times hard-driving.

Blues music has always been my first love, Simmonds said. Somewhere it connects my Welsh roots and enables me to express my emotions and allows the perfect creative outlet.

Let music make our lives sweeter
And warm us during these winter months

Get Out!

Your Guide to Entertainment

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 kschrmm@oehomecomm.net

AUDITIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Plymouth Oratorio Society

Rehearses at 7:30 p.m. on Mondays at the First United Methodist Church on North Territorial Road, a quarter mile west of Sheldon Road in Plymouth. New members welcome, call (734) 455-8353. They will be performing Rutter's *Requiem* and J.S. Bach's *Canata No. 4*.

General Motors Employees' Chorus

Open to anyone 18 or older. Rehearse 6:45-9 p.m. Mondays at Lincoln High School in Warren. Visit <http://gmchorus.bravepages.com> or call Keith Jones (248) 960-0910 for more information.

Marquis Theatre

Peter Cotton Tail, ages 8-15, 5:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 16, 135 E. Main St., downtown Northville. Must sing *Do Re Mi* from *Sound of Music*; be prepared to read a poem no longer than two minutes. (248) 349-8110.

Sara Smith Productions

Peter Pan youth production, ages 9-18, Friday, Jan. 7, and Sunday, Jan. 9, at the Community House, 380 S. Bates St., Birmingham. A one-minute monologue (does not have to be memorized) and a few bars of a favorite song with music (sheet music only) will be required. Call (248) 644-5832 to schedule an appointment. Show dates are March 5-6.

Farmington Players

Auditions for *State Fair* by Rodgers and Hammerstein, 1 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 9, at the Farmington Players Barn, 32332 West 12 Mile Road between Farmington and Orchard Lake roads. (248) 553-2955. Show dates: April 29 through May 21. *Proof* opens Jan. 28 at the Barn.

Metropolitan Ballet Academy & Theater

Master classes to be held 11:30-3:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 9. Classes conducted by Victor Stocki, Kim and Jay Kim, former professional ballet dancers with over 33 years combined experience. Class time

depends on age. \$10. Classes held at 42500 Arena Drive, Novi. Call (248) 735-8850 for information and to register.

Farmington Community Chorus

Will hold new member auditions for its 25th anniversary winter/spring session, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 11, and Jan. 18, beginning at the William Costick Activities Center on 11 Mile Road, east of Middlebelt, in Farmington Hills. The 90-voice mixed chorus includes singers age 19 and older from throughout the metro Detroit area. All voice parts are welcomed. Call Kathy Hall at (248) 471-4516 or visit www.farmingtonchorus.com.

Dance Electric

Grease chorus/dancers, boys and girls (at least 7 years of age), small roles, males and females (adult roles, teen roles), lead roles, males and females (teens), chorus/dancers, 4:30-5 p.m. 5:30-7:30 p.m. (speaking roles), Monday, Jan. 17, and 24. Dance Electric Performing Arts Studio, 24717 Crestview, Farmington Hills. (248) 477-3830 or e-mail us at danceelectric@twm1rr.com to reserve a spot. www.danceelectric.com.

Lakeland Players

The Cemetery Club, 7 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Jan. 17-18, Central United Methodist Church in Waterford. Show dates: April 12-8-9. Call Stu Packard (248) 666-4715 or e-mail cspackard@hotmail.com.

Big 7 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 31, and Tuesday, Feb. 1, Karl Richter campus, 920 E. Baird St., Holly. Show dates: April 29-30 and May 6-7. Sandi or Steve Krupa (248) 698-3498 or e-mail spkrupa@aol.com or www.lakelandplayerstheatre.org.

Avon Players

Steel Magnolias, Robert Harling, on Sunday, 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Monday, Jan. 16-17, 1185 Washington Road, one mile east of the intersection of Tienken and Rochester roads, in Rochester Hills. For more information, visit www.avonplayers.org. Show dates are March 4-6, 11-13, and 18-19.

Heartlande Theatre Company

Is accepting submissions for Play by Play 2005 until Feb. 28. The marathon is scheduled noon to midnight Saturday, June 11, at Performance Network in Ann Arbor. Visit www.heartlande.com and click on the individual project or event for more detailed information.

AUTO SHOW

North American International Auto Show

Opens Saturday, Sunday, Jan. 15-23, Cobo Conference Center, One Washington Blvd., Detroit. 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, Sunday, Jan. 15-22, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 23. \$12 adult, \$6 seniors 65 and older, children 12 and under free with parent, at door or visit www.naias.com.

Automotive Impressions

An exhibit sponsored by the Plymouth Community Arts Council continues through Sunday, Jan. 30. Artist reception, 3-6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8. Exhibit hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Featured artists are Gerald Freeman, Tom Hale, and Alexander Buchan. (734) 416-4278, 774 N. Sheldon Road.

FAMILY FUN

Redford Theatre

Classic films & cartoons, 7:30 p.m. organ, overture, 8 p.m. Cabaret, Sylvester & Tweety in *Fowl Weather*, Friday, Saturday, and 1:30 p.m. (overture), 2 p.m. film, Saturday, 17360 Lahser, Detroit. \$3.25 (313) 537-2560. www.redfordtheatre.com.

Cranbrook Institute of Science

Telescope Users Workshop, 7-9 p.m. Monday, Jan. 10, Ages 8 and older. A participating adult must accompany children under 16. Cost is \$12/members and \$15/non-members per person. For more information and to register, call (248) 645-3210. The Institute of Science is at 39221 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. Museum admission is \$7 adults, \$5 children 12 and senior citizens (65+), children under 2 and members admitted free. Cranbrook Institute of Science is open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and until 10 p.m. on Friday. (877) 462-7262. Visit www.cranbrook.edu.

Marquis Theatre

Rumpelstiltskin, 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Sunday, Jan. 8-9, 15:16, \$7.50, 135 E. Main St., Northville. (248) 349-8110.

Youtheatre

Debuts Forever Free: A Story of the Civil War, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15, at the Millennium Centre, 15600 J.L. Hudson Dr., Southfield. Musical based on



RICK SMITH

Henrietta Hermelin (Daisy Werthen) and James Bowen (Hoke Colburn) in Meadow Brook Theatre's production of *'Driving Miss Daisy'* which runs through Jan. 30 at the theater on the campus of Oakland University in Rochester Hills. Show times and ticket prices vary, visit www.mbtheatre.com, or call (248) 377-3300.

an untold story of the Civil War revolves around a young slave named Kofi. \$8 (248) 557-PLAY (7529). www.youththeatre.org.

Theatre Livonia

With Paper Bag Productions is offering Acting 101, a workshop for students ages 10-17, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Monday or Thursday for five weeks, beginning Jan. 10 at Livonia Mall, 29516 Seven Mile Road. Cost \$150 per student. (586) 344-7774.

MUSIC

St. Andrew's Hall

Rough, tough yet melodic punk band The Explosion plus Most Precious Blood, Rise Against and A Wilhelm Scream, 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 9. Tickets \$12. All ages welcome. 431 East Congress, Detroit. Call (313) 961-MELT.

Onnik Dinkjian

Will perform a concert of Sacred Hymns of the Armenian Church, accompanied by Ara Dinkjian on organ, 6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15, doors open 5:30 p.m. St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church, 19300 Ford Road, Dearborn. \$20 per person (advanced tickets only). Afterglow reception follows concert. atopouzian@arp.music.com or (248) 851-9225.

DSO

Peter Ondjian conducts *Romantic Rachmaninoff* featuring Emmanuelle Boisvert, violin, 10:45 a.m. and 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 7, 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8, at the Max M. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$16-\$69. (313) 576-5111. www.detroitssymphony.com.

Dancing Across the Miles

Jazz Concert featuring Ursula Walker, vocals; George Benson, saxophone; Dwight Adams, trumpet; Buddy Budson, piano; Dan Kolton, bass; Pete Siers, drums, 6:30-8 p.m. Monday, Jan. 10, The Serengeti, 2757 Grand River Ave., Detroit. \$20 includes refreshments and raffle. Drawing/benefit performance to send Cass Technical, Martin Luther King and Renaissance High Schools to the International Association of Blacks in Dance Conference, Los Angeles.

Hot Club of Detroit

At Shields Pizza, 25101 Telegraph, Southfield, 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 11, and Jan. 25. (248) 476-2674. <http://hotclubofdetroit.com>.

Birmingham Musicales

Program 1 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13, The Community House, 360 S. Bates St., Birmingham. *The Weather Report*, presented by the Musicales production ensemble. Tea follows, donations accepted.

ART/GALLERIES

Recycle It for Art

Turn basic items into wonderful projects that can be used for a variety of purposes or given as gifts. Bring items to class that you are interested in working on. This class will encourage you to save time, money and the environment. The main objective is to provide you with an opportunity to exercise your creativity. Instructor Petra Boham, 9:10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 15, Farmington High School, 32000 Shiawassee St., Farmington. The fee for this course is \$10. (248) 489-3333. www.petrart.com.

Epiphany Glass

Opens studio to the public, 4-9 p.m. today and Thursday, Feb. 3. View an individually crafted collection of handblown glass sculptures including the Splash, Free Form and Nest series. Meet artisan husband and wife team Jason Ruff and April Wagner. Live glass blowing demonstrations will be conducted every half hour. No charge. All welcome. 770 Orchard Lake Road in Pontiac. (248) 745-3786.

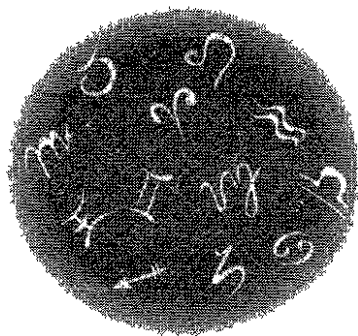
Lawrence Street Gallery

Is hosting an all-members exhibition with gallery fund-raiser celebrating the 50th anniversary of the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan, Jan. 11-29. Opening reception, 5-9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13, 22620 Woodward Avenue, Suite A, Ferndale. A percentage of proceeds from sales for the month of January will be donated to help the National Kidney Foundation. Gallery open noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Saturday. Wheelchair accessible from the Woodward Avenue front entrance. (248) 544-0394. www.lawrencestreetgallery.com.



Star struck

(Jan 6-Jan 8)
By Dennis Fairchild



ARIES (March 21-April 20)

The only constant in astrology as in life is change. So make the most of current aspects to get your life moving in the right direction again. Rambo. Your ruling planet Mars soon shifting signs signifies that you are in the ideal position to force the pace on the financial front.

TAURUS (April 21-May 21)

Count to 10 and take action. Bull! For too long you've put off dealing with something of an emotional nature, but what happens this week will convince you that you can't run forever. Most likely you'll discover that what you feared was a product of your imagination. Or bull-headedness.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)

The thing to remember is that you are no longer tied to the past, nor are you under others' control or influence. Twins, in fact, the key word now is freedom. Therefore, think of the larger self that is limitless in power and possibilities and spring will be a time of remarkable achievements.

CANCER (June 22-July 23)

You are justly renowned for being patient, but with Mars about to shift signs it's time to speak up and let others know your feelings and upsets. You may not tell people what they want to hear, but at least they will know where you stand. Moon Kid. Stand strong, kiddo!

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)

Try not to be too hard on yourself. Everyone makes mistakes (even a Lion) and the bigger the mistakes you make, the more of an opportunity you have of turning them into something of value. If mistakes are the way we learn, you'll learn something over the coming days!

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)

For someone who is supposed to be easygoing, tolerant and compassionate, you appear to be going in all directions at the moment. Virgo. Insure you don't spoil what could be a profitable alliance by insisting that everyone take your word as gospel. Aim for humble honesty.

LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)

No matter how much of an individualist you might be, the Sun moving into your sign on the 19th is reminding you that the only way to get what you really want out of life is to work more closely with those who share your goals. There is strength in numbers for you this week.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)

Star wise, this could be a fortunate week for you, especially if you're ambitious and want to move up in the world. The only danger is that in your haste to get ahead, you might go against your own principles and do something that hurts others, if only indirectly. Be true to yourself, Scorpio, and don't be in such a rush.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)

The daydreaming Archers are great ones for wishing they could turn back the clock and make things right. You can't, of course, but what you can do is visualize a time and place in the future when the mistakes of the past no longer matter. Focus on possibilities instead of perils. The Moon in your element is shooting strength to you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 21)

Your way with words opens many doors, but sometimes leads to them being slammed in your face, and that's something you'll have to watch for this week. The Sun in your sign and upcoming Mars change says that being brutally honest isn't the best idea now, especially if your progress and profits depend on it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 22-Feb. 19)

You may feel tempted to break with routine and do something completely out of character this week end. After all, it's been a crazy two months, eh? If you have the support of a certain key person or best pal, all the better. If not, be prepared to stick your neck out and do it anyway. Family can take of themselves.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)

What is important to you now, especially on a material level, won't be so important to you by this time next week. That's good, because it's time you recognized that some things, and some people, are not to be taken seriously. Budget your time and money, don't push yourself. Fish!

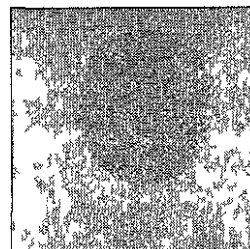
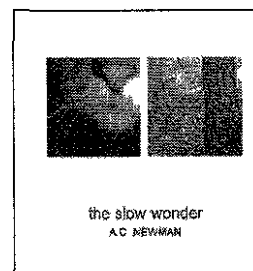
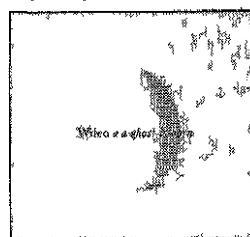
Dennis Fairchild is a Birmingham-based astrologer and author of several books on divination. For information about personal consultations, phone (248) 646-3555 or email DenFairchild@aol.com

Pure Picks

Year in Review

It's hard to write a great Year in Review column. Partly because everyone on the planet will have different opinions than you and partly because it's getting harder and harder for me to remember what happened last week, let alone what has happened in the past year. Thinking back, I remember January. It was followed by February and later in the year came July. Due to poor ticket sales, October had to be cancelled, but November more than made up for it. This week, I try to tackle the best albums and songs of 2004. I say "try" because I'm sure when I re-read this column Thursday, I'll remember something I haven't

included and wish time machines were a reality. So here is **Pure Pick's 2004 Top 10 Albums** in no particular order because chaos is beauty. *Nino Rojo* - Devendra Banhart. *Banhart's Rejoicing in the Hands* was also released this year



Sheets pick

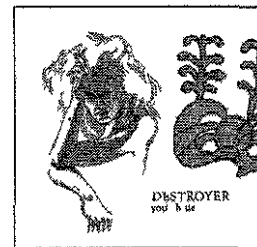
Seven Swans - Sufjan Stevens. You won't even mind the God parts and if you are into that, you'll like it even more.

Smile - Brian Wilson. I haven't been totally buried under a rock.

New England - Jason Anderson. So simple. So beautiful.

Tie: *The Futureheads* - The Futureheads. *Antics* - Interpol. *Franz Ferdinand* - Franz Ferdinand. *Hot Fuss* - The Killers. Music that might appear on *The OC*. I'll say one thing about popular music: It mostly stinks. I'll say one more thing about popular music: It got a little better this year, or at least a little.

Usually we write something here about picking the best weekly events. Filtered just for you. This week we look back and select the best music of 2004. Filtered just for you.



more white kid danceable. *Your Blues* - Destroyer. This will score you so many cool points when you boldly declare, "Man, no one even makes records like this any more!" I.e. Destroyer is this year's Miss Brian Eno pick. Bonus 11th spot. Best local disc. *Every Night* - Saturday Looks Good to Me. It had two versions. I don't really need to say more do



1? OK. Fred Thomas is 10 types of adorable.

Best EP

The Tain - The Decemberists. Ah, sweet, sweet concept album.

Three records that had so much buzz, junkies started freebasing them:

Who Will Cut Our Hair When We're Gone - The Unicorns. *Funeral* - Arcade Fire. *Blueberry Boat* - The Fiery Furnaces. I'll give you a buck if you honestly and unbiasedly enjoyed all three.*

Songs

Sprout and the Bean - The Milk Eyed Mender - Joanna Newsom. She's a lot like Hamburger Helper for your ears. First you think it's too odd, but you listen to it anyway. Then you find yourself craving silly songs about fruit at 4 a.m.

Twilight - From a Basement on a Hill - Elliott Smith. We listened for answers but only found more questions.

Everybody's Gotta Learn Sometime - Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind soundtrack. Beck. God, I miss Beck.

All These Things I've Done/Mr. Brightside - Hot Fuss - The Killers. I'm sorry if you're too pretentious to love this.

Peach Trees - Want 2 - Rufus Wainwright. A friend of mine refuses to buy any Rufus because quote: "It's too perfect."

I'd Rather Dance with You - Riot on an Empty Street - Kings of Convenience. Even hearing this song in an Old Navy commercial could not ruin it.

Fill in your own Kayne West/The Streets/Madvillian song here.

Because year in review lists are cop outs to actually finding out what's going on in Detroit during the upcoming week, next week, I will list 2004's top shows, books and films as well as 2005's buzzworthy stuff.

*I actually can't afford lunch, so don't actually expect any money because you're actually an elitist twit.

Pure Picks is written by Stephanie Tardy, who writes her own column taglines but usually composes them in third person for effect. Not this week, though. Wanna punch me in the face or congratulate me for this list? Your opinion is valued even if we don't share the same one, thus making yours not as good as mine. You can state your peace piece, peas, gruff by e-mailing me at stardy@oe.homecomm.net or snail mailing me at Pure Picks c/o Stephanie Tardy, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. As always, information regarding local entertainment events is also something I'd be interested in glancing at before I trash it. P.S. I also totally stole one of the jokes in this week's column and I just might do it again, so be witty when you write me.

Cover story

Alpine Valley
 Sk Area 6775 East
 Highland White Lake (248) 887
 2180 or (snow line) (248) 887 4183
 www.skialpinevalley.com 10 a.m. to
 10:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday 10 a.m. to
 11 p.m. Friday 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday and
 9 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Sunday, some past
 midnight sessions on Saturdays. Tow
 \$15 \$21 all area \$24 \$38. All equip-
 ment rentals private and group
 lessons for skiing snowboard-
 ing. Call (248) 887-6010

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 4141 Bauer Brighton
 (810) 229-9581 www.mtbrighton.com
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 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.
 Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday not all
 slopes/lifts open at all times open past mid-
 night on select Saturdays, tow \$17 \$20 all area
 \$17 \$28. All equipment can be rented private
 and group lessons for skiing racing and
 snowboarding
 Call (810) 229-9581
 Ext. 220

Mt. Holly 13536 South Dixie
 Holly (248) 634-8269 snow line at
 (800) 582-7256 www.skimtholly.com
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 to 11 p.m. Friday 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday and
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 11 p.m. Friday 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday
 Sunday tow \$20 all area \$25 and \$29
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 skiing and snowboarding avail-
 able (248) 625-0800



White stuff

Catch a fast ride through winter

Snow. It annoys us most of the time, but all that white stuff makes for good, fast and thrilling times on area slopes.

And snowboarders and skiers alike can expect to see improvements at Michigan ski areas.

Almost everybody is adding or expanding terrain parks," said Mickey MacWilliams, executive director of the Michigan Snowsports Industries Association in Clarkston. "The reason for that is that our future lies with the youth.

STORY BY NICOLE STAFFORD
STAFF WRITER
 Mt. Brighton for example added several new features to its terrain park, including a c-box, rainbow rail and rainbow

box — a series of three jumps aimed at challenging snowboarding skills. Also new is a chair lift servicing the park. Snowboarders dominate terrain parks and use rails and boxes to perform jumps, turns and other air-bound maneuvers, but the areas are open to skiers as well.

It's kind of funny how each year we add a little bit more to the terrain park, said Jack Pippin, director of snowsports at Mt. Brighton. "We kick it up a notch every year and the talent steps up every year. It's evolving. The bigger the jumps are, the better the kids get. It's a lot of

fun to watch."

Terrain parks cut down on snowboarding traffic on ski runs and at chair lifts, but the battle between skiers and snowboarders is increasingly disappearing, said MacWilliams.

"A lot of people do both now, she said. Like me, I'll ski one day and then I'll pull out the snowboard. We (adult skiers) were a little bit leery of snowboarding 10 or 12 years ago, but not now.

Several ski areas outside southeastern Michigan have revamped their offerings for snowboarders too. The Homestead in Glen Arbor has added a second terrain park, and nearby Crystal Mountain plans to construct a 300-foot half pipe. Also new on the scene are dog sled rides at Boyne Highlands.

It's the first time they've tried this. It should be pretty neat. It's something that they do out West a lot, MacWilliams said.

Of course there are plenty of special packages and discounts available this season.

At Pine Knob, every Tuesday is two for the price of one. Several local ski areas also sell discounted passes for ladies, seniors and adult men on select weekdays.

PLEASE SEE SNOW, E7

www.hometownlife.com



Carol Fink of West Bloomfield treks around the wooded area near her home. Snowshoeing is a great form of winter exercise.

SNOW

FROM PAGE E6

McDonald's "Discover Michigan Skiing," a discounted program for beginners running at 21 Michigan ski facilities through Jan. 31, offers a lesson, equipment rental and day pass for one price. The cost is \$30 for adults, \$20 for children and \$40 for all snowboarding packages regardless of age. Vouchers for the program are available at participating McDonald's restaurants, local retail ski shops or by visiting www.goskumichigan.com.

"It's a way that anybody regardless of your age can try skiing or snowboarding without it being a financial burden," said MacWilliams. "It also provides you with an opportunity to do it the right way the first time."

For downhill regulars, consider purchasing a White Gold Card. Priced at \$169, the card is good for one session at each of 24 participating ski areas, but supplies are limited and dwindling.

Also continuing this season is "Cold is Cool," which provides up to three free lift tickets at each of the 23 participating ski areas to fourth-graders accompanied by an adult.

"The program is valid any day of the season, and it creates a lot of good will, too," said MacWilliams. "Parents are pretty happy when their fourth-grader gets to ski for free."

For general information - Visit www.goskumichigan.com

On stage What's old is new again in classic 'The King and I'

BY NICOLE STAFFORD
STAFF WRITER

Two people, two different worlds, one love

It's an old story that always manages to sound fresh and new.

But Rodgers & Hammerstein's musical *The King and I*, which opens Tuesday, Jan. 11, and continues through Jan. 30 at the Fisher Theatre in Detroit, feels contemporaneous with the here and now.

"It's about two people who are from very different cultures," said Ronobir Lahiri, who portrays the King of Siam opposite Stefanie Powers as Anna. "Maybe it foresaw the future. It's a musical about globalization, and we're living in a global world now."

Set in the 1860s in exotic Bangkok, *The King and I* is based on the life story of an English widow named Anna Leonowens who became a governess to the children of the King of Siam with the two eventually falling in love. The 1944 best-selling novel *Anna and the King of Siam* by Margaret Landon also recounts her life.

Rodgers & Hammerstein's original musical version hit Broadway in 1951 with Yul Brynner portraying the King of Siam. It earned five Tony Awards, including Best Musical.

Lahiri, whose acting credits include



JOAN MARCUS

There's plenty of on-stage spectacle, including this festive dancing scene, in the new national tour of Rodgers & Hammerstein's 'The King and I.'

ROYAL LOVE STORY

What Rodgers & Hammerstein's musical *The King and I*

When: Jan. 11-30 shows are 8 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday and 7:30 p.m. Sunday

Where: Fisher Theatre 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit

Tickets: \$30-50-\$68 call Ticketmaster at (248) 645-6666 or the box office at (313) 872-1000 or visit www.nederlanderdetroit.com

appearances in the hit TV show *The Sopranos* and the film, *You've Got Mail*, first joined the Broadway production of *The King and I* in 1997 as an understudy to the King of Siam. He went on to perform in the show's first national tour and London's West End production in 2001. Other members of the current production's creative team, including one director, were involved in the original show, said Lahiri.

"It's excellent in that we have access to

every version that's ever been done, every script, every tape," he commented. "But, there's a certain feeling of intimidation. I can never approach this role without feeling the shadow of Yul Brynner."

Despite the pressure, Lahiri hasn't significantly altered the role.

"The main thrust of it is the same. If it's not broken, don't fix it. But you can't do this play like it's in the '50s, so it does have a contemporary angle."

Accordingly, Lahiri approached his character through research and psychological study.

"He's a character who is a very creative and very intelligent man. He's a guy that never wants to stop learning. And that's why he's such a likable character. Even though he is stern, he really just wants to better himself and make his country greater and stronger."

While the new musical is more character-driven, audiences will still experience all the on-stage spectacle that made and continues to make *The King and I* so appealing.

"This production seems very organic and very human," said Lahiri. "But I think the Detroit audiences will get all the spectacle and glamour and glitz, too."

nstafford@oe.homecomm.net | (248) 901-2567

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www.hometownlife.com

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, January 6, 2005 • (***) E7

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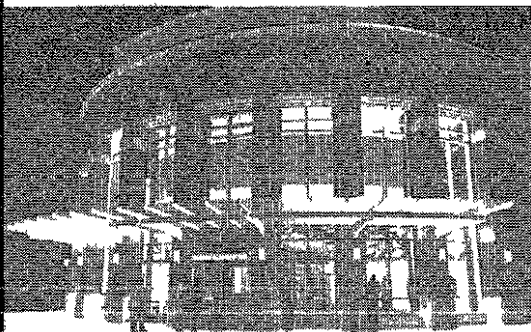
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Fri-Sat 1130a-1100p
Sunday 1200-930p

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Canton

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The Village Theater ticket office will be open
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To purchase tickets by phone call **734-394-5460**.
For more information about the theater and to
view the complete schedule please visit
www.cantonmi.org/CPAEC/about.asp

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The Shirelles

The Shirelles were the first
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rock and roll era to score a
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"Will You Still Love Me
Tomorrow?"

"Dedicated to the One I Love"

"Mama Said"

and so many others

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Tickets \$30

**A Champagne Series
Event**

Table hopping

Apple of our eye

High-toned
flavors
spotlighted
at Eve

"I searched for five years to find a location to open my own restaurant," 35-year old Chef/Owner Eve Aronoff explained. A Main Street, Ann Arbor, location was beyond my budget, but Kerrytown has become a special culinary neighborhood."

Chef Eve is fascinated by high-toned flavors and cuisines

showcasing them - North Africa, Morocco, India and Thailand. "At an early age, I lived in Israel," she said. "And the Middle East exposed me to many different flavors."

A comparative literature degree from Brandeis University also helped develop my love of different cultures. I knew that if I was going to open my own restaurant, I wasn't going to hold back on flavors.

Before attending Le Cordon Bleu in Paris, where she gained more multi-ethnic exposure, in addition to earning diplomas in culinary arts, wine and spirits, she cooked at The Common Grill in Chelsea, worked in Monaghan's Fish Market and also helped with the opening of Cafe Zola, both in Ann Arbor.

MAKING A STATEMENT

Eve, a 75-seat restaurant with reclaimed brick walls, understated modern art work, neutral colors, soft lighting from suspended clear globes and white tablecloths adorned with a small vase of herbs and a couple of white votives offers food that makes a statement.

One that's in keeping with the philosophy Chef Eve has expressed in three paragraphs on the back of the menu. Grounded in French cooking techniques, she runs a scratch kitchen following both her preference for bolder flavors, seasonal ingredients supporting local agriculture and artisanal endeavors such as those promoted by the Slow Food movement.

FOR STARTERS

Shortly after a diner is seated, a well-trained server offers a complimentary French baguette board with three spreads: salmon mousse, herb butter and guava butter.

Review the tightly edited wine list with well-priced wines from California, Washington state, Spain, France and Chile, principally flights in several interesting categories of three 2-ounce pours range \$16-\$24.

The same wine can be found in multiple locations on the

STORY BY ELIZABETH | PHOTOS BY DONALD J. ALLEY



Thursday nights at Eve feature an cheeses. Here Jason Konefal and



Chris Huuy cooks shrimp for an ap

wine list. Chef Eve, who is a Master of Wine certification, this. A red Burgundy is pinot. Burgundy, it could be missed.

That Chicken Dumplings with chiffonade of wasabi leaf, tons, accompanied with cream puree or Curried Musse sauce with chunks of bread. Showers, Chef Eve's love of Beer Shrimp flash fried with accompanied with sweet chili.

Soup of the day is not only unusual flavors and textures.

A salad of mixed organic greens, paired by an herbed crouton, dressed lightly with your choices. Transitions the diner pe



expanded cheese selection for the 'Cutting Board' item simply a delicious loaf of bread with a variety of his mother Valerie Konefal sample the bread and cheese with a glass of wine poured by bartender David Emrich



metizing salad

iding to earn the prestigious puts an interesting spin on t noir but listed only as a l so I list it again by varietal minced Thai peanut chicken f wrapped in flash fried won e fraiche and a fresh carrot ls simmered in a rich curry or sopping are two appetizers f bolder flavors Another is Red 1 Leopold Bros Red Lager and 1 mayonnaise seasonal but packed with

reens and fresh herbs, accom and a coin of French cheese ice of one of the unique dress rfectly to the principal plates

EVE

Where 415 N Fifth Ave Ann Arbor (734) 222 0711
 Open 5 30 10 p m Tuesday Thursday until 11 p m Friday
 Saturday 11 a m to 2 p m Sunday brunch 5 9 p m dinner
 Food style High toned flavors in a globally inspired menu prepared with exacting French culinary skills
 Cost Dinner for two with wine \$100
 Reservations Recommended

MAIN ATTRACTIONS

Bolder flavors are in the spotlight with principal plates such as Asian Duck Lemongrass Roasted Niman Ranch Pork Tenderloin or with vegetarian appeal Peanut Barbequed Tofu Napoleon layered with seaweed exotic fruit and macadamia nuts

Although dubbed The Simple Fish and The Simple Steak they are hardly that

Choose from a selection of fresh fish and seafood that are lightly spiced pan-seared and finished with fresh lime or grilled pan fried broiled or blackened to taste and complemented by unique plate garnishes Simple Steak is from a selection of grilled fresh cuts of the day

PERFECT ENDINGS

Cup of Chocolate is drinkable but lasts a lot longer if you spoon it out Apple Pear and Sundried Cherry Crumble drives seasonal fruit to new heights with a dollop of rum raisin ice cream and maple cream topping off a culinary adventure at Eve



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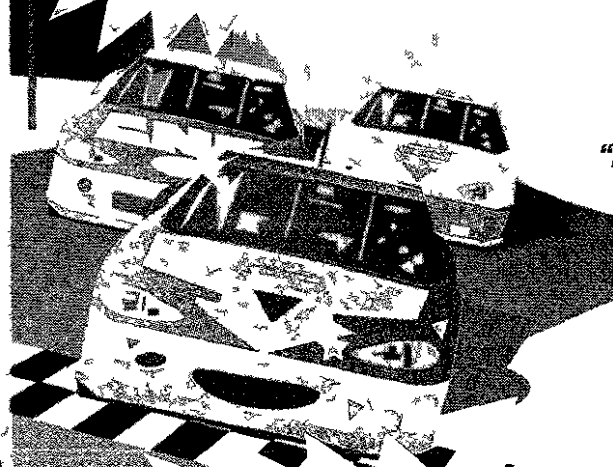
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Drinkology

Opt for authentic Mexican tastes

BY ELEANOR & RAY HEALD
CORRESPONDENTS

Does this happen to you? Every so often, you just have to eat Mexican food. And what accompanies it best? A great tequila – on its own or as a margarita.

Don Eduardo Silver Tequila (\$40/750mL) is produced by the Orendan family from 100 percent blue agave, grown on their plantation outside Tequila, Mexico, and distilled at the Orendan's La Mexicana Distillery in Tequila.

In the United Kingdom, during the 31st International Wine and Spirit Competition last year, Don Eduardo

tequilas took top honors.

In the category of young (joven) tequila, Don Eduardo Triple Distilled Silver Tequila received the coveted Gold Medal.

Dating back five generations to the 1850s, crafting of Don Eduardo Silver begins with a strict selection of "hjuelo," a seedling that grows at the base of the three- to six-year-old blue agave. The best seedlings are planted in the Orendan family agave plantation.

Care continues from then to the time of maturity in eight to 10 years when harvesting occurs.

Don Eduardo Silver Tequila is mellowed by three distillations. Drinking it neat or on the rocks allows you to experience the strong agave aromas and lime-citrus characters.

Hints of caramel, black pepper and cinnamon will enhance an authentic Mexican quesadilla served as an appetizer.



focusonwine@aol.com

Festival

Alligators know the blues, but have fun anyway

BY KEVIN BROWN
STAFF WRITER

The Alligators have a new CD called *Twenty to Life* that celebrates 20 years playing blues around metro Detroit and the Midwest.

But that anniversary may be eclipsed by one unique tribute. Lead singer Dave Krammer explains:

"I'll tell you a really strange thing last summer in Lansing. A young girl comes up after the gig and says, 'You're my parents' favorite band – they tell me I was conceived after one of your gigs.'"

So watch out for that birth-rate spike come September. The Alligators perform Friday, the opening night of the two-day 11th Annual Anti-Freeze Blues Festival Jan. 7-8 at The Magic Bag in Ferndale.

The Alligators have earned their reputation as a top regional band. They know their traditional blues, present their own songs and put on a powerful, fun stage show.

"It's chemistry," said Krammer of Livonia, who holds down a day job like the other band members in addition to performing locally and traveling 15-20 weekends a year for shows.

"If we can't get people on the dance floor by the second song we're doing something wrong," explained guitarist Steve Schwartz, one of the self-described blues purists in the group.

Krammer said the '60s British blues invasion – the Rolling Stones, Animals and Yardbirds – won him over to the blues and to the original artists that inspired the British bands. "It's probably just the simplicity and the grit more than anything else."

He played in several groups and

endured the flow of changing tastes. 'Blues music suffered dearly in the '70s, disco kicked our a--. It's when The Fabulous Thunderbirds and Stevie Ray (Vaughn) came out that blues started coming back.'

Soon after in 1984, The Alligators were hatched. There have been personnel changes, but Krammer and Walin' Dale on harmonica remain from the original lineup. Schwartz and Mark Seyler on drums joined 15 years ago, and Pete Kiss eight years back.

"It's a work ethic. All we ever wanted to do was just play music," Krammer said. The band has a repertoire of around 150 songs, and one third are originals.

High points in the band's history include the time they played a show outside Cleveland, sandwiched between Leon Redbone and Eric Burdon, lead singer of the Animals.

The band is excited about the job engineer Sean Morse did on the new CD, recorded live in a White Lake Township basement. Standout songs include a cover of Son House's *Preaching Blues* and the original, *Crying Time*.

While The Alligators have played their share of festivals, Krammer said there's something special about the Anti-Freeze show, which they've played three times. "This one just has the aura about it. It's very well run and just jammed full of people."

And as The Alligators celebrate their 20th anniversary, band members are hardly tired. "There's at least another 20 in us," Krammer said.

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CD release

Grievous Angel just clicks

BY KEVIN BROWN
STAFF WRITER

The band Grievous Angel celebrates its first CD release at a Troy show on Friday

But no way is this a first musical project for these veteran musicians, whose credits range from Was (Not Was) to Wilson Pickett

Guitarist-singer Billy Brandt has backed up Jill Jack for years David Mosher has sung and played fiddle, guitar and mandolin with a range of local and national acts, and recorded solo CDs Drummer Ron Pangborn performed with Was (Not Was) and Sheryl Crow, and bassist Nolan Mendenhall has played with Motown legends and won Producer of the Year at the Detroit Music Awards

But besides all that experience, Mendenhall said the band members just click.

There's no hipness factor or pretension It's all based on good songs and good solid arranging and playing He also praised the original songwriting of Brandt and Mosher

Grievous Angel takes its name from an album by country-rock pioneer Gram Parsons, the former Byrd, duet singing partner of Emmylou Harris and friend to

Keith Richards

Parsons, who died in 1973, sought to play cosmic American music - everything from country to soul Parsons was influenced by Ray Charles mixing of these genres in the early 60s

On the first CD, Grievous Angel combines those cosmic American influences with some impressive Crosby, Stills and Nash like harmonies

Live, the band covers everything from country artists George Jones and Johnny Cash to Creedence Clearwater Revival, Little Feat, the Grateful Dead Tim Buckley and Greenwich Village folk icon Fred Neil, whose *The Other Side of This Life* is the only cover on the new CD

"We do a real backbeat-heavy, Little Feat-sounding version of the Band song *Up on Cripple Creek*" Brandt said "We do a country-funk version of Dylan's *Mighty Quinn*"

At shows, people remark on the tight rhythm section "When you come from a soul band you can be executed for poor execution of rhythm," Brandt explained, laughing

"When we do a cover of *Hard to Handle* (previously performed by Otis Redding and the Black Crowes), our cracker funk is very funky"



Grievous Angel guitarist-singer Billy Brandt, David Mosher vocals fiddle guitar and mandolin, Ron Pangborn drums and bassist Nolan Mendenhall, is celebrating the release of its first CD

The debut CD release party will be at 7 p m Friday, Jan 7, at The Listening Room, Kensington Community Church, 1825 E Square Lake Road, east of John R, Troy Tickets are \$7, call (248) 786-0600

Following the CD release party Friday, the band will perform at 9 30 p m Thursday, Jan 13, at Dick O'Dow's in Birmingham and at 10 p m Friday, Jan 14, at the Rochester Mills Beer Co in Rochester

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Music

As spicy as a bowl of gumbo

Authentic Cajun style band comes to The Ark

BY LANA MINI
STAFF WRITER

Begin with a sound straight from Louisiana's bayous and prairies. Add vocals sung in an uncommon dialect that originated in northern France, Caribbean and African. Blend together with washboards, rugboards, fiddle, wooden sticks, triangle, accordion, bass and drums.

Simmer, and the result is Dennis Stroughmatt & Creole Stomp. They're performing authentic Creole, Cajun, Zydeco and Louisiana Swamp Pop music at the Ark on Thursday, Jan. 13.

'We're striving not only to entertain, but to educate audiences about American French culture,' said Jennifer Stroughmatt, the rugboard/washboard and triangle player of Creole Stomp. She's also the wife of band founder Dennis Stroughmatt.

The music that's a way of life in many parts of Louisiana is still only vaguely familiar to most Midwesterners.

'Most of the year we live on the road,' Jennifer Stroughmatt said. 'We play festivals and other events where we can introduce the music. The music is known in Scotland and France, where it has roots, but when we play in a place, for example like Utah, people at first are confused and then they love it.'

Creole Stomp has been featured on PBS-TV, CNN's *World Beat*, the Louisiana Folklife Festival, The Cajun French Music Awards and at other events. The band's CD, *Enfin At Last*, was nominated in 2003 as 'Best Album by a Cajun/Creole band based outside of Louisiana' by the Cajun French Music Association.

SMART MUSIC

Intellectuals attract intellectuals and Dennis Stroughmatt is one of them.

But don't mistake the term for someone who doesn't like to have fun, this music is about living and loving life during both easy and strenuous times.

People who understand the French influence of the music come to check it out with those who are just curious,' Jennifer Stroughmatt said.

Dennis Stroughmatt is a specialist of North American French Creole and Cajun language, culture and music. He was raised in a French area of Vincennes, Ind., but later moved to Old Mines, Mo. There he learned to speak Creole French and play the fiddle, French Missouri style, by attending local house parties with locals. Stroughmatt eventually went to Louisiana to spend time with the locals and study French culture. A few years later

DENNIS STROUGHMATT & CREOLE STOMP

When: Doors open 7:30 p.m. concert 8 p.m. Thursday Jan. 13

Where: The Ark 316 S. Main St. Ann Arbor

Admission: \$11 call (734) 761-1818

www.creolestomp.com or www.theark.org

CD: *Creole Stranger* on Swallow Records to be released in mid-January

while earning his master's degree in history at Southern Illinois University, he met musicians Jon Watson and John Giffin. In 1995, they formed a band called the Brown Baggers.

A few years after that he earned a certificate in Quebec French Language and Culture from the University of Quebec at Chicoutimi, Canada. Returning to the U.S. he began touring with Louisiana-based groups. He and Watson then formed Creole Stomp.

Other band members include Jim Willgoose, bass player and singer, Robert Russell, singer, lead and steel guitarist, and Jim Bangassar, lead guitar and singer. Watson plays drums and the mandolin.

LOVE AND MUSIC MIXED

Jennifer Stroughmatt discovered the music accidentally even though it's part of her French Canadian heritage.

I was working in a coffeehouse in Illinois during college just a few years ago and I saw Dennis playing there. I was so excited the first time I heard it something about it.

Noticing her strong interest in the music, Dennis Stroughmatt gave her a triangle to play. Soon she became part of the band. Six months ago the couple married.

'One day before a show he hands me the rugboard and says, 'Try this on stage tonight,' she said.

She strapped the jagged metal board to her chest and began to play.

RICH IN HISTORY

Zydeco is a hybrid of French Canadian songs, European instruments and world rhythms. Cajuns are descendants of French settlers of Acadie, Nova Scotia, who were expelled by the British in the mid-1700s. The term 'Creole' is derived from Spanish and French people who settled in Louisiana and slaves who were born there. Today, Creole is a loose term used to describe a racially diverse people sharing the French language, Catholicism, cooking, and of course, music.

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Family fun

Big hot wheels

Monster truck exhibit thunders at Detroit Science Center

BY NICOLE STAFFORD
STAFF WRITER

Have you ever seen a sports utility vehicle "rip the spider" or do a "dry hop?"

Even if you did, unless you're a monster truck fan, you probably wouldn't even know it.

Besides, these stunts are performed by monster trucks.

And aficionados of the sport and novices alike can learn all about these feats, as well as the science behind them, at *Monster Trucks An Xtreme Exhibition*, running Jan. 15 through May 29 at the Detroit Science Center.

"It's fun and it's behind the scenes," said Jeffrey Wyatt, producer of the exhibit for Clear Channel. "Museum exhibits are often perceived as being staid and boring. Here we have monster trucks. They're like superhero cars. They can jump 20 feet in the air and run over cars."

To say the least, Wyatt, who grew up watching his uncle drive a monster truck, is charged up about the exhibit.

The highlight is the opportunity to climb inside the cab of Grave Digger, a superstar of the Monster Jam racing circuit. Once inside, visitors can take in the 12-foot-high driver's-eye view.

Also on display is Hot Wheels, another well-known monster truck, and one of the enormous tires used by the vehicles.

The 9,000-square-foot exhibit includes many interactive displays that demonstrate the mechanics behind the power of monster trucks, which weigh a minimum of 10,000 pounds yet go as fast as 100 miles per hour. Video screens and sound effects recreate the spectacle of Monster Jam events and include footage of actual races.

It is loud, especially for a museum exhibit, said Wyatt. "We wanted to present the behind-the-scenes but never lose sight of the theatricality and show."

Another interactive display sure to be popular is The Orbitron, which simulates the experience of rolling over inside a monster truck. Visitors are strapped inside an authentic monster truck seat and then subjected to a 360-degree spin.

Although the exhibit almost sounds too fun to be educational, there's a little

BIG AND BAD

What Monster Trucks An Xtreme Exhibit explores the science of building and driving monster trucks through interactive displays.

When Jan. 15 through May 29. Museum hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday.

Where Detroit Science Center, 5020 John R, Detroit.

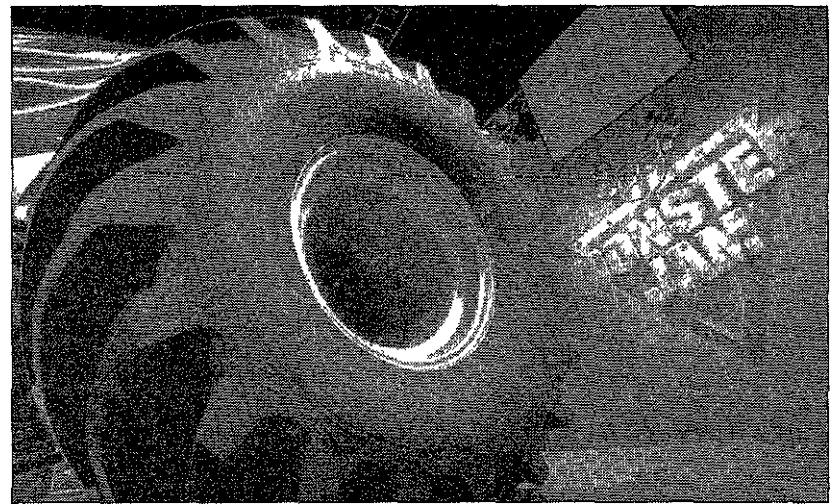
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bit of learning in the process, said Wyatt. Physics, engineering and even chemistry regulate the performance of monster trucks. The exhibit, for instance, includes a display put together by a dirtologist who explores the chemical composition of the special dirt mix used for races. Likewise, a deconstructed truck and other displays enable museum visitors to witness the mechanics, hydraulics and combustion processes working inside the vehicles. Other sections explore safety features and paint design. Video footage tells the real-life stories of well-known monster truck drivers.

Ultimately, the exhibit invites parents to engage in an educational process with their children, said Wyatt.

"We definitely wanted to provide that starting point of a dialogue between parents and grandparents and children," he said. "It gives you an opportunity to talk about what dad does in the garage and to share those experiences in a much more personal way than we can. It provides that jumping-off point."

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THE AVIATOR [PG 13]
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FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX [R]
Thurs 1/6 Only 7 00 9 45
Beg nn ng Fr day 7 EXC US V E ENGAGEMENT
MILLION DOLLAR BABY [PG 13]
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Celebrating the art of giving

Tzdekah boxes represent love

BY LANA MINI
STAFF WRITER

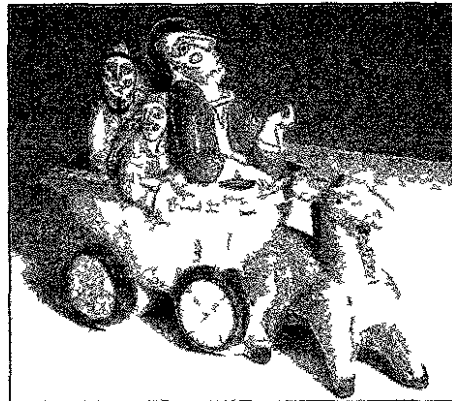
You can see the soul of Dani Katsir's Israel in his miniature stained-glass buildings, store fronts and tiny windows. They are part of the artist's childhood memories of the Holy Land where he was raised.

Amber is the primary color of Katsir's creations because when he was a child, every building, it seemed, was made with that color, he said.

"The natural color, to me, is Israel," Katsir said. "The yellow and the amber so when I make miniatures of windows or buildings from Israel I use it almost exclusively."

Katsir's miniatures are Tzdekah boxes, part of the exhibit *The Art of Giving: Artists Interpret Tzdekah Boxes* at the Janice Charach Epstein Gallery in West Bloomfield through Thursday, Jan. 27. Several artists designed a variety of Tzdekahs and many are available for purchase.

The exhibit, explained Director Sylvia Nelson, demonstrates each artist's devo-



Alex Gruss created '7 Immigrants Journey'

tion to the concept of *ciddur mitzvah*, which means using beautiful objects as 'banks' to benefit charity. The boxes are kept at the owner's home and stuffed with coins. When filled, the coins go to charity.

Tzdekah is the act of giving to others. It means "righteousness" and is one of the basic precepts of Judaism. Although Tzdekah boxes are a Jewish ritual, the concept of generosity can be shared by

anyone, Nelson said.

"I was raised Christian, so I can appreciate and understand how the boxes can be given to anyone because they truly are pieces of art," Nelson said.

Nelson, who is also a collage artist, created several boxes that are on display in the exhibit. Her boxes have lids that open and close. They're bright red and gold. The red symbolizes that Tzdekah should come from the heart, Nelson said. Inside the box, she painted words associated with generosity such as "happy, loving, kind, bountiful, enriched and responsible."

Box designs vary greatly. Some are fun while others are elegant and understated. Lola A. Sonnenschein's untitled, attention-grabbing box has an interesting, whimsical style. It's made with plastic, wood, beads and Plexiglas.

Others are more subtle. Idelle Hammond-Sass, who is primarily a jewelry designer, created a thin, almond-shaped box of sterling silver, quartz and 18K gold, *7 Immigrants Journey* by Alex Gruss, is bold and colorful ceramic.

THE ART OF GIVING

What: *The Art of Giving: Artists Interpret Tzdekah Boxes*

When: Through Thursday, Jan. 27
Where: Janice Charach Epstein Gallery at the Jewish Community Center's D. Dan & Betty Kahn Building, 660 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Open: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday
Closed Friday and Saturday. For more information, call (248) 432-5448.

Online: Artist Dani Katsir specializes in Tzdekah boxes, view his work at www.danikadesigns.com

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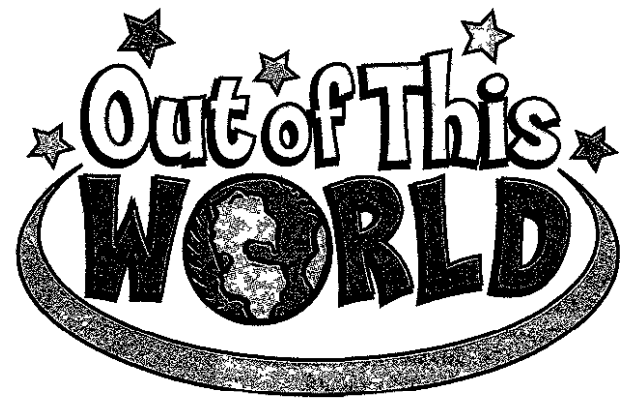
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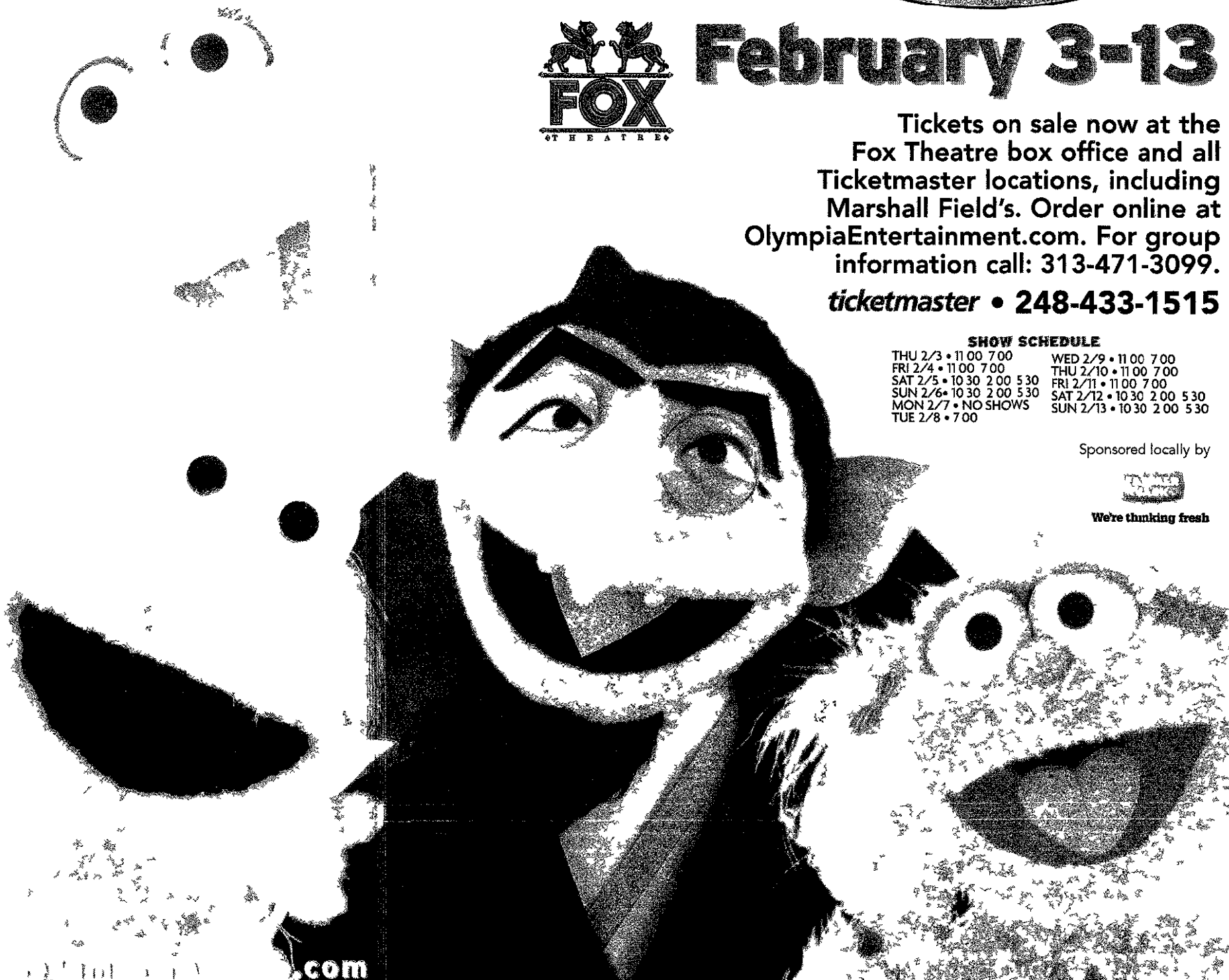
SHOW SCHEDULE

THU 2/3 • 11:00 7:00	WED 2/9 • 11:00 7:00
FRI 2/4 • 11:00 7:00	THU 2/10 • 11:00 7:00
SAT 2/5 • 10:30 2:00 5:30	FRI 2/11 • 11:00 7:00
SUN 2/6 • 10:30 2:00 5:30	SAT 2/12 • 10:30 2:00 5:30
MON 2/7 • NO SHOWS	SUN 2/13 • 10:30 2:00 5:30
TUE 2/8 • 7:00	

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