

**Aerosmith:
Back in Detroit's
saddle again**

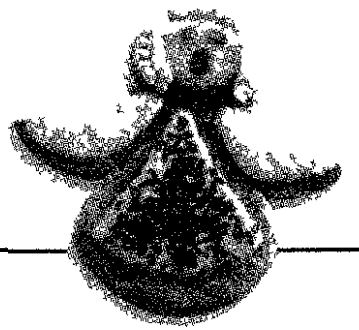
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**New iPod blazes another trail - this time
portable video - AT HOME PAGE B1**

**Bake up
holiday fun**

TASTE - PAGE B5



**THURSDAY
December 8, 2005**

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Friends get keys to Penn

Deal contingent on
group coming up
with money

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

When Brian West saw the flier about efforts to save the Penn Theatre in downtown Plymouth earlier this year, he was curious about the future of the landmark that's been standing across the street from Kellogg Park since 1941

"I researched the Penn on the Internet, and there was a posting by Jennifer (Philpot-Munson) about efforts to save the theater," said West, 37, the creative director for an advertising agency. "I thought maybe I could provide some kind of marketing and advertising support."

West, who lives not far from the Penn, wandered to the Coffee Beanery, where nearly 50 other people gathered to talk about what could be done to save the historic theater, which — at the time — was being threatened with demolition.

"There was a lot of brainstorming," remembered West. "Our main objective was to reach as many people as we could, let the people know the building was in danger of being demolished. We had no ideas, at that point, what might be done."

A core group went on to start the Friends of the Penn, a preservationist group whose purpose is to save the Penn from the wrecking ball, and remain a viable venue for Plymouth's family entertainment.

Be careful what you ask for
After months of negotiations, Penn

PLEASE SEE PENN, A5



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Artist Charlotte Moore-Viculin points out the boyhood home of Domenico Porco in the town of Amantea, Italy. She recreated the seaside town in a series of four murals in the dining room of Porco's Amantea Restaurant which were unveiled Friday during a luncheon ceremony.

Every picture tells a story

Murals capture flavor of
restaurateur's native Italy

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

Domenico Porco decided to invite a few friends to lunch Friday. He served them food that's the hallmark of his Amantea's Restaurant and let them watch as he ripped sheets of paper from the dining room wall.

No, he wasn't remodeling. He was unveiling four large murals, depicting his hometown of Amantea, Italy, done by Plymouth artist Charlotte Moore-Viculin.

Years in the making, the four almost 4-by-8-foot murals depict the Mediterranean town from the old castle and Porco's boyhood home to the hotel and seaside dance pavilion.

"Charlotte started with a concept, then my wife and I took a trip to Italy," Porco said. "We showed her the pictures and she said that complicated things. She got so excited and took the pictures."

The murals were a lengthy project for Moore-Viculin. Known for

her portraits in oil and murals done in homes, she worked around the many club meetings and funeral luncheons held at the restaurant and her work at the Plymouth studio.

"If I had known I would have done the murals on canvas in the studio and then mounted them to the walls," she said. "I worked on them a long time."

Instead, she drew an outline of the murals on the walls then made changes. The murals, however, turned out to be more extensive than the drawings.

"I incorporated several scenes into each mural, I took exact buildings from the photos, but I

PLEASE SEE MURALS, A9



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Detroit Lions tight end Marcus Pollard rings a bell for the Salvation Army at Wal-Mart in Canton. Pollard hoped to raise more money than Green Bay Packer Bubba Franks who was bell-ringing in the Green Bay area at the same time.

Packer out-rings Pollard in kettle battle

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

Before the Detroit Lions travel to Green Bay to play the Packers in a Sunday night NFL matchup, the Packers are already a win up on the Lions, thanks to Bubba Franks.

Franks, the Packers' veteran tight end, faced off in a bell-ringing competition to benefit the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign Tuesday against the Detroit Lions' Marcus Pollard, the tight end they signed as a free agent before this season.

A confident Pollard talked with Franks during the competition. "I told him to move over," Pollard said, laughing. "There's a new Shaft in town."

The confidence didn't translate into victory, though. Ringing at the

same time in different time zones, Franks out-dued Pollard, raising more than \$5,100 in his one-hour stint at Bay Park Square Mall in Ashwaubenton, Wis. Pollard, meanwhile, raised more than \$1,800 at the Wal-Mart on Ford Road in Canton.

And while Pollard, a first-time bell ringer, lost out to Franks, the Lions said the effort was more important than the winning.

"We certainly see the benefit to being involved in the community, and we were glad to help the Salvation Army," Lions representative Kim Doverspike said. "We thought Marcus did great, and he certainly had fun doing it."

The event was a shot in the arm to the Salvation Army's Red Kettle campaign, the corps' biggest annual fund-raiser. According to officials

at the Plymouth Salvation Army, the campaign lagged behind last year's by about 20 percent a week ago.

Though business has picked up in recent days, with more volunteers calling to give their time, every little bit helps.

"It was very generous of the Lions to help," said Kelly Boelter, Red Kettle Campaign coordinator for the Plymouth Salvation Army.

"(Pollard) was great about it, and the people loved him."

It's not the first kettle victory for Franks. In a similar 2002 contest, Franks "out rang" the Minnesota Vikings' Byron Chamberlain while raising nearly \$2,000 during his one hour of ringing.

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
(734) 459-2700

PLEASE SEE BOND, A9

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Youth artist deadline

The application deadline for this year's Plymouth Symphony's Youth Artist Competition is Friday, Jan 30, with the competition itself scheduled for Sunday, Feb 12 at Evola Music, 7170 N Haggerty in Canton

Through the generosity of the Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs, local service organizations and other sponsors, the Plymouth Symphony recognizes young orchestral talent from the greater Plymouth-Canton and surrounding communities through this competition and offered music scholarships to area youth since 1978

The competition is composed of three divisions: Senior Instrumental (grades 10-12), Senior Piano (grades 10-12), and Junior Division (combined instrumental & piano grades 7-9) Applicants must be piano, band or orchestra students in the school districts of Livonia, Northville, Novi, Plymouth-Canton, Van Buren (Belleville), Clarenceville, or Wayne-Westland Celebration Youth Orchestra members and students at Evola Music are also eligible

The first-prize winner in each senior division shall receive \$500 and the first-prize winner in the junior division shall receive \$250 If applicable, honorable mentions will also be acknowledged

Applications, available through the Plymouth Symphony, are due Jan 30 Past participants are encouraged to re-apply, however, musicians are eligible to win only one first-prize award in each division Winners may have the opportunity to perform with the PSO or Orchestra Canton Applicants must be available to perform at the competition

For an application and/or further information, contact Ellen Elliott by e-mail at ello@plymouthsymphony.org or by calling (734) 451-2412 Applications are also available on the Plymouth Symphony Web site at www.plymouthsymphony.org

MARSP luncheon

All retired school employees are invited to join the

Northwest Wayne County Chapter of Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel (MARSP) at the next luncheon meeting Wednesday, Dec 14 MARSP meets at 11:30 a.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 19801 Farmington Road in Livonia

At the December luncheon, a Barbershop Chorus of 16 will present a holiday program Reservations can be made by calling (248) 477-9764 The cost is \$9

Book signing

The Book Cellar & Cafe in downtown Plymouth hosts a book reading and signing of a newly published book about rural and small-town life in Michigan at 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec 10

More than 45 Michigan artists and poets have contributed to the newly published anthology by Mayapple Press, *In Drought Time Scenes from Rural and Small Town Life* Many of the writers are nationally known, such as Thomas Lynch, author of *The Undertaking* and *Still Life in Milford*, and most recently, *Booking Passage We Irish and American* Among the award-winning artists who contributed their work to the book include Joan Painter Jones, Russ Marshall, James Peery, and William Brody

Edited by Douglas M. Smith, Melody Vassoff and Karen Woollams, *In Drought Time* presents the story of small town and rural life through art and poetry With the swift change in land use and the growth of villages into cities across the Midwest and beyond, *In Drought Time* attempts to capture a way of life that is in flux and perhaps soon to be lost forever Nationally known painters and writers contribute to a unique portrait of people and place not often addressed in literary anthologies

Open mic night

The Plymouth Coffee Bean presents "Monday Nights in the Orange Room," a "super-fine acoustic music and spoken word open-mic time hosted by Sean FitzGerald

Open mic night runs Mondays 8-11 a.m., sign-up can be done via e-mail at



Fairy tale performances

The Plymouth Symphony Orchestra joined with the Plymouth-Canton Ballet Company to present Tchaikovsky's classic fairy tale, *Nutcracker Ballet* at the Salem High School auditorium last weekend Judge Ron Lowe of 35th District Court Judge Ron Lowe introduced each performance with reading of "Twas the Night Before Christmas The performances played to large audiences including a sell-out crowd Sunday night

Beanopenmc@hotmail.com or in person The Plymouth Coffee Bean is open until midnight It's located at 884 Penniman in downtown Plymouth

For more information, call (734) 454-0178

Toys for Tots

Walker-Buzenberg Furniture in Plymouth is teaming with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve for its annual Toys for Tots Drive

Donors of new, unwrapped toys get the opportunity to enter a drawing for a \$500 Walker-Buzenberg gift certificate The offer is made in conjunction with the store's holiday bonus sale, which runs through Dec 18

"We hope to be able to collect many toys and gifts from our loyal customers," co-owner Eric Buzenberg said "This effort will leave a lasting impression on deserving children"

Donations can be dropped off at the store through Dec 18 The store is located at 240 N Main in Plymouth For more information, call (734) 459-1300

Toy drive

Mel's Golden Razor sponsors its 26th annual toy collection for needy families and First

Step

Owner Mel Bobcean will accept toys and cash donations, which he then turns into food and clothing for needy families The drive runs through Dec 20

Mel's Golden Razor is located at 595 Forest in downtown Plymouth For information, call (734) 455-9057

DAR meeting

The Daughters of the American Revolution meet 11 a.m. Monday, Dec 19, at Greenmead Hill House in Livonia

Sue Daniels will talk about the Christmas tea

For more information, call (734) 459-4764

Art exhibit

The Plymouth Community Arts Council presents the work of Walled Lake artist Rodney Lloyd through Dec 23

Oil paintings and pottery will be featured in the exhibit entitled, "Nature Redesigns Old and New Life Forms of the Earth, Air and Sea

A reception will be held for the artist 6-8 p.m. Saturday, Dec 10 The public is invited to attend

Lloyd worked as a car designer for Ford and Chrysler for many years He was involved with the original

designs for the Mustang and the Chrysler mini-vans He has also taught design at the College for Creative Studies

His creativity also embraces nature in the form of very colorful, abstract oil paintings The dynamic use of color, organic forms and unusual composition is central to the artist's vision His work is included in many private and corporate collections

The Plymouth Community Arts Council is located at 774 N Sheldon in Plymouth Exhibit hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday, and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday

Call (734) 416-4278 for additional information

Stroke program

Tram To End Stroke, a marathon training program offered by the American Stroke Association, will hold information sessions at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec 15 at the Plymouth District Library

This program is designed for people who want to get in shape, travel and raise money for a good cause Choose to walk or run a full or half marathon in San Diego or Kona, Hawaii All fitness levels are welcome No registration is required Additional information sessions are scheduled in January

For more information call (248) 827-4214 or visit stroke-association.org

TAG screening

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools officials are screening students for admission to the district's Talented and Gifted program for the 2006-07 school year

To apply for admission to the program, a student must reside within the P-CCS district boundaries and be in grades 2-7 Nomination forms are available in all P-CCS elementary and middle schools Completed nomination forms need to be back to school principals or counselors by Dec 23

Nomination forms also are available online at www.pccs.k12.mi.us Nominations for non-public school students should be returned to the TAG Office at Miller Elementary School, 43721 Hanford Road, Canton, MI 48187

Screening for the program involves two phases of standardized testing, including the Iowa Test of Basic Skills and the Cognitive Abilities Test

Entertainment books

Several Plymouth organizations are selling the 2006 Entertainment Books as fundraisers

The Plymouth Optimists are selling the 2006 Entertainment Books, with all proceeds helping children throughout southeastern Michigan Price is \$25 Books are available at Saxton's Garden Center in Plymouth, or home delivery is available Call (734) 453-8253 for details

The Plymouth Community Chorus is selling the 2006 Entertainment Books to support its charitable and educational activities The book offers 2-for-1 and 50-percent discounts on restaurants, travel, recreation, hotel stays, entertainment and sporting events The book is being offered at a special fund-raising price of \$25, and can be delivered, if the purchaser desires

Order books by calling Stan Kovacheff at (734) 459-6829

Members of the Plymouth Symphony League are selling the 2006 Entertainment Book, offering 50 percent discount coupons at hundreds of restaurants and discounts for many other services and events The books is priced at \$25, with all proceeds to support the Plymouth Symphony Books can be picked up at the symphony office, next to the Cozy Cafe in downtown Plymouth, or ordered by calling Mary Thomas, (734) 453-3016 For more information, call the symphony office, (734) 453-2112

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Physical Therapy UPDATE

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Being overweight poses a number of health issues one of which may have escaped the attention of parents It is the fact that overweight and obese children report greater symptoms six months after an ankle injury In fact the overweight children (aged 8 to 18) were more than twice as likely as the non-overweight study participants to report pain with activity persistent swelling and weakness in light of these findings overweight and obese children should be targeted for close follow up and rehabilitation after an acute ankle injury This

is one more reason for anyone to keep his or her weight within normal limits Children have high energy requirements because they are growing However like adults if they take more energy in the form of food than they use up the extra energy is stored in their bodies as fat To schedule an appointment contact the **HANDS ON CENTER FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY** at 455 8370 You'll find us conveniently located at 600 South Main Street in downtown Plymouth New patients are welcome

PS According to the study mentioned above children's risk of experiencing long term ankle problems increases step with increasing body mass index

Johan Gomuth, PT
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Susan Rosiek
Executive Editor
(734) 953 2100
srosiek@hometownlife.com

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

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

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

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

Newsroom(734) 459 2700 **Fax**(734) 459 4224
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Saving a piece of history

Officials hope a historic barn dating back to Civil War can be spared from the wrecking ball

BY KURT KUBAN
STAFF WRITER

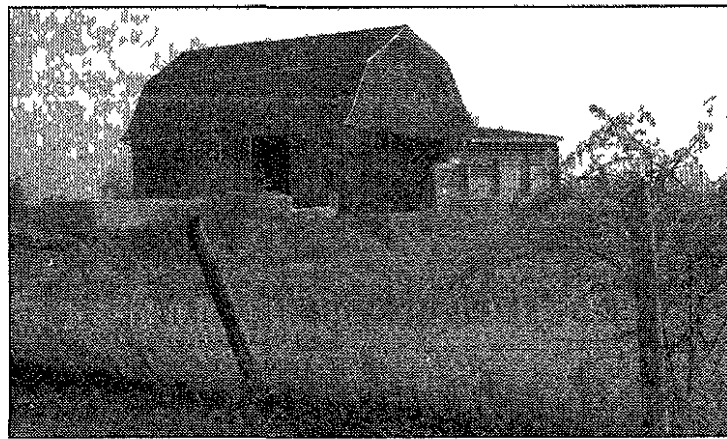
The Canton Historic District Commission and Canton Historical Society have begun a fund-raising drive they hope will save a historic barn currently owned by the Plymouth-Canton School District. They hope to raise enough money to move the barn to Cherry Hill Village, where it would be part of the historic Bartlett-Travis House that is located off of Ridge Road, just north of Cherry Hill.

The barn, currently located at the corner of McClumpha and Joy roads on the grounds of the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, was constructed on the site in the early 1900s, but contains some timbers from a barn that was built years earlier.

The barn was partially built from another barn that dates back to the pre-Civil War era, said Canton Township Clerk Terry Bennett, who is also a member of the historic district commission.

The barn is all that is left of the Rotary School Farm, named in 1970 after the Plymouth Rotary raised \$20,000 to operate a school farm and rural life center. Thousands of Plymouth-Canton students took bus trips to the farm until it closed in 1981 because of economic cutbacks.

According to the historical society, the barn was constructed by farmer Aruna Cady, who died in 1911. Several barn experts have inspected the



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Canton Historical Society is trying to raise enough money to move this barn from the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park to Cherry Hill Village. Some of the barn dates back to the pre-Civil War era.

barn and determined it is a raised basement barn with a gambrel roof, which has four sides, and is quite rare.

The school district bought the property and barn in 1967, according to district spokesman Frank Ruggirello. He said the district has maintained the structure, and uses it for storage of lawn equipment and road salt. However, in recent years it has become obvious that the building wasn't large enough for the district's needs, and officials decided to build a larger facility on the campus.

The problem is that it's not adequate to hold the amount of salt we need. We have enough salt in there to handle one snow storm. If it snows for more than one day we run out of salt," Ruggirello said.

Also, the district plans to build tennis courts for the new Plymouth High School where the barn now sits, Ruggirello said. In fact, the district had planned to already have the barn demolished, but decided to hold off to give Canton officials enough time to come up with an alternative plan.

According to Bennett, the estimated cost to move the barn is \$200,000. She said they have been told they need to get the barn moved by April, which doesn't give them much time to save what she feels is a historic treasure.

"What we're trying to do is determine what the sense of the community is. It's a lot of money that has to be raised in a short period of time," Bennett said. "We've lost a lot of historic resources in this community. There are only about four or five barns left in Canton. Dick Waldecker, who will

become president of the historical society next month, has led the efforts to move the barn. In fact, he says it was an idea he came up with last year after jogging by the barn on a number of occasions. He approached the district, and found out it was slated for the wrecking ball. Ever since, he has been calling as many people as possible, including Canton officials to see how it might be saved.

He said the barn experts that have examined the barn have determined it's in excellent condition, and he thinks it could be an excellent tool to teach children about the community's agricultural past. It is his goal to use the barn for plowing and harvesting demonstrations for school children. He said several people have already committed to donating farm equipment, which could be stored in the barn once it is moved.

Up until 1970, Canton was the sweet corn capital of Michigan. Back then, every ear of sweet corn grown in Canton was bought by Kroger Waldecker said.

"Unfortunately, kids today think the only things we grow here in Canton are four-bedroom colonial homes. I really think we have to preserve our heritage and teach them what Canton used to represent."

Bennett said Canton officials would also like to renovate the barn so it could be used for all kinds of events, from square dances and picnics to a venue for music acts and art exhibits.

For more information on the 'Help MOOOVE the barn' project, please call (734) 394-5190.
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Six decades of diamonds

Jewelers eye 'something else' after 60 years

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

For more than six decades, the O & D Bush name has sparkled brightly in Detroit and Plymouth.

But, more than 38 years after he started working with his dad in their original downtown Detroit jewelry store, owner Don Bush says it's time to take it easy.

Bush, and his wife, Barbara, will close their jewelry business on Ann Arbor Trail near downtown Plymouth shortly after the first of the year.

"Yes, I'll miss it. We've got a lot of good friends and customers here, and it's a fantastic town, admitted Don Bush, 61, who also makes his home in Plymouth. "But, we're going to relax awhile and then I'll find something to do."

The Bush jewelry business began 61 years ago in Detroit, and moved to Plymouth in 1977. At the time, there were only three jewelry stores in Plymouth. However, that number eventually grew to about 10.

The area was well saturated with jewelry stores, but we never noticed, one way or the other, said Bush, who is only one of 37 jewelers in the state to possess a gemology degree. "We make a lot of our own jewelry, and being the only gemologist in the area really helped. We have special one-of-a-kind jewelry and unique pieces that our customers want made up."

The one thing Bush says he'll miss is seeing the smiles of his customers. "The jewelry business is about making people happy," he said. "We help by fixing something that is



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

More than 38 years after he started working with his father, Don and Barb Bush have decided it's time to explore other things and will close their Ann Arbor Trail store after the first of the year.

broken, and helping couples select the diamonds they'll cherish forever."

The Bush's are selling their building to Plymouth veterinarian Kevin Roose, who will move his practice from a remodeled home on Main Street to soon-to-be renovated offices.

Right now, we have about 2,400 square-feet on two floors, said Roose, a Plymouth Township resident. We'll be adding onto our new building, doubling the space to about 5,000-square feet.

"We'll be able to expand from two exam rooms to four, and the move will make it more convenient for our customers to get in and out of the building by eliminating steps," he said.

Our current parking, with only about eight spaces, is cramped. We'll be able to increase parking to about 20 cars. It will be much nicer for our clients.

Roose, who began his practice in 1983 in Canton before moving to Plymouth in 1991, said the new offices are being designed by an architect in Boston who specializes in designing veterinary clinics. Roose said if all goes well, he hopes to move into the new facility in about a year, after spending nearly \$1 million for renovations.

While Roose gets ready to settle into his new location, the Bush's are looking forward to having a little more time to themselves.

"In the summer maybe we'll spend a little time car racing, maybe spend a little more time with family," Barbara Bush said.

"We're so used to dealing with people, we're going to have to find something to keep us talking to people. We're really going to miss that."

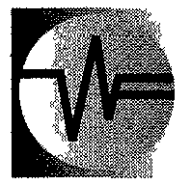
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Traveling across cultures

Program helps students learn about each other

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

When 15 teenagers arrived from Germany last month to study for a couple of weeks at the Plymouth-Canton Schools educational park, the most noticeable difference from going to high school in their homeland to one where there were three high schools on one campus was immediately apparent.

In Germany, we stay in one class and we don't have to go to other classes during school," said 18-year-old Steffen Boettiger. "We stay in one class and the teacher comes to us."

And, so began the two-week high school career at P-CEP for the German exchange students from Eduard-Spranger-Schule in Freudenstadt (Joy Town), Germany, about 50 miles from Stuttgart.

The German students were taking part in the German American Partnership Program, an exchange program that provides high school students the opportunity to learn more about German culture and study the German language.

Boettiger, who lived with Plymouth High School junior David Maycock and his family in Plymouth Township, said the entire educational program in Germany — K-12 as we know it — is much different than what he found in the U.S. For one, his German school has about 1,300 students, about a quarter of the nearly 5,500 students at Plymouth-Canton's high school park.

"After fourth grade, we can choose between three school paths, high level, medium and low level," said Boettiger. "We go to gymnasium, the highest

level, one of the hardest schools. We study to go to the university."

In fact, gymnasium is almost equal to college in Germany and can take up to 13 years to complete, which is equivalent to a high school degree in the U.S.

In gymnasium, students study economics, technical and housekeeping, which is like science and biology," said Hans-Peter Hirsch, the group's liaison for the trip. "I think it must be easier, here, for the Germans because in gymnasium they already choose hard classes."

Eighteen-year-old Carmen Kreidler was able to travel with her Plymouth Township "sister," Jillian Miller, visiting Greenfield Village, Cedar Point amusement park, attending cheerleading practice with Miller and taking part in truck-

or-treating. "We have one amusement park in Germany, but it's not so good like Cedar Point," said Kreidler. "In Germany, we haven't got loops in our roller coasters."

Kreidler did help the U.S. economy while visiting, spending some of her time shopping. "We went to an outlet store and I bought a lot," Kreidler said with a smile. "Everything here is cheaper."

"I go into a store and they ask you how you are, that's not normal in Germany," she said. "I will tell my friends to they should go to America because everything is so great."

For Miller, a Canton High School junior, the experience was better than she first imagined.

"At first I was scared I would get someone I didn't get along with," said Miller. "Even though they live across the ocean in Europe, there's not a big difference in any of us."



American and German students taking part in the German American Partnership Program got together for a trip to Greenfield Village recently.

Maycock said he liked having a "brother" for a couple of weeks.

"It was good having someone to hang around with all the time," Maycock said.

Maycock will have to brush up on his German before he travels abroad to stay with Boettiger for a couple of weeks next summer.

"When they speak to each other in regular conversations, it's hard to understand," said Maycock. "When they speak to us in German, they speak more slowly so we can understand."

Canton High School German teacher Linda Hahn is looking forward to taking a dozen stu-

dents to Germany next June to stay with the same students they hosted for a couple of weeks.

"It will be nice for them to be able to practice their German and know they haven't wasted their time in the classroom watching movies, reading textbooks and doing exercises on paper," said Hahn. "I told them they're going to panic, feel like they don't know anything."

"Let them see what they know, because I think they'll find out they really do know something," she said.

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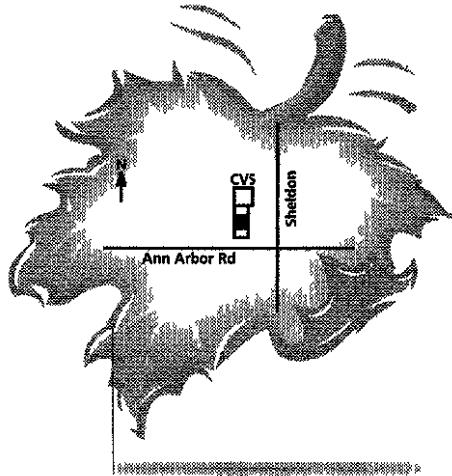
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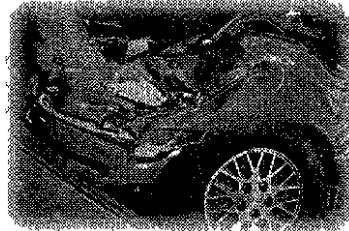
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FOR THE RECORD

B
Louise G. Baughman
 Baughman 88 of Green Lake died Nov 18
Harold E. Brear
 Brear 90 died Nov 30

C
Jack H. Carr
 Carr 98 died Nov 29
Rene J. Colton
 Colton 43 died Dec 4

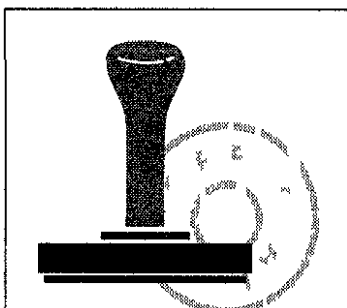
E
Rev. Dr. Steven M. Eggers
 Eggers 50 died Dec 2
Sister Mary Coralita Ellerbrock, RSM
 Ellerbrock 90 died December 3

K
Peter Kokenakes
 Kokenakes 85 died Nov 30

L
George Remick Libby Jr.
 Libby 90 died Dec 3

M
Eileen Frances Little
 Little 89 of Westland died Dec 4

Tobin Morbach



For the Record appears in every edition of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Complete paid obituaries can be found inside today's newspaper in Passages on page C10.

W
Morbach 50 formerly of West Bloomfield died Nov 29
Harriet Haynes Robison Weaver
 Weaver 80 of Harbor Springs formerly of Detroit and Birmingham died Nov 23

Pilot loved sewing, crossword puzzles

Louise Grace Baughman, 88, of Green Lake, passed away Friday, Nov 18, 2005, at Munson Hospice House in Traverse City. Louise was born in Northville on July 17, 1917, the daughter of Charles and Hattie (Timyan) Peck. She married Keith D. Baughman Nov 5, 1946, in Plymouth. Louise served as a pilot in the WASPS during World War II and co-owned a private plane following her military service. Louise and her husband lived in the Plymouth

area for 35 years prior to moving to Interlochen to enjoy their retirement. Before her marriage, Louise was a hairdresser, operating her own salon. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth who enjoyed working crossword puzzles, playing computer solitaire and feeding the birds. Her other hobbies included sewing, crafting afghans and hooking rugs. Survivors include her daughter, Linda (Rev. William)

Alderman Koch of Rogers City, grandchildren, Marc (Dede) Alderman of Interlochen and Lara (Jeff) Kelley of Vancouver, British Columbia, a great-granddaughter, Sienna Grace Kelley, step grandchildren, Shan (Todd) Bowns of Battle Creek, Maya (Jeff) Kassab of Traverse City and Chay (Holly) Gray of Grawn, step great-grandchildren, Mkenzi Bowns, Carter Kassab and Nadia Gray, and several nieces and nephews. Louise was preceded in

death by her parents, husband, Keith, and daughter, Lisa. A celebration of Louise's life will be held in the spring. Interment of her cremated remains will take place in Grant Township Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be directed to Munson Hospice House, 1105 Sixth St., Traverse City, MI 49684. You may sign Louise's on-line guest book at www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com. The family was served by The Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home, Traverse City.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Plymouth Community Chorus is selling the 2006 Entertainment Books to support its charitable and educational activities. The book offers 2 for 1 and 50 percent discounts on restaurants, travel, recreation, hotel stays, entertainment and sporting events. The book is being offered at a special fund raising price of \$25 and can be delivered if the purchaser desires. Order books by calling Stan Kovacheff at (734) 459-6829. Members of the Plymouth

Symphony League are selling the 2006 entertainment book offering 50 percent discount coupons at hundreds of restaurants and discounts for many other services and events. The book is priced at \$25 with all proceeds to support the Plymouth Symphony. Books can be picked up at the symphony office next to the Cozy Café in downtown Plymouth or ordered by calling Mary Thomas (734) 453-3016. For more information call the symphony office (734) 453-2112.

Princess & the Pea Northville Youth Theater in partnership with Northville Parks and Recreation and Ever After Productions presents The Princess and the Pea. Dec 16 (7 p.m.) and Dec 17 (2:30 and 7 p.m.) at the Northville Senior Community Center at 303 W Main in Northville. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at the Recreation Center at Hillside (700 W Baseline Northville). For more information call (248) 349-0203.

AROUND TOWN

Entertainment books
 Several Plymouth organizations are selling the 2006 Entertainment Books as fund raisers. The Plymouth Optimists are selling the 2006 Entertainment Books with all proceeds helping children throughout southeastern Michigan. Price is \$25. Books are available at Saxton's Garden Center in Plymouth or home delivery is available. Call (734) 453-8253 for details.

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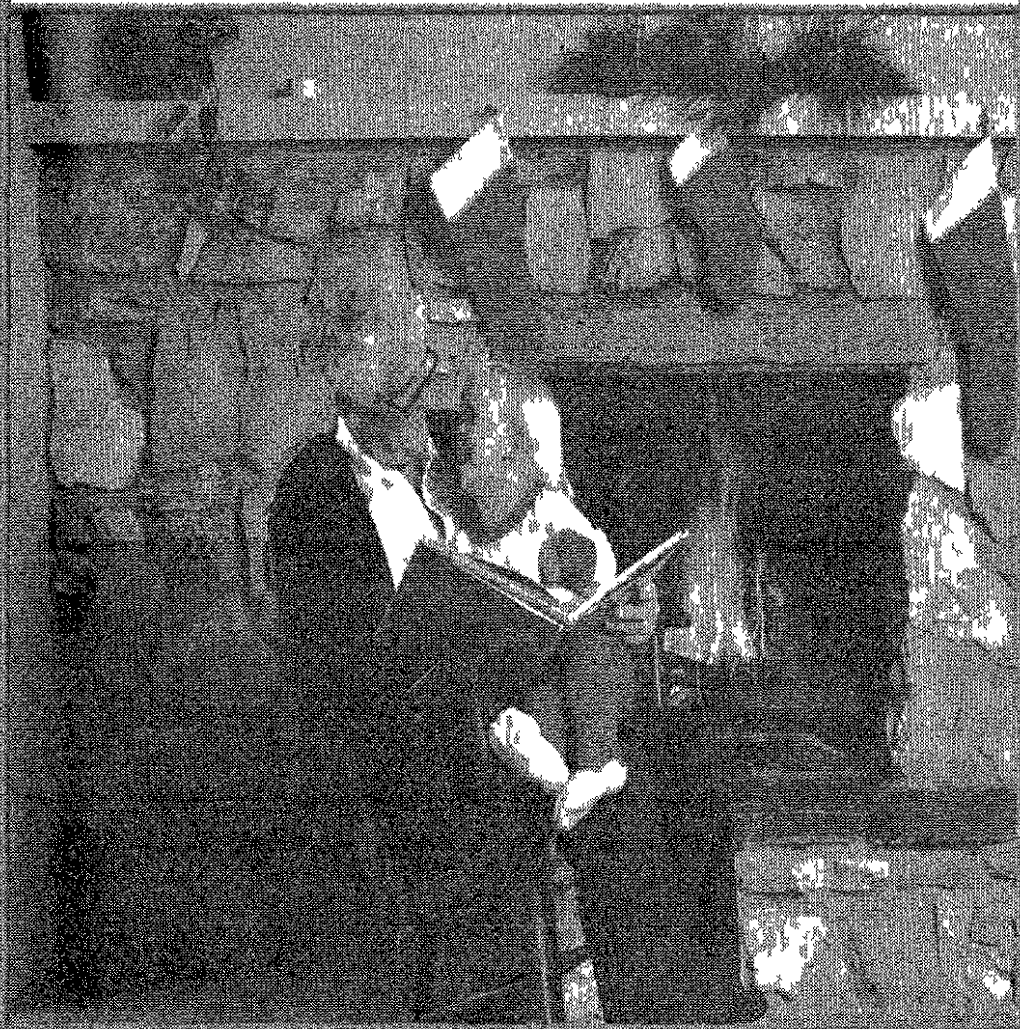
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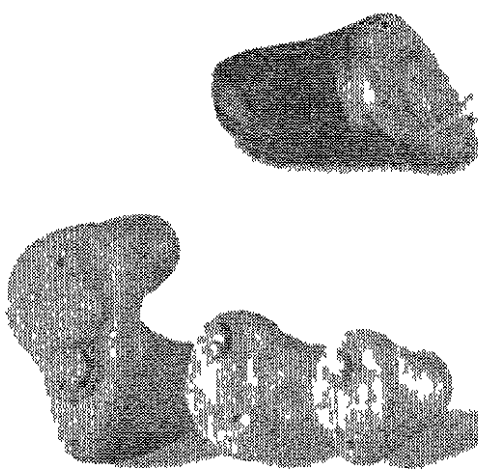
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Center has given me the opportunity to do just that.

Diet Center, a national franchise, provides programs based on good nutrition and healthy eating. They follow the guidelines of the American Diabetic Association and the American Heart Association. Diet Center offers personalized weight-loss programs, body composition analysis and one-on-one counseling to give clients constant guidance and support.

The program is successful, in no small part, due to the dedicated staff.

“Linda and her counselors obviously care tremendously about ensuring my success,” said Diet Center client Kay Swenders, who’s lost 26 pounds. “They have so many great ideas to help me stay on track, and they are obviously

devoted to helping clients lose their weight.”

Clients see results because programs are specific to them.

“We start each client with a body composition analysis to measure their percentage of body fat and lean body mass. This helps guide us as far as how many calories the individual needs to lose unwanted pounds and inches,” said Aubuchon. “We also provide one-on-one counseling to give clients clear motivation,

accountability, constant support and guidance. We have several programs, including our 21 Day Thermogenics Diet, that are designed and personalized to fit any lifestyle.”

Diet Cent is located at the northwest corner of North Lilley and Warren in Canton.

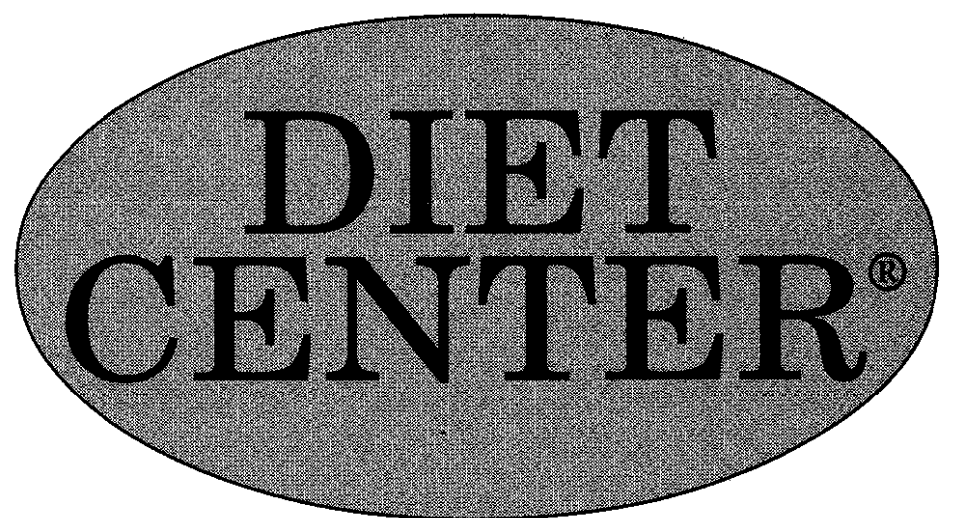
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Last year, the folks at Hermann's Olde Town Grille raised some \$4,500 in cash plus several bags of toys in its annual Toys for Tots auction.

This year, ownership at the eatery hopes to do even better as they host the eighth-annual Toys for Tots auction noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11.

The event will feature live and silent auctions, 50/50 drawings and door prizes and happy-hour prices.

The live auction starts at 3 p.m. Some of the auction items include:

- A quarter-karat diamond pendant/chain from Showroom of Elegance

- A sterling-silver bracelet from Francis Jewelers

- An electric scooter from Powersports and Scooters

- A pound of home-made fudge each month for a year from House of Fudge

- A Rousch Racing hat signed by all five Rousch drivers

- Restaurant and hair salon gift certificates

Admission is \$5 or a new, unwrapped toy. Hermann's Olde Town Grille is located at 195 Liberty, at the corner of Starkweather, in Plymouth's Old Village.

For more information, call (734) 239-2900.

BOND

FROM PAGE A1

meeting last week.

"I think voters are aware of the fact the school district is growing, and growing fast," said Eggenberger. "And, if they want to have a good school district, which they know they have, they need to keep up with the growth."

"People here want their property values to stay strong, and failing to pass the bond won't help," she said. "When people move into this community, they know they get more for their money in Plymouth-Canton than in many other school districts."

Brand and a contingent of school administrators will meet with Michigan Department of Treasury officials in Lansing Jan. 9 to get state-mandated approval to put the two bond measures before voters.

"The bond application will be submitted to the state next week, and they will review it and have questions for us at our meeting next month," said Brand. "They want to know the specifics of each building, ages of our buildings, what remodeling is going to be done, and enrollment projections, among other things."

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MURALS

FROM PAGE A1

picked the most interesting ones, she said. "I decided to make them more complicated."

The murals give the illusion of looking at the city from a second- or third-story balcony. French doors stand partially open as if to let in the warm sea breezes. Dowels and screws painted an antique bronze give dimension to the door "hinges."

The first mural shows the old castle that sits on the hill above the town, while the second panel includes the home where Porco was born and the church on the piazza where he was baptized.

The third mural is dominated by the beach and the fourth panel includes a familiar face, that of Porco who is seen looking out over the town toward the sea. Moore-Viculin had Porco stand at a counter at the edge of the room and within a few feet of where she was working.

"I'd stand one side of the counter and she would keep telling me to look up," Porco said.

But it is Moore-Viculin's attention to detail that makes the murals astounding. The beach scene includes many different color umbrellas, all painstakingly painted to show a texture and patterns, done with brushes she got from Italy.

"It was fun doing the umbrellas," she said, "Not only are they different colors,

they're all different designs."

The hotel in the fourth mural faces away from the idyllic town square and has a hotel sign on the roof, backwards because it faces onto the road that curves around in front of it.

Moore-Viculin isn't a stranger to the restaurant on Warren just east of Venoy. She and her husband dine there regularly, and Porco had hired her to refurbish the paintings on the walls in the second dining room.

She said she had been thinking about what she could do with the arched openings for six or seven years when she learned from manager Scott May that Porco was thinking of replacing the aging damask covering with wallpaper.

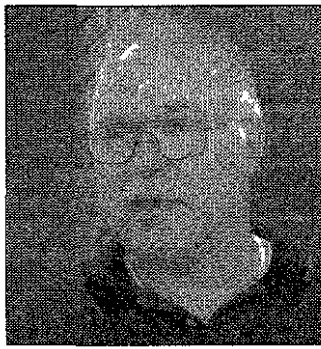
Her idea was having the open doors and she was going to do them half way down the wall until she saw the Porcos' vacation photos. "That's when I started to do a full length mural," said Moore-Viculin.

"It's much more exciting to the doors all the way."

She usually uses oils, but chose an acrylic mural paint with a protective coating for her work at the restaurant. She spent the days before the unveiling applying a protective liquid plastic to cover them while Porco weighed how far away he could place tables to protect them.

It's the first work I've ever done in a public place, I've done a lot in people's homes, said Moore-Viculin. "It's just very exciting because there was so much reference material."

Porco is pleased with the finished product. The scenes "really reflect Amantea city



Restaurant owner Domenic Porco commissioned Charlotte Moore-Viculin to paint murals of the Italian village of Amantea, his birthplace.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Moore-Viculin applies the first of three coats of a liquid plastic over the surface to protect the murals.

and Italy," which he left with his family in 1956 to come to the United States.

And her portrait of him. "When my daughter saw it she said, 'That's my dad,'" he said.

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OUR VIEWS

Make a decision on underpass

The situation involving the grade separation project on Sheldon Road at the CSX crossing went from bad to weird recently with sniping between county and City of Plymouth officials

The county said they needed a signature on an intergovernmental agreement officials said they mailed to both the city and township City officials promptly denied ever receiving it, a notion at which county officials scoffed

It sounded to us too much like toddlers involved in an argument screaming "did not - did too" at each other Haven't these guys ever heard of fax machines?

With a \$503,000 price tag, it's fairly common knowledge there is little sentiment on the city commission to do the project So it's not impossible to envision that agreement from the county finding its way to the bottom of some to-do pile But what was stopping the county from sending a second one, return-receipt requested, and getting on with the project? Thankfully, new Plymouth Mayor Dan Dwyer stepped in and got that part resolved, but it's so far done little to settle the situation

The other sticking point is whether Plymouth Township's board is still willing to do the project, and any discussion ends up without a decision, perhaps they're hoping the city will opt out first

The township is on the hook for just over \$1 million, but that line item was removed from its budget a couple of years ago Pose the question today and you'd probably get a 4-3 vote, and it would be even money whether they were for or against.

The other problem is CSX The railroad benefits least, and they've been the most uncooperative This project went on the books in 1999, but has yet to see a shovel hit the dirt They've already missed this construction season, which means the earliest this project could be done would be 2008

We no longer believe this is a viable project The city can't really afford it, and the township isn't in much better financial condition than the city

Of course, county officials point out that, should either municipality pull out of the \$12 million project, they'll still be on the hook for their share of design and engineering costs incurred thus far The county says the city will owe \$489,000, the township some \$858,000

So far, the \$5.5 million federal grant announced in 1999 is still there, though it's been reduced to just over \$4.9 million Eventually, some federal eagle-eye is going to look up from his roll of red tape and see that money hasn't yet been spent, and it could be lost

Everyone is dragging their feet, hoping the other guy says "no" first Neither municipality has taken a firm stand on this issue - at least not lately - and they should If they're going to get in, they should get in If they're out, then say they're out

We think it should be the latter, because neither government can afford it any more Either way, though, the sides should quit sticking their tongues out at each other and get it done

State must back up plans with funding

The young girl packing groceries picked up the newspaper being purchased by the shopper "Great," she said "Just what I need - more science classes"

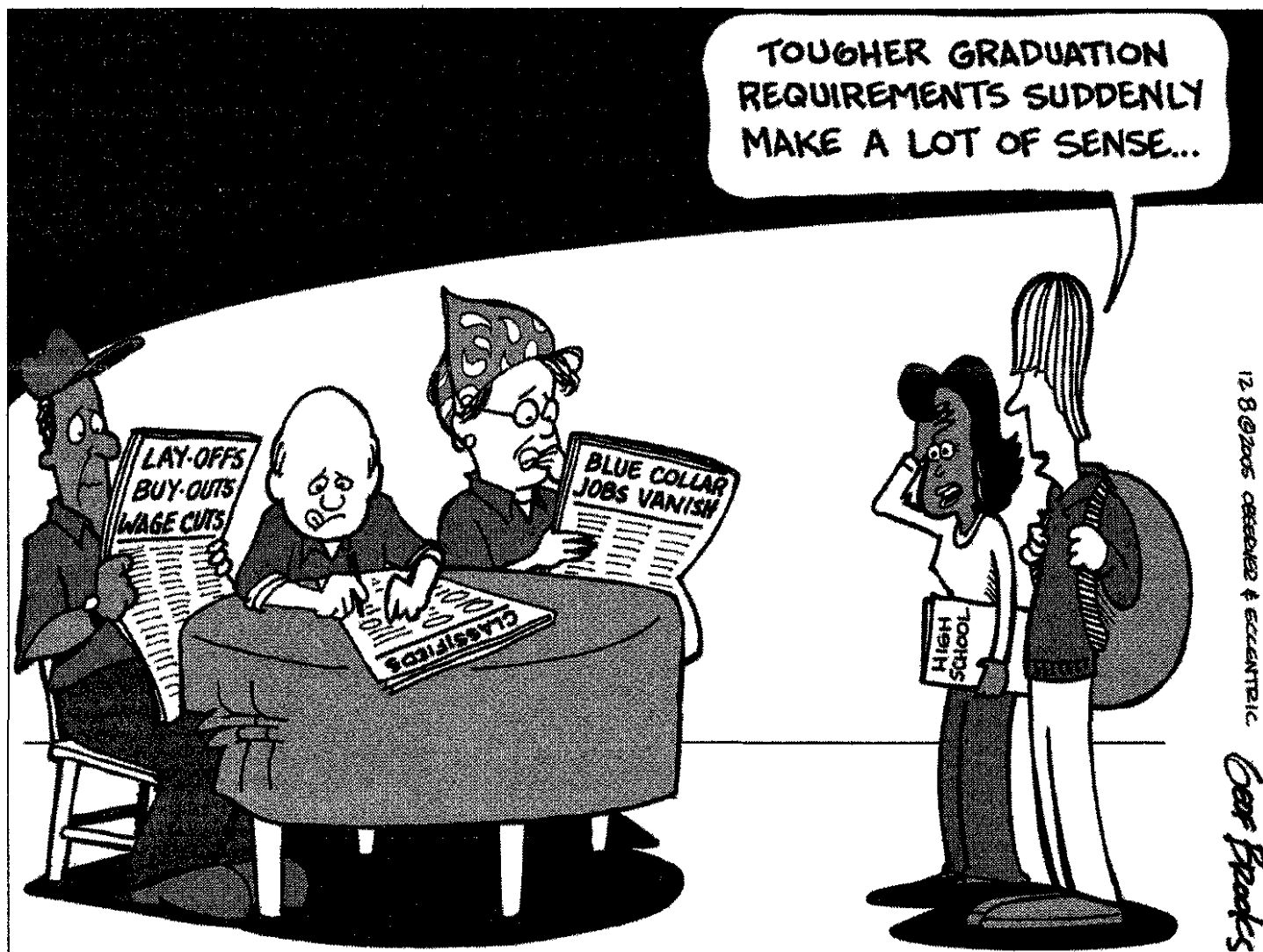
The high school student was referring to a story about new graduation requirements that were recently proposed by the state superintendent of education And, yes, they are great news

While that student wasn't enthused about the prospect, more science classes - and English and math, among others - are just what today's young men and women need It's no longer enough just to try to keep kids in school We have to give them a reason to stay there, one that replaces what, in some cases, has amounted to little more than baby-sitting

Students need the knowledge and skills to become productive adults, a goal that can only benefit the state's economy, as well

Of more concern is the impact the proposed requirements would have on local district budgets The state must recognize that mandating those requirements can only come at a cost that districts may not be able to shoulder

The state can change the core curriculum all it wants, but if parents don't embrace the changes and if funds aren't available to implement them, it's doubtful that their children will succeed in their educational careers



Great coverage

Thank you so much for the wonderful coverage you gave to the Canton High School football team during the football season, playoffs and state finals It was OUTSTANDING and a great service to our community to show such support for our athletes

I can't tell you how impressed I was with the *Observer* these past weeks You helped "fire us up" and give the Canton Chiefs the attention they deserved Thank you also for reaching out to the merchants and citizens and encouraging all to wear their red and go to Ford Field for the big game We were a mighty bunch as you reported

These students will never forget this experience Thanks for making it the momentous event it was

Monica McCluskey
Canton

Different priorities

While some, including Mr Goodbred in his Dec 1 letter to the editor, laud our efforts in refurbishing old and building new schools in Iraq, I am sure most Americans would much rather see our tax dollars spent repairing and building our own schools, buying our own students books and computers, providing more teachers and providing our students with a better education Or lower our taxes

We all have different priorities, I guess

Michael P. Bartnicki
Plymouth

Vote down the bond

How is it that the Board of Trustees' co-chairman was "surprised" to learn no pool was included in the bond issue for Plymouth High?

The only real surprise was to taxpayers that the school was built without one It was only a matter of time and we would be expected to rectify the "oversight"

Nancy Eggenberger and her group of pool supporters seem to be the reason for the meeting, which quickly resulted in the insertion of a pool to the bond proposal This was at the expense of the career and technical center When did swimming top the list of most sought-after job skills? Are we to believe that a high school that is only a few years old already needs an additional \$20.5 million to bring it up to standards? In appearance and amenities, it exceeds many corporate headquarters

I disagree with Trustee Tom Wysocki that the district's reputation and community value will be enhanced by even higher taxes Fiscal responsibility and adhering to basics might have gotten us a bigger bang for our tax dollars And to further stir the pot, now we are told a theater is also needed Why are these additions a priority now, but not before the school was built? The pool and theater need to be shelved for now and the money restored to the career and technical center Salem, Canton and Plymouth can alternate swim

LETTERS

schedules so students share in evening hours More taxes are not the only answer

I have never voted down a bond issue in 35 years I will this time

Joanne Sonnenberg
Canton

Another flu shot fiasco

We're wondering where is the outrage by the public regarding the shortage of flu shots again For the last three years, including 2005, unlike any other years, we along with countless other citizens had difficulties getting our annual flu shot What is the problem?

After last year's fiasco, we were told that in 2005, there will be no problem in getting a flu shot Define "no problem" This year was worse than the previous two years The first year, we called around and after several weeks found the vaccine at a local hospital, that also had difficulties obtaining the serum

Last year, after numerous calls, the Wayne County Health Department was able to obtain the vaccine and they were taking people by appointment This year after calling since October, we finally found a local hospital that posted dates in our local paper and finally, we got our flu shots the third week in November

Locally, there were some senior centers and/or supermarkets that had vaccines We wanted to allow higher risk people to get their shots, never thinking that this year would be worse than the last two And of course, they, too, ran out quickly

Prior to that, every early October, we simply called our doctor, went to the office and got our flu shots That's the way life used to be What happened?

This year, early October, we placed our routine call and our doctor's office told us that even though they, along with everyone else, placed their orders for the vaccine, they would not get their order until November After continued calls through mid-November, our doctor's office did finally get their vaccine It was gone in two days That was it

Something is drastically wrong If we can't any longer get our flu shots, what will happen in case of a pandemic? Everyone should call their legislators and express their outrage at a routine health care program that went "amok" We already placed all of our calls to all of our legislators Unless constituents speak up, this problem may just fall into the mix of loss of pensions, loss of jobs, loss of medical insurance and loss of medical care

This no longer is the country we once knew

James and Mary Murphy
Westland

Say 'enough' to McCotter

At a "coffee chat" last year with Rep Thaddeus McCotter I remarked to him that I would like a representative whose knees wouldn't buckle when Tom DeLay came into view Well, on Nov 18 my wobbly-kneed buddy buckled under yet

again That day, in the wee hours of the morning after several hours of House Republican leaders pleading, cajoling and arm-twisting their Republican caucus, they finally got the last vote they needed to pass legislation they called the deficit reduction bill by a 217-215 vote

McCotter's arms remained unbruised, however, as he voted for this in the first round In short, what this bill does is cut \$50 billion from popular programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, student loans and food stamps for the poor To show that they are not completely heartless, these Republicans inserted a provision that the children of anyone cut off food stamps would get free school lunches It should be noted that not a single Democrat supported this despicable bill

What makes this legislation especially breathtaking in its audacity is the fact that Congress is poised to give another \$70 billion in tax cuts to the rich after Thanksgiving, thus having the effect of adding another \$20 billion to the deficit To quote *Washington Post* columnist E J Dionne, "But the Republican leadership does not want to revisit tax cuts It wants to keep control over the budget within the Republican Party, which is dominated by the right wing" (*Washington Post*, Nov 22, 2005)

To those who have supported McCotter and figure on continuing to do so, I would just like to ask if this is what Jesus Christ taught - to take from the poor and give to the rich If you examine McCotter's voting record, you will find that he has supported other bills such as the bankruptcy bill and the Medicare drug prescription bills, which are huge financial windfalls for large corporations Do you people not see that the middle class is being eroded in this country and that this Republican-led Congress is doing it to you? Do you people have to lose your jobs, health care and pensions before you say "enough?" Wake up and call McCotter at (734) 632-0314 and tell him to stop the insanity Then let's let him hear from all of us next November

Kenneth Hymes
Redford Township

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QUOTABLE

"If the communities won't sign the IGA, the county's position is that they have opted out. ... We will continue to seek collection of costs, pursuant to the resolutions the two local governments passed."

- Alan Helmkamp, assistant Wayne County executive, on obligations of Plymouth and Plymouth Township for the Sheldon Road underpass

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

Cutting taxes won't solve all that ails Michigan's economy

Amid the harsh squabbling and political posturing pouring forth from Lansing's capitol dome, one persistent theme has been sounding loud and clear: cut business taxes.

They've been talking ad nauseam about the subject since Gov. Jennifer Granholm proposed a couple of years ago a far-reaching overhaul of the Single Business Tax (SBT), the state's main levy on businesses. It raises about \$2 billion a year for the state.

Talk reached a crescendo last month when it looked as though the governor and Republican legislative leaders had agreed on a tax-cut-and-jobs-growth package.

That fell apart in a spasm of partisan finger pointing. Granholm now has her "21st Century Jobs Fund" under way, funded by something like another \$2 billion in tobacco settlement money.

Legislative Republicans are now in a year-end frenzy pushing a new interim tax plan. It would give manufacturers a credit to the SBT equal to 15 percent of the property taxes they pay on plant and equipment. That would cost the state treasury around \$500 million.

Naturally, nobody is talking about how they would plug this particular hole in an already precarious state budget.

When it comes to the long haul, however, the change can't hurt much and might even help a little. After all, with General Motors planning to close a bunch of plants and Delphi in bankruptcy, a little marginal tax relief from the state might make a difference to some business trying to decide whether or not to close plants in Michigan.

But tinkering around the edges of the state's tax structure isn't going to do much to help us overcome the worst economic crisis since, well, the Great Depression.

The restructuring now sweeping through the auto industry and the very, very high-stakes negotiations now going on between General Motors, Delphi Corp. and the United Auto Workers union are going to proceed largely unaffected by anything our political masters in Lansing might do or say. That's how top business experts see it.

For example, consider the cuts in the SBT. The Big Three automakers and their Tier One suppliers — like Delphi — pay the bulk of it. But what nobody seems to remember is that over the past five years, SBT taxes have been cut by a total of \$1.5 billion.

The auto industry's share of this big tax break doesn't seem to have done much to stave off what's now taking place. Delphi is in bankruptcy, GM and the Ford Motor Co. are losing billions.



Phil Power

The saddest part of what's going on in Lansing is the lemming-like kowtowing to the new dogma that any solution to our economic ills must include tax cuts. A hard look at the evidence shows just how silly this shibboleth really is.

Here's some data from a soon-to-be released report compiled by Michigan Future, Inc., a highly regarded economic think tank. By the way, it uses the same tools as does the Michigan State Chamber of Commerce — taxes per capita, taxes per employed resident and taxes as a percentage of personal income.

■ **Michigan is not a high-tax state.** In fact, Michigan today is slightly below the national average. That's a switch from 1993, when the state embarked on its tax cutting program. Back then, Michigan's tax burden ranked a bit above the national average.

■ **Has cutting taxes since 1993 improved Michigan's economic performance?** Nope. Our per-capita personal income has dropped by 2.3 percent, while employment declined by 7.6 percent.

■ **Are other high-performance states suffering because they are high-tax states?** Again, no. Growth in per-capita personal income for high-tax states (except for California and Colorado) has outstripped that for low-tax states.

■ **Conversely, the five states with the lowest per-capita tax burden — Tennessee, Alabama, South Dakota, Oregon and South Carolina — are all below the national average in per-capita personal income growth since 1993.**

Data recently released by the U.S. Census show the states with the highest median household income are Connecticut, New Jersey, Maryland, Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

What is common to all these states is the country's best-educated populations, good universities, knowledge-based economies and easy access to amenities like recreation and culture.

Insightful readers will realize at once that cutting taxes bleeds money from exactly these essential components for a successful economy in a globalized 21st century. Or put another way: We could save money in the short run if we didn't insist on clean drinking water.

Anyone want to try that?

Lou Glazer, president of Michigan Future, puts it succinctly: "When you actually look at the data comparing tax levels to a state's relative prosperity, there is no evidence that low taxes lead to high economic performance. Indeed, it may well be that the opposite is true."

Here's the first thing we all need to do: Stop Squint Think. Substituting economic idiocy driven by knee-jerk ideology for a hard look at the facts is no way to get us out of the jam we're in.

Phil Power is a longtime observer of politics, economics and education issues in Michigan. He would be pleased to hear from readers at ppower@hcnnet.com.

School bond issue important to future district development

I read with great interest Nancy Conzelman's guest editorial, "Bond plan too expensive when Powell property is an option," in the Dec. 1 *Observer*.

I agree with Ms. Conzelman that we are trying to deal with overcrowding situations in some of our schools. If we were not, our Board of Education would not be finalizing plans for a May 2006 bond issue. What I take great offense to are the inaccuracies and innuendos in her article, and her comments that our plan is ill-conceived.

As a member of the Board of Education's 2005-06 Housing Committee, Ms.

Conzelman has had an opportunity to review the district's enrollment projections. I am at a loss to explain why she believes it would be prudent to build an elementary school on the Powell/Ridge property.

The future enrollment projections indicate that the growth will be realized in the southwest section of Canton Township. In 2006, we will open a new elementary school at Cherry Hill and Denton roads to accommodate the projected enrollment.

In reviewing our 2006 proposed bond application, the Department of Treasury will consider enrollment projections provided by outside entities. After the new school opens (capacity 750 students), future enrollment projections do not support the addition of any new elementary buildings.

As for the Powell and Ridge property, the board has directed administration to file the deed restriction developed by the Board of Education and supported by the Plymouth Township board in 1991.

After we resolve some legal and survey problems, we will file the deed as directed. The Board of Education has stated all along that it did not intend to pursue the sale of this property at this time. I am not sure where Ms. Conzelman developed her idea that we are in the process of selling this property.

It is true that our past growth has caused

It is true that our past growth has caused us to lose many of our dedicated art and music rooms. The construction of the new elementary school and the proposed additions in the May 2006 Bond Issue, if passed, will remedy this situation.

us to lose many of our dedicated art and music rooms. The construction of the new elementary school and the proposed additions in the May 2006 Bond Issue, if passed, will remedy this situation.

Yes, we have added portable classrooms at some schools, but that is part of our effort to operate with the funding we receive. I resent Ms. Conzelman's comment that I couch my rationale and hide behind the terms "equity" and "growth." We are simply trying to give the very best education we can with the operational dollars we receive.

Finally, it is important to note that I have not "convinced" the board of anything. I work for it, it does not work for me. The board has met every Tuesday since Labor Day to reach its decision on the contents of the 2006 Bond Issue. To infer that members do not make their own decisions is insulting to them.

I am not sure of Ms. Conzelman's motivation in writing that column. This bond issue is important to the future of our school district if we are to remain competitive and attract and retain students.

Knowing the state's Department of Treasury will not approve a new elementary school based on enrollment projections in spite of her insistence that it will, seems to me to be an idea that is ill-conceived.

As your superintendent, I will always try to make thoughtful, collaborative decisions. As always, I am proud to be the superintendent of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools.

Jim Ryan is superintendent of the Plymouth-Canton school district.



Jim Ryan

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Tom Hawley named journalist of year

Photographer Tom Hawley was named the *Observer & Eccentric's* Journalist of the Year for 2005.

Hawley's selection was announced Dec. 1 at the *O&E's* annual Journalist of the Year breakfast at the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham. Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick was the guest speaker.

Hawley has worked at the *Observer & Eccentric* for 10 years. He previously worked at the *Monroe Evening News* and Monroe Community College. His primary coverage area has been for the *Westland* and *Garden City Observers*, but he has covered assignments throughout the *Observer & Eccentric* circulation area.

He was nominated by Sue Mason, editor of the *Westland* and *Garden City Observers*, Dave Varga, editor of the *Livonia* and *Redford Observers*, Dan O'Meara, sports editor of the *Farmington Observer*, and Tim Smith, sports editor of the *Redford* and *Garden City Observers*.

"He has a keen eye and a creative mind and makes a story's ear of an assignment look like a silk purse," Mason wrote in her nominating letter.

Dave Varga wrote, "Tom's true value as a journalist must include his ability to organize, plan and find the significance of things going on in our communities."

"I'm honored to receive this



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Photographer Tom Hawley thanks *Observer & Eccentric* editorial staff after receiving the *O&E's* Journalist of the Year Award. Behind him are his nominators, Sue Mason, *Westland* and *Garden City Observer* editor, Dave Varga, *Livonia* and *Redford Observer* editor, Tim Smith, *Redford* and *Garden City* sports editor, and Dan O'Meara, *Farmington* sports editor.

award, Hawley said. "But the rewards I get from our community are just as important to me, the comments in the letters I receive."

When he received his award, he said he was especially moved by a letter he received

from Bill Rothley of Livonia for a photo essay on Rothley's grandchildren participating in a Junior Olympics.

Varga cites this response in his nominating letter. "He found this great story on his own while shooting the event,

then shared it with the editor so the complete story could be presented with the wonderful photo package. A letter from the grandpa said, 'I have attempted to write before, but my eyes filled with tears - I am sure you understand.'"



Tom Hawley shot this photo of Bill Rothley of Livonia and his granddaughter, Melissa Rothley, 4, of Livonia after she won her first race in the 35-meter race at the Redford Township Junior Olympics. Hawley said the response he received from the family when this and other photos of the event ran were the kind of everyday rewards of being a photojournalist.

Hawley said he appreciates the importance community newspapers have in the lives of our readers. Hawley has been the recipient

of numerous awards from the annual Michigan Press Association and Suburban Newspapers of America editorial excellence contests.

Gleaners holiday drive to fight hunger, raise issue awareness

Gleaners Community Food Bank kicks off Its Time To Give campaign this week to raise money and awareness to help feed hungry families this holiday season.

The message is being delivered via print and broadcast mediums now through the end of the tax year, to encourage area residents to put Gleaners on the gift giving list.

During this time of giving, we want to encourage everyone to reflect on the meaning of giving and what a difference it makes in the lives of struggling families who consume more than 2 million meals each month in the six county area,

says Gleaners president Agostinho Fernandes, Jr.

Gleaners is making it easy and timely to give. Donation envelopes are being inserted into community newspapers throughout the region (including today's editions of the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*) to make it simple for potential donors to respond to the need for more resources to feed hungry families. The message "It's Time to Give" can also be heard on radio and television ads and public service announcements that reminding everyone that the spirit and act of giving is alive and well and needed more than

ever.

For the company that has everything, Gleaners Community Food Bank also accepts donations from companies that want to forgo a Christmas Party but still celebrate the spirit of giving.

Additionally, Gleaners Community Food Bank is taking orders for holiday cards available for \$10 dollars for 10 cards. Charity Card selections can be made on the Web site at www.gcfb.org - Gleaners store. The proceeds go to help the food bank. Each dollar donated

can provide up to 16 meals.

Since 1977, Gleaners Community Food Bank has been serving the hungry of our region. In 1984, the Food Bank of Oakland County began serving the hungry in Oakland County. July, 2005 brought the merger of these two food banks joining together as Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan.

Gleaners secures, stores, and distributes donated food from farmers, grocery stores, super markets, food distributors and food processors to local non-

profit agencies and charities that directly feed the poor and hungry.

Who are the hungry? People of all ages, races and socioeconomic levels have needed Gleaners' assistance. Fifty-nine percent of the hungry are children and seniors.

For more information or programs and services or to donate on line visit the Web site at www.gcfb.org. Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan is located at 2131 Beaufort, Detroit, MI 48207.

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Accents

Green gifts

Writing for yardcare.com, a Web site created by the Toro Company that is dedicated to providing information and answers to lawn and garden questions, Kathleen Hennessy offers the following suggestions for the perfect holiday gift for the green thumb on your list

■ "If you're looking to mark your path in your own way, check out GardenMolds at www.gardenmolds.com," she writes. "Artist Catherine Failor has created beautiful, unique stepping stone mold designs that are perfect for creating a custom look in your yard or garden."

"The molds are made of thick, durable polystyrene so you're sure to get a number of uses out of each one."

"Check out the Web site for stepping stone designs, fun planter feet molds, color additives and great project instructions. Most molds sell for around \$25."

■ "Need a last-minute hostess gift? Pass up the poinsettias and take a more creative approach by choosing a cyclamen. These delicate-looking flowers sit high atop beautiful frosted green leaves."

Choose Sierra with its huge bouquet of blooms in colors like scarlet, wine and purple flame. Or the new Sterling silver-leaf cyclamen with its unique foliage and beautiful scent.

"Cyclamen prefer cooler temps and bright, indirect light. They'll be a gorgeous addition to any holiday decor and when spring arrives you can plant them outside. Visit your local garden center to find a hearty, high-quality plant."

■ "The Toro Ultra Blower/Vac is not only a blower, but also a powerful vacuum and mulcher. The magnesium impeller crunches 16 bags of leaves down to one. The air speed can be set anywhere between 90 and 225 miles per hour to provide the right amount of power for the task at hand."

Not only can the tool handle leaves and other yard debris, it works great as a power sweeper for your garage, deck or patio. (Cost is) \$75 at home centers or your local Toro dealer.

■ "If you have a bulb fanatic on your list, pick up a Bulb Hound Garden Planter. This easy-to-use tool cuts a planting hole, then the coring tube opens to release the soil to refill the hole. You'll get consistent depth when planting those hundred or so tulip bulbs next fall. And you can use the tool for easy transplanting this spring."

"You'll find it at local hardware or Home Depot stores for less than \$30. You can also buy it at www.hound-dog.com."

■ "Unlike low-cut garden shoes or clogs, Mud Buddies boots have a soft ankle-high neoprene cuff that keeps water and dirt out."

"The boots are tough, comfortable and affordable at around \$40 at select garden centers."

Styles of the SEASON



This traditional arrangement features anthurium, an exotic flower

How you decorate often reflects where you live

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK AND MARY KLEMIC
STAFF WRITERS

How you decorate your home might all depend on where you live. Bruce Boland, owner of Boland Florist in Garden City, believes decorators in older, more traditional homes found in older communities like Garden City, Livonia and Westland tend to use traditional arrangements for the holidays. Newer homes that you might find in West Bloomfield lean toward more contemporary looks.

Boland has taught a floral design class for 28 years at Schoolcraft College and also taught a class at The Community House in Birmingham.

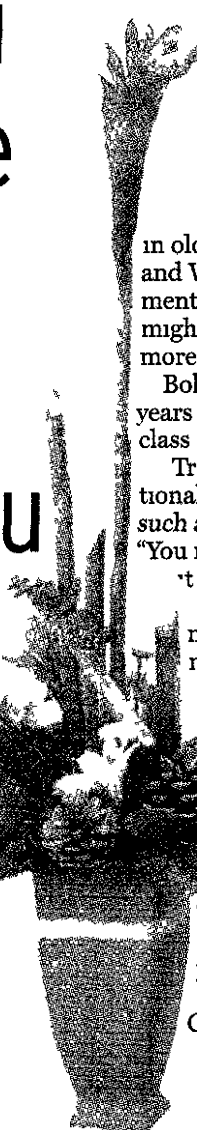
Traditional arrangements tend to have traditional flowers you might find in the garden, such as daisies and sunflowers," Boland said. "You might try to incorporate statice which give a wispy, dried, all-seasons feel."

Oranges, browns and yellows remain the main color schemes in traditional arrangements with purples used as accents.

"Contemporary tends to be more simplistic in nature with not as much depth and it does not have the density of garden-type flowers. It's a little more unique. You'll see an Oriental lily or an anthurium or bird of paradise. To make (the arrangement) unique, you use unusual flowers."

When it comes to specific themes, Jon Gerych, owner of Gerych's-Graziella Ltd. in

In a nod to Oriental design, Boland created an arrangement with ginger stems and flowers, accented with white alstroemeria



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bruce Boland created a freestyle permanent design with amaryllis

PLEASE SEE STYLES, B4

New iPod blazes another trail - this time portable video

Personal video players are cool. Imagine an iPod-like device that plays not only music, but movies and TV shows as well.

Actually, you don't have to imagine it any more. Apple now offers just such an iPod, and the company's iTunes store now sells episodes of *Lost*, *Desperate Housewives* and other shows (movies are sure to follow).

The video-capable iPod isn't the first device of its kind, but it's the first one to get it right.

Tech Savvy

Rick Broida

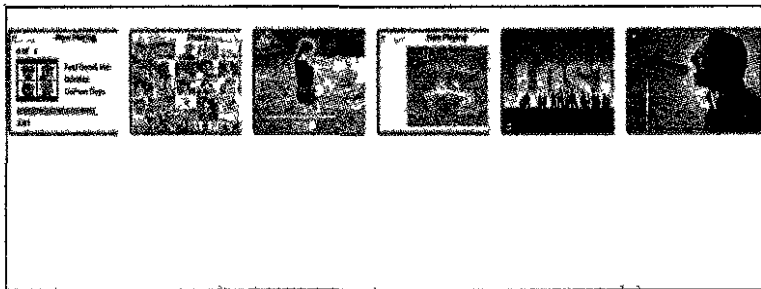
Witness the Creative Zen Vision (creative.com), which debuted a few months before the new iPod. Its 30GB hard drive holds music, video, photos and more, and displays everything on a dazzling 3.7-inch screen.

So why didn't it create more of a stir? Simple. There's no easy way to fill it with the videos you want to watch.

This has been the problem with personal video players (PVPs) for years. Only the truly tech-savvy could perform the necessary hoop-jumps to copy a movie or TV show, and even then it was an annoyingly time-consuming process.

Ideally, you should be able to buy and download video content with the same ease and affordability you can songs.

It took Apple to legitimize music downloads, and it took



Kudos to Apple for making buying TV shows as point-and-click simple as buying music. It is hoped that the company will offer a larger selection in the near future.

Apple to prove that the same could - and should - be done for video. Now watch while Microsoft, Yahoo and other companies scramble to play catch-up, just as they did after iTunes bowed.

So where does all this leave you, the video-hungry traveler?

For now, the video iPod is hard to beat. It's incredibly slim and sexy, and surprisingly

affordable - \$299 for the 30GB model.

Unfortunately, the current video library remains small, Apple needs to offer a lot more shows (and add movies to the mix) before the iPod can fully realize its portable-video potential.

In fact, if you want to watch a movie on the device, you have to jump through the same old

hoops. Install third-party software, rip a DVD, convert the video to the proper format, and be extremely patient while it's all happening.

Indeed, movies still haven't "arrived" on PVPs in any meaningful way, though I'm confident this is just around the corner. Soon enough, you'll be able to pay a few bucks for *The Incredibles* and download it directly to your device, easy as you please.

In the meantime, the best bet is to own a Media Center PC. You can pretty easily copy recorded shows and movies to a growing number of non-iPod PVPs, including the Zen Vision.

I'm extremely fond of that particular model, which, although it costs \$100 more than the iPod, includes a signif-

PLEASE SEE IPOD, B4

Use them properly: Beware of 'new' uses for appliances

I have spent more than 40 years going into the homes of people who have problems with major home appliances, and to say the least, it has been most interesting.



Appliance Doctor

Joe Gagnon

that contradict the rules of common sense when operating appliances

Take a television show that shows home improvement projects and how to do things, and I see a plastic vent line hooked up to the back of a clothes dryer. I ask myself: Where have these people been? Don't they know any better?

Recently I read an article about some of the things the writer said you can use a microwave oven for. Three of the items weren't even food. One was a bowling ball, of all things. The article said you could nuke the ball and remove the lane oil out of it. Why not just wipe it clean with a damp cloth soaked in a cleanser of some sort?

The next item was a pair of women's underwear, which the writer called skivvies, a term used in the navy for men's undershorts. The article said

A major home appliance has its purpose in the home and I've enjoyed telling and showing consumers how to use them properly. I've made friends with thousands of people by giving instructions that added years of life to their products.

the reason to nuke these was an assurance that pesky yeast fungus would be killed.

This isn't a subject to clown around with, but I'm sure that the medical profession has ways to handle this problem other than cooking underpants

in a microwave oven. What about the picture of tennis shoes sitting inside a microwave oven and the caption saying the plastic will melt if you nuke them? What person in his right mind would put a pair of stinky tennis shoes in the very place he puts his baked potato? Just doesn't make sense to me.

Pay attention, folks, especially those of you who read that article (not in this paper) and perceived new uses for your microwave. **YOU WILL RUIN THE MICROWAVE.**

The magnetron tube in a microwave is designed to emit a signal that needs to be absorbed by something. If it isn't properly absorbed, the signal will come back or reflect back to the magnetron tube. This is guaranteed to destroy the tube, which costs a few

hundred dollars for repairs. You can't use metal in a microwave for that reason, nor can you operate it in an empty condition.

It is as simple as that: The signal or wave must be absorbed by something. Not bowling balls, tennis shoes or women's underpants. Were in blazes to do get these writers from?

I have reported in the past that Americans suffer food poisoning the average of seven times per year and think they have a touch of the flu or something. Most of this effort comes from within our own homes and touches on how we preserve food and how clean our dishes, etc., are.

I hear about the homeowner who puts his air filters from his furnace inside his dishwasher

to clean them. A major home appliance has its purpose in the home and I've enjoyed telling and showing consumers how to use them properly. I've made friends with thousands of people by giving instructions that added years of life to their products.

But now we live in a world with all sorts of experts - people who know just a little bit and think they know it all. Somebody said it: "Don't believe everything you read." 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. Do you have a question about an appliance or a problem you have with an appliance? E-mail your question to kabramczyk@hometownlife.com and it will be forwarded to Joe Gagnon.

kmart

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Harvest flatweaves Juvenile floor rugs Promotional remnants	40% off Martha Stewart Everyday™ and Trim-A-Home™ holiday kitchen textiles	9 ⁹⁹ Poker rug with BONUS playing cards and poker chips	49 ⁹⁹ Gloria Vanderbilt pink, blue or raspberry 3-pc. luggage set	25% off All Stanley tools
40% off Nottingham Fair animation	40% off Outdoor lighted stick trees	BUY ONE GET ONE FREE* United States Postal Service bubble mailers <small>*Buy one at the reg. price and get the second one of equal or lesser value, at 50% off.</small>	1 ⁹⁹ Pentel 2-pack gel or roller pens	2 ⁹⁹ Pentel Ergo or Client ballpoint pens or 3-pack gel or ballpoint pens
50% off Kotex 18-ct. tampons, 40-64-ct. liners, 14-24-ct. pads or 24-26-ct. Poise liners	BUY ONE GET ONE FREE Crest toothpaste, 6.2 oz. or Crest SpinBrush <small>*Buy one at the reg. price and get the second one of equal or lesser value, at 50% off.</small>	25% off 50% off All Disney camping	3 ⁹⁹ Pentel tetra 4-pack gel roller pens	buy one, get one 50% off** Essential Home™ white bedding and accessories <small>**Buy one at the reg. price and get the second one of equal or lesser value, at 50% off the reg. price.</small>

LOOK FOR EXTRA SPECIAL VALUE SIGNS THROUGHOUT THE STORE FOR ADDITIONAL OFFERS. WHILE SUPPLIES LAST, DUE TO THE SEASONALITY OF MERCHANDISE ON THIS FLYER, RAIN CHECKS ARE NOT AVAILABLE. *Off regular retail. **Dispose of properly, please do not litter.

GARDEN CALENDAR

Cactus and Succulent Society
The Michigan Cactus and Succulent Society will have a Christmas Party at 2 p.m. Sunday Dec. 11 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 814 N. Campbell in Royal Oak. Guests are welcome. Admission is free. Call (248) 524-0227 for more information.

Send calendar items at least two weeks ahead of the event to Ken Abramczyk, At Home Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, e-mail kabramczyk@hometownlife.com, fax (734) 591-7279 or (248) 644-1314.

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pink

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Stick to theme when decorating mantel

Kristin of Canton asks: "You have previously written about decorating fireplace mantels for everyday use. I would really like to make a beautiful statement this Christmas with a festive mantel. There is so much to choose from and it is very confusing. What do you suggest?"

On a recent trip to the new Jo-Ann Fabrics store in Canton, I was also overwhelmed by the myriad of choices for holiday decorating.



Design Solutions

Terri Guastella

The key to sorting through all of this is to have a goal or an idea you are working toward set in your mind before you leave the house and try to remain focused on that goal in the store.

To discover the goal you are

working toward, begin by looking through magazines that are highlighting holiday decor, watching some of the HGTV programming that focuses on this area, and attending local home tours and events in the fall. This exercise will pique your interest and help you decide the direction for your own home.

You asked specifically about mantel decor. I attended an annual function at Cranbrook last month that showcases holiday table settings. Many of the rooms also included fireplace mantels that were incorporated into the overall decorating scheme of each table vignette. They were quite beautiful and very inspiring.

I noticed a trend toward natural materials. Many types of mixed evergreen branches, feathers (lots of feathers!), pine cones, etc., were on display.

When using these greens, don't be stingy! Pile them on thick. Have some hanging down over the edges of the mantel. You can buy fresh

branches or artificial ones. If you use artificial, please buy good-quality branches for the best look.

I also noticed that each vignette stayed in theme. This is very important when decorating your own home.

If your mantel has a Nativity theme with a beautiful creche, leave Santa and his elves elsewhere. If you like to display your collection of snowmen, then stick to snowmen. The same goes with any collection you have.

If your mantel is large or sits higher up on the wall, avoid small collectibles that are difficult to see when seated in the room. These items might be better viewed on a coffee table, on an end table, or in another area.

Resist the temptation to fill every spot on the mantel with a figurine or candle. Many of the mantels I saw at Cranbrook were lush and beautiful and overflowing with pine boughs, lemon leaves, cedar branches, sugared fruit and maybe some tall candle-

sticks or a thin buffet lamp, but devoid of figurines.

Tiny white lights are very nice in this evergreen type of display, but not absolutely necessary. If you decide on lights, use them sparingly and set them into the greenery for a subtle effect. Make sure all electrical cords used in the mantel display are out of sight.

If you have a mirror hanging over your fireplace mantel, a simple wreath made out of the same of greenery used on the mantel looks great hanging right on the mirror. This will complement that beautiful statement you are trying to make with your mantel decor.

COLOR

Along with the idea of staying in theme, staying in the right color family.

Christmas decorations no longer come only in red and green. If you choose blue and silver, then try to remain constant to that color family. Burgundy and hunter green are another option.

Staying within a color family



TERRI GUASTELLA

Stick to your theme, bring in natural materials, and your mantel will be the jewel of your holiday decorating.

for your holiday decorations will help you avoid a chaotic look.

We all have special holiday decorations that we use year after year. Over time these items age, fade and wear out. Take an honest and objective look at each item before you place it in your home for display. It may be time to freshen up some of the old standbys. Start out with inspiration

and create a goal for your own home before you head out to the store. Stick to your theme, bring in natural materials, and your mantel will be the jewel of your holiday decorating. Terri Guastella, an interior designer and a Canton resident, specializes in space planning, design and color consultation. Do you have a question about interior design or decorating your home? Contact Terri Guastella at terri@exclusivinteriors.com.

HOME CALENDAR

Sculpture for home

HMFNSHNGS Utilitarian Sculpture for the Home: an exhibit of work by students, alumni and instructors of the College for Creative Studies will continue to Feb. 9 at the Janice Charach Epstein Gallery in the Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit, 6600 W. Maple in West Bloomfield. Call (248) 661-1000.

Opening reception 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8.

The show will push the boundaries of functionality for furniture and other items in the home. The furnishings will be available for purchase.

Holly Walk

The 14th annual Holly Walk will take place noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11, sponsored by the Friends of the Rochester Hills Public Library. The tour of six homes in Rochester, Rochester Hills and Oakland Township benefits the library. Bring a pair of slippers on the tour.

Bags will be provided for shoes.

Tickets are \$20. Buy early as they are limited. Tickets are available at Bordine Nursery, Dillman & Upton, the Friends Library Store at the Rochester Hills Public Library, Sharon's Hallmark in the Rochester Hills Plaza and in University Square. Trader Joe's of Rochester Hills and Werner's Hallmark at Adams and Silverbell and at 25 Mile and Dequindre.

Ticket holders may stop at the Van Hoosen Dairy Farm anytime during the tour. Refreshments will be served there until 5 p.m. Visitors to the farm may register for a chance to win one of the door prizes offered by area restaurants, merchants and organizations and Holly Walk committee members.

For more information, visit www.rhpl.org/Friends.html or call the Friends at (248) 650-7176.

Kwanzaa celebration

The Storytellers will share stories about the African American tradition

of Kwanzaa and demonstrate ethnic musical instruments. 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, at Art Van Furniture, 22555 Greenfield in Southfield (phone: (248) 569-3770).

The Storytellers will be at Art Van Furniture, 13855 E. Eight Mile in Warren, 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17. Phone: (586) 779-9530.

This enthusiastic duo performs lively presentations and encourages the participation of the children in attendance.

Meadow Brook Hall

The 2005 Holiday Walk featuring tours of professionally decorated Meadow Brook Hall continues to Sunday, Dec. 18.

Tours are available 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, Sunday, with last admittance at 4 p.m.

Reservations are not required for any of the tours. Admission is \$20 for adults, \$5 for ages 17 and under, free for under age 2. \$12 for OU affiliates with ID, \$5 for OU students. A special

group rate of \$12 per person is available for groups of 20 or more.

The museum holiday shop features holiday and gift giving treasures. Hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Sunday.

Meadow Brook Hall is on the Oakland University campus in Rochester. Call (248) 364-6200 or visit www.meadowbrookhall.org for information.

Breakfast with Santa will take place 9-11 a.m. Saturdays, Dec. 10 and 17, in the ballroom, including visiting with Santa and making ornaments. Cost is \$25 for children, \$30 for adults. For reservations and information, call (248) 364-6263.

It's a Wonderful Life at the Grand Manor will take place 7-11 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15, offering 1940s holiday treats, traditions and entertainment. Guests are invited to dress in the style of the period or business casual. The festivities will include candlelight tours, live music, a strolling dinner, jitterbug lessons, a Martini

Bar, and a showing of the classic film *It's a Wonderful Life*. Reservations are required. Cost is \$65. For reservations and information, call (248) 364-6206. Meadow Brook Hall, a 100-room mansion, was built by Matilda Dodge Wilson, widow of auto magnate John Dodge.

Holiday Shop

The Holiday Shop at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, 1516 Cranbrook Road in Birmingham, offers eclectic and extraordinary holiday gifts now to Saturday, Dec. 17.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday, Saturday, noon to 4 p.m. Sunday.

This year, more than 100 renowned artists from across the country are selling all types of wares, including pottery and textiles. Purchases include complimentary wrapping. For more information, call (248) 644-0866 or visit www.bbartcenter.org.

Gift gallery

The Holiday Gift Gallery at the Paint Creek Center for the Arts in Rochester

offers original gifts handcrafted by Michigan artists.

The PCCA is at 407 Pine. The gallery is open now to Jan. 7. Hours are 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday, Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon, Friday, Dec. 23 and 30, closed Dec. 24, 26 and 31. Call (248) 651-4110 or visit www.pccart.org.

Auction

An auction will take place Friday, Sunday, Dec. 9-11, at DuMouchelles, 409 E. Jefferson in Detroit.

The auction will begin at 6:30 p.m. Friday, 11 a.m. Saturday, and noon Sunday.

Exhibition hours are 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Thursday. Call (313) 963-6255 or visit www.dumouchelles.com.

Caroling

Stop by any Art Van Furniture store, 1:30-3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11, to enjoy holiday carols performed by a local high school choir.

MARKETPLACE

Made with the shade

Brimz Clip and Flip Eyewear is a new type of sports sunglasses, with a patented nylon frame designed to clip to the brim of a cap or visor.

The shatter- and scratch-resistant lens surpasses ANSI Z87 safety glass standards and offers 100 percent UV protection. When not in use, Brimz easily flips up and out of the line of vision.

The eyewear comes in many colors and retails between \$19.99 and \$29.99. Styles with a college team logo are also offered. Brimz is available at www.brimz.com.

Jeff Morton of West Bloomfield, a businessman and former professional racecar driver, developed Brimz in 2001. "Brimz are excellent for protecting your eyes while playing sports, especially baseball and golf," Morton said.

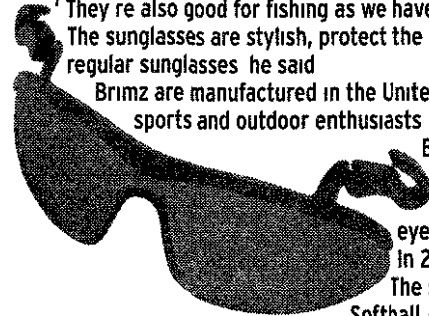
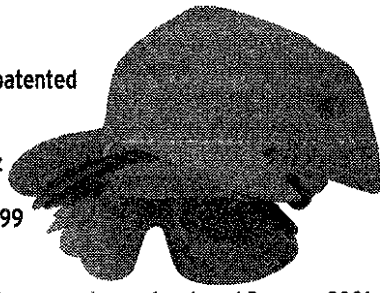
"They're also good for fishing as we have a polarized lens available, and just general outdoor use."

The sunglasses are stylish, protect the eyes and are very convenient, as nothing touches the nose or ears like regular sunglasses, he said.

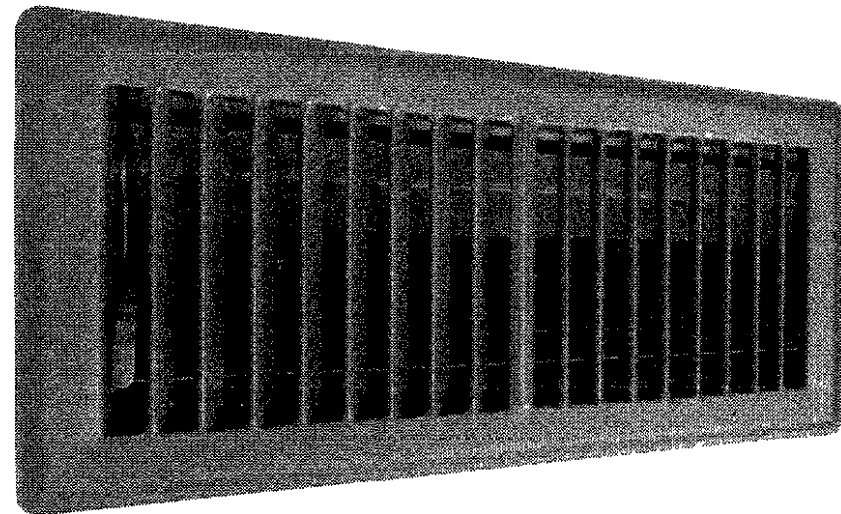
Brimz are manufactured in the United States and worn around the world by professional athletes as well as sports and outdoor enthusiasts. Nearly 400,000 have been sold in more than seven countries.

Brimz were recently seen in the 2005 remake of *The Bad News Bears* starring Billy Bob Thornton. The versatile sunglasses are the authentic licensed flip-up eyewear of Little League Baseball and the exclusive eyewear of the Professional Caddies Association.

In 2002, Brimz was named Product of the Year by *Softball Today Magazine*. The sunglasses are worn by players, coaches and umpires in the American Softball Association and the U.S. Senior Softball Association.



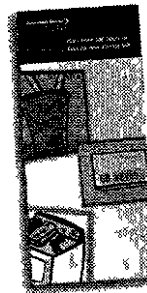
ENERGY answers



Close & Save

Close heat registers in rooms you don't use this winter — such as spare bedrooms, basements and storage areas. It's a simple and effective way to reduce natural gas use, and it can lower your home heating costs.

The cost of natural gas to heat your home will be higher this winter. So there's no better time to begin conserving energy than now. For tips on how to reduce natural gas consumption and for information on financial assistance for low-income families, visit consumersenergy.com/energyanswers. Or call 800-477-5050. A customer service representative is ready to help.



Request our free brochure, *More Than 100 Ways to Save on Your Energy Bill*. Or view it online.

consumersenergy.com/energyanswers

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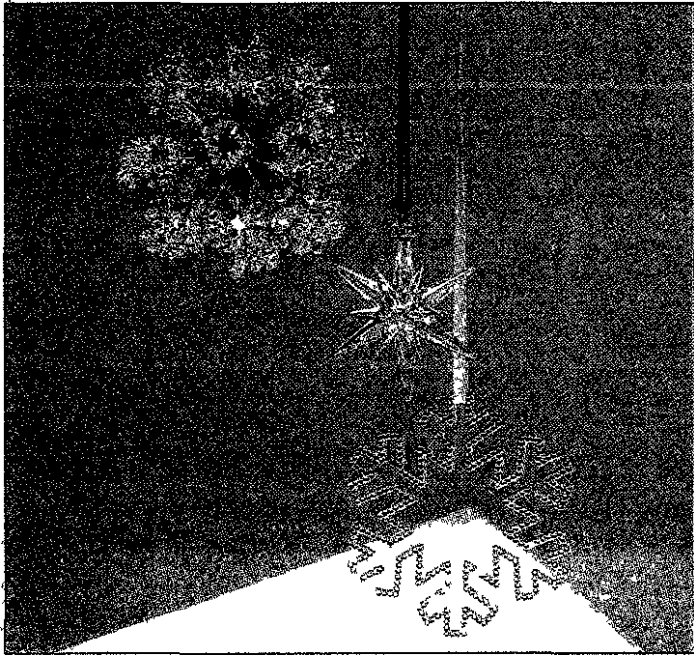
With your support, The Salvation Army helps feed hungry families — and so much more. Thousands of Metro Detroiters face poverty every day. Let's make change happen right here at home.

MAKE Change HAPPEN



1-877-SAL-MICH

Donate at any LaSalle Bank or at WJR's Virtual Red Kettle at wjr.com



Sparkling for the season

Holiday gift ideas from Marshall Field's include presents that sparkle. Examples are shown here: Waterford 12 Days of Christmas champagne flutes (\$75 each), and Swarovski holiday assorted ornaments (\$39.50 to \$295).



IPOD

FROM PAGE B1

icantly larger, sharper screen, an FM tuner/recorder, and even a CompactFlash slot for copying photos from your digital camera's memory card.

It's also compatible with multiple online music stores, whereas the iPod is limited to tunes bought from iTunes.

You may also want to investigate the Archos AV500 (www.archos.com), which can record video directly from your cable/satellite box or DVD player. It's pricey (\$500) and a bit more complicated than the Zen Vision, but the included manual is quite good.

I'm excited that we're finally on the cusp of viable video-to-go solutions.

My advice is to wait a few months before buying a device and see which content provider offers the best selection.

Rick Broida writes about computers and technology for the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*. Broida of Commerce Township is the co-author of numerous books including *How to Do Everything with Musicmatch* and *101 Killer Apps for Your Palm Handheld*. He welcomes questions sent to rick.broida@gmail.com.



Bruce Boland, owner of Boland Florist in Garden City, creates a traditional Christmas arrangement featuring fresh pine, fir, silks and a ceramic angel.

STYLES

FROM PAGE B1

Birmingham and Gerych's Flowers and Gifts in Fenton, said musical instruments are popular this year.

Families may use a Candyland or Dr. Seuss theme if they have young children. "Colors include pinks, lime greens, purples and oranges, non-traditional, but funky, colors in (Dr. Seuss) characters and ornamentation," Gerych said.

"The lodge look is very popular with the log cabin looks with the birch branches, berries and fresh holly," he said.

Cutting edge looks in contemporary styles consist of silvers, coppers, platinum and zinc tinsel trees also are popular again. Of course, the old favorites of golds, reds, burgundys and hunter greens remain strong.

And while they've been out for a while, upside-down trees will surely turn heads and are conversation ice breakers.

"These are used in areas where there isn't enough room for the tree to 'spread around,' in a commercial or office setting," Gerych said. "The tree can hang from a chandelier or a ceiling."

In terms of trends, Boland has seen arrangements go from Victorian, to traditional to Victorian Old World.

"It's freshness with an old look," he said. Styles tend to follow what is reported in magazines.

"What's setting the trend is what Martha Stewart sets as a trend in style and ideas," Boland said. "And these styles and ideas are set in the magazines."

Boland "tends to like a more natural look," he said. He'll make wreaths with pine cones or an arrangement with holiday greens. If he uses silk flowers, it will be at a minimum.

Boland likes gold, too. "I find gold is a little more complementing to the deeper, richer colors. Gold is a popular choice, while silver is kind of colder, but if someone is creative, they might incorporate silver and purple in an arrangement."

"There's really so much available to be creative, it's a matter of who can bring it together and make it special."

HOLIDAY SETTINGS

Two recent displays of decorated tables, both called Holiday Tables - one presented by

the Farmington Garden Club and one presented by Cranbrook House & Gardens Auxiliary - provided inspiration for holiday decor.

Judy Galperin of the Pomegranate Guild of Southeast Michigan featured dreidel-shaped salt and pepper shakers. Pam Carona of Marshall Field's used lime green and aqua in her setting. On the table by Salon Kray Chic, a tree topper was placed in a floral arrangement.

A room where refreshments were served showed creative settings on card tables. A large square sheet of wrapping paper was placed on the tablecloth at each table, angled so it formed triangles at the corners. Ribbons and bows were on the back of each chair.

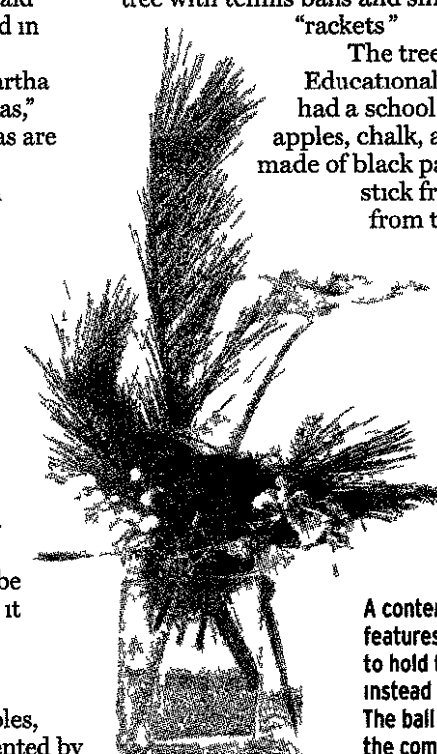
The Cranbrook tables included a display with English black tea pieces by Cathy Rosenthal, a Diwali New Year celebration by Neena Mehta, and a setting by Lily Lembree featuring French quimper pieces on a delicate quilt used as a tablecloth.

Also inspiring is the Kellogg Park Walk of Christmas Trees in Plymouth, sponsored by the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce.

Decorations on the tree by the Women's Garden Club included tiny pots and garden tools. Upstairs Downstairs Remodeling fashioned a tree with brightly colored, plastic tools such as hammers and screwdrivers.

Members of Salem Girls Tennis adorned a tree with tennis balls and small homemade "rackets."

The tree by Michigan Educational Credit Union had a school theme, with apples, chalk, and "chalkboards" made of black paper and popsicle stick frames hanging from the branches.



A contemporary design features a grapevine ball to hold the stems instead of florist's foam. The ball becomes part of the composition.

Clearing ice, snow could damage trees

Salt is great for clearing roads, driveways and sidewalks of ice and snow, however, a good thing for streets and walkways can be downright rotten for your trees, according to the tree experts at the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA).

"Excessive exposure to salt can cause widespread damage to your trees, leading to permanent decline and sometimes death," said Jim Skiera, executive director of the ISA.

"The problem with salt damage is that it might not show up on your trees until summer, when deicing salt is the last culprit you would suspect."

To minimize the damage done to trees by deicing salts, certified arborists at the ISA offer the following tips:

1. Use less salt. Mix deicing salt with abrasives such as sand,

cinders and ash, or use alternatives such as calcium magnesium acetate and calcium chloride.

2. Protect your trees from salt trucks on the street. If possible, set up barriers between the street and your trees to keep salt spray from hitting tree trunks.

3. Plant salt-resistant trees. Trees such as the sycamore, maple, white spruce, willow and birch tend to be more salt-resistant than other species. How well they fare varies from climate to climate across the country.

4. Improve soil drainage. Add organic matter to your soil to help filter salt deposits.

You can also keep your trees healthy by taking care of their basic needs. Other tips that will help combat the damage done

by deicing salt include:

■ Irrigate to flush the salts from the soils in spring.

■ Mulch sufficiently to reduce water loss.

■ Control pest infestations and destructive tree diseases.

If in doubt, contact an ISA certified arborist in your area.

The ISA, headquartered in Champaign, Ill., is a nonprofit organization supporting tree care research and education around the world.

As part of its dedication to the care and preservation of shade and ornamental trees, the ISA offers the only internationally recognized certification program in the industry.

For more information, and to find a local ISA certified arborist, call (217) 355-9411, visit www.treesaregood.com or e-mail isa@isa-arbor.com.

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Side dish

Volunteers sought

Are you looking to volunteer this holiday season? How about helping deliver meals to homebound seniors on Christmas Day in western Wayne County?

Each year the holiday meals program at the Senior Alliance, Area Agency on Aging, serves nearly 2,500 homebound seniors hot, festive meals on the holidays.

The Senior Alliance needs volunteers to deliver meals for about two hours Christmas Day, according to Lori Vail, holiday meals coordinator for the Senior Alliance.

Since TSA is a non-profit organization, the group is selling \$5 holiday cards to raise funds to pay for the meals delivered. The contributor is asked to sign the card and return it to TSA so that the cards can be delivered to the seniors alongside their meals on Christmas Day.

Anyone interested in volunteering can contact Lori Vail at (734) 727-2017 or Vail@tsalink.org. Those who want to purchase holiday cards or volunteer to sell them within their neighborhoods, churches or organizations can contact Bill Campbell at (734) 727-2050 and Billcamp@tsalink.org.

Donations can be made to The Senior Alliance and mailed to Senior Alliance, 3850 Second Street, Suite 201, Wayne, MI 48184.

Gift drive begins

Morton's, The Steakhouse, of Southfield will host a holiday gift drive for Children's Hospital of Michigan's annual Snowpile program.

Through Monday, Dec. 19, Morton's will be offering a complimentary dessert for every couple that contributes a new toy, game or gift certificate for the children and adolescents being treated at Children's Hospital of Michigan.

To participate, simply bring in a new, unwrapped gift to Morton's, The Steakhouse. These donations will be placed into one big "Snowpile" at the hospital. On Dec. 22, parents of patients will have the opportunity to select one gift for their sick child and their siblings. Volunteers will wrap these presents and they will be distributed hospital-wide.

"We want to encourage all of our customers to help make this holiday season a little brighter for the kids at Children's Hospital of Michigan," said Brian Panariello, general manager of Morton's in Southfield.

Serving Metro Detroit since 1992, Morton's, The Steakhouse, is located at 1 Towne Square in Southfield. Dinner is served Monday through Saturday, 5:30 p.m. - 11 p.m. and Sunday from 5 p.m. - 10 p.m.

For more information, contact Morton's (248) 354-6006 or visit the Web at www.mortons.com.

Bake up holiday fun

It's time for some cookies

Enjoying time together as a family is a priority during the holidays, and what better way to celebrate the season than by baking and decorating cookies?

Whether you're making holiday treats for lunch boxes, Santa, cookie exchanges or parties, cookie baking as a family creates wonderful holiday memories

and lots of fun. This season Pillsbury is helping bakers of various skill levels join the fun of baking and decorating holiday cookies with a collection of holiday cookie recipes made with pre-made cookie dough.

"The Pillsbury soft dough rolls are available in flavors especially popular for the holidays, like sugar, gingerbread, peanut butter and chocolate chip," said Ann Stuart, Pillsbury spokeswoman. "You can make more traditional gingerbread or sugar cookie cut-outs or use the dough in simple cookie recipes to create delicious and impressive treats. Your family will enjoy the fun of baking and decorating cookies together without the mess of making everything from scratch."

Here are four family-pleasing cookie recipe ideas that will help bake up holiday fun at your house.

Add an elegant touch to holiday gatherings with butterscotch-pecan cookie wedges. Sugar cookie dough is mixed with butterscotch instant pudding to create a rich, sweet flavor. The dough is baked in a large circle and cut into wedges. The edges are coated with chocolate sauce and chopped pecans for a pretty presentation. Even the kids may want to help with the dipping. These decadent treats also make a beautiful gift, especially when placed in a pretty holiday box or decorative bag.

Chocolate-pistachio wedges are made by mixing pistachio pudding into refrigerated chocolate chip cookie dough. A vanilla glaze and pistachio topping on the wedges adds an inviting touch and an adult flavor for the holiday cookie tray.

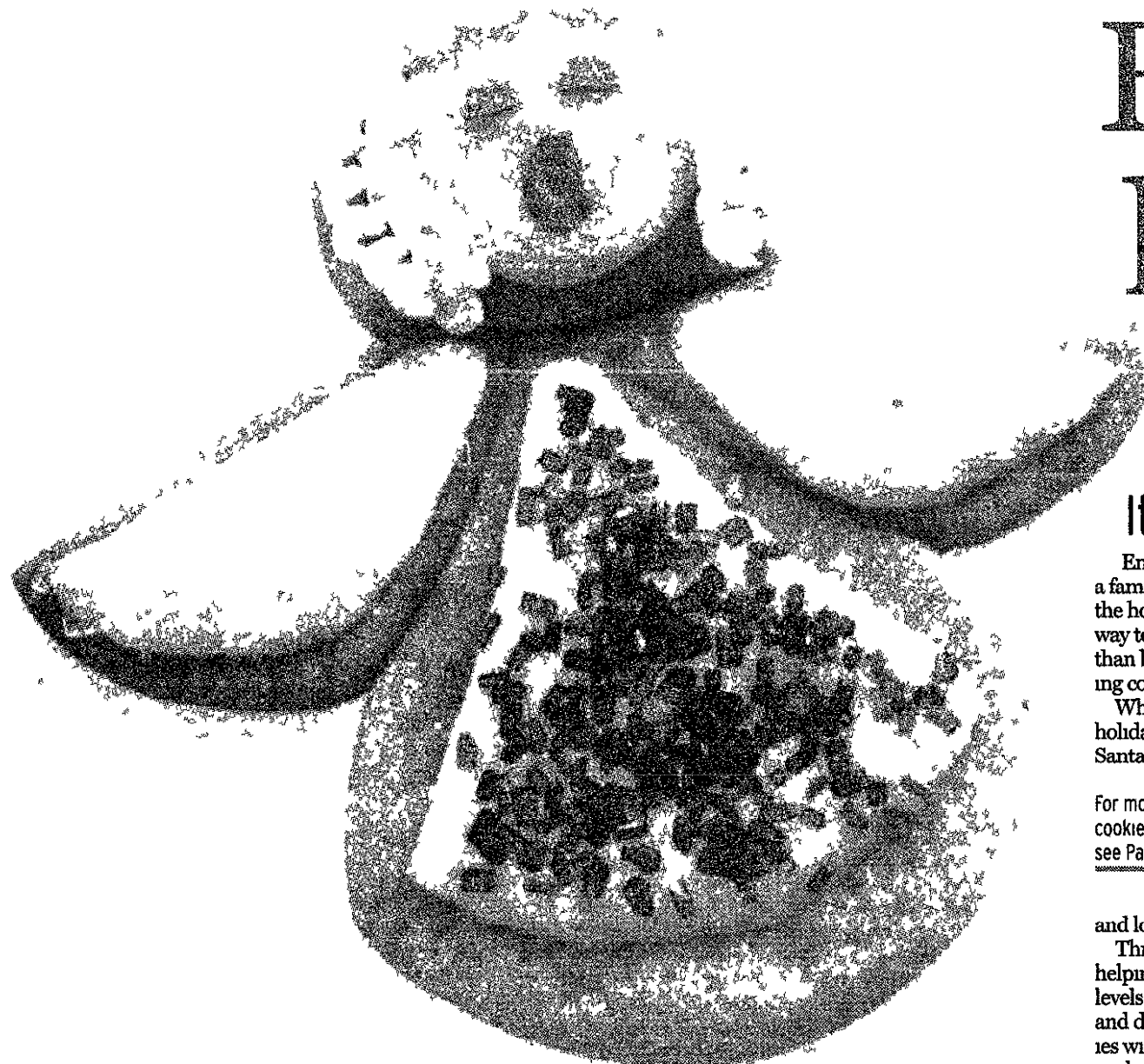
For another fun shape and great flavor, try a batch of snow-capped cocoa crinkles. Mixing refrigerated sugar cookie dough with baking cocoa gives the cookies a light, chocolaty flavor. Little hands can roll them in colored sugar to add a little cookie sparkle.

Bears for Santa are sure to be a favorite among youngsters or the young at heart. A charming bear face is made from peanut butter cookie dough sprinkled with cocoa powder. Kids can design the faces using an assortment of candies. These cute treats will appeal to the kid in everyone.

For more holiday cookie baking and decorating ideas, visit www.pillsbury.com.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GENERAL MILLS



SLICE-AND-BAKE ANGEL COOKIES

1 roll (18 ounce) refrigerated sugar cookies such as Pillsbury
1/4 cups whipped fluffy white frosting (from 12 ounce container)
Blue and white sugars if desired
Red decorating gel if desired
Yellow decorating icing (or other colors as desired)
Small candy decorations if desired

Heat oven to 350° F. Cut chilled dough into 30 (about 1/4 inch) slices. Use 1/4 slices of dough for each angel.

For 24 of the slices, cut two narrow strips from sides of slice, leaving a triangle for the body. Place two strips on each side of top point of triangle, curved edges down, for wings. Cut 6 slices into quarters. Roll one of the quarter slices into a ball, flatten slightly and place at top of triangle for head. Place shaped cookies on ungreased cookie sheet.

Bake 7-11 minutes or until light golden brown. Cool one minute, carefully remove from cookie sheet to wire rack. Cool completely, about 20 minutes. Spread frosting on cooled cookies. Decorate as desired with remaining ingredients. Makes 24 cookies.

Recipes courtesy of General Mills

Whether you're making holiday treats for lunch boxes, Santa, cookie exchanges or parties, cookie baking as a family creates wonderful holiday memories and lots of fun.

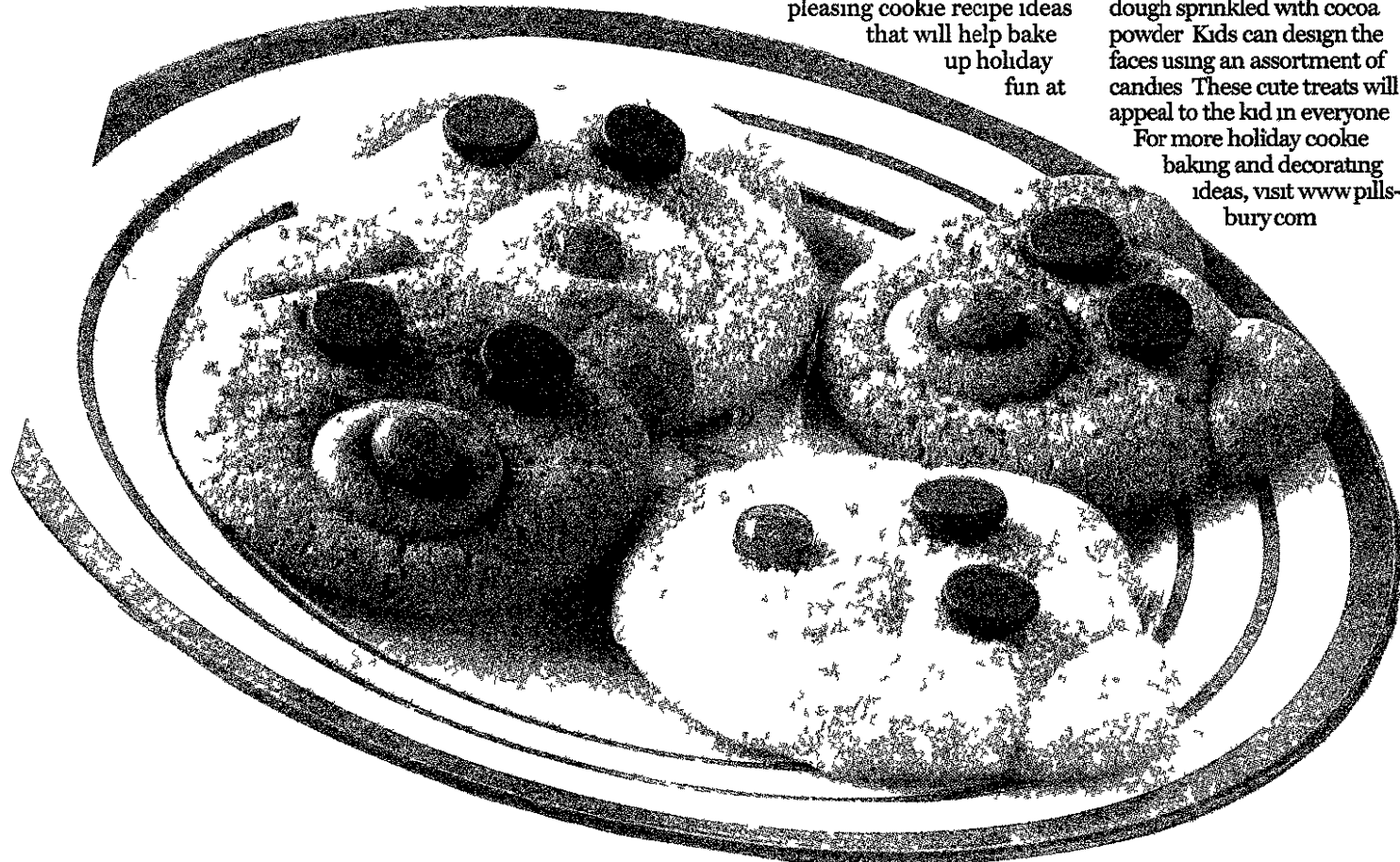
BEARS FOR SANTA

3 tablespoons all purpose flour
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 roll (18 ounce) Pillsbury refrigerated peanut butter or sugar cookies
baking cocoa or powdered sugar
48 semisweet chocolate chips
24 red cinnamon candies

Heat oven to 350°F. In small bowl, mix flour and cinnamon. In large bowl, break up cookie dough. Stir or knead in flour mixture until well blended.

For each cookie, shape dough into 1-inch ball, place 2 inches apart on ungreased cookie sheets. Flatten slightly. Form three 1/2-inch balls of dough. Place two of the balls above and touching larger ball for ears and one ball on top to look like snout. Flatten slightly.

Bake 10-15 minutes or until light golden brown. Lightly sprinkle cookies with cocoa. Press two chocolate chips into each cookie for eyes and one cinnamon candy for nose. Remove from cookie sheets to wire rack. Cool completely. Makes 24 cookies.



Consider Italian bubbies this holiday season

Before the holidays for many years now, we've singled out a French Champagne house for you to consider as adding sparkle to your celebrations.

After being blown away by the excellence of Ca'del Bosco Franciacorta Brut (\$42) and sampling a number of Proseccos on a recent writing trip to Italy, we're suggesting Italian bubbies this year.

CA' DEL BOSCO

Located in the province of Lombardy, Ca'del Bosco is widely recognized as one



Focus on Wine

Ray and Eleanor Heald

of Italy's great wine estates. When wine-maker Maurizio Zanella was young and living in his parents' home (a real ca'del bosco, translated as house in the woods), he became enamored with champagne after a trip to the Champagne region of

France. He wondered why Italy did not produce higher quality sparkling wines.

So he decided to elevate the quality and convinced his parents to invest in his dreams by founding in 1968, Ca'del Bosco and planting 230 acres of chardonnay, pinot bianco (pinot blanc) and pinot nero (pinot noir), the traditional varieties of Franciacorta. After years of significant capital investment, technological improvements and experience, Ca'del Bosco has won a reputation as one of the world's most prominent producers of not only fine sparkling wines but still wines.

In 1998, the publication *Gambero Rosso*, a leading authority on Italian wines, began referring to the estate as one of the few "Stars" in Italy, having won so many coveted "Three Glasses" awards. In 2002, the winery was named "Winery of the Year" by the same publication.

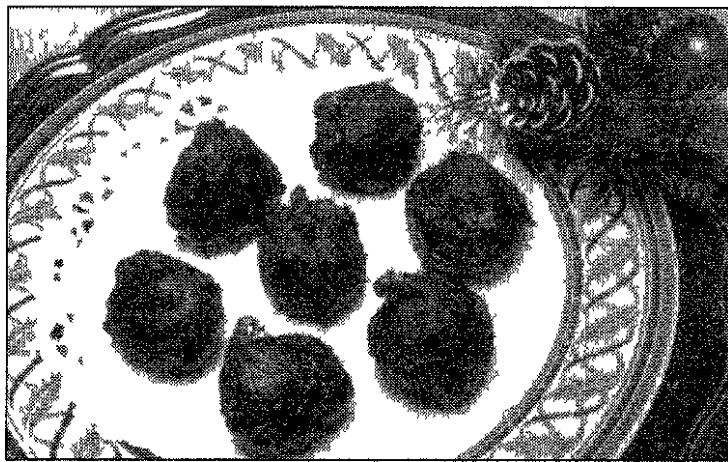
CA'DEL BOSCO FRANCIACORTA BRUT

Carefully selected 75 percent chardonnay, 15 percent pinot blanc and 10 per-

PLEASE SEE ITALIAN, B7

Celebrate with chocolate-dipped figs

BY DANA JACOBI
AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH



AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

Chocolate and dried figs are a delicious combination

oatmeal, and more than any other fruit, plus beneficial amounts of calcium and vitamin A.

Chocolate and dried figs are a delicious combination. Chefs and caterers often pipe ganache (melted chocolate mixed with cream) through a hole in the bottom of a fig. This treatment creates a delightful surprise when you bite into what looks like a piece of simple, dried fruit.

To keep the chocolate and the surprise while cutting down on calories, you can slip a piece of nut and a chunk of candied orange peel or preserved ginger inside the fig, then dip it into melted chocolate. You can use either Calumyna or black mission figs, although the former creates a nice contrasting beige against the dark brown chocolate.

If the figs are hard, zapping them briefly in a covered bowl in the microwave helps soften them.

HOLIDAY STUFFED FIGS

- 8 large or 16 medium sized dried figs preferably pale Calumyna
- 16 walnut halves or skinless toasted almonds in small pieces
- 16 1/4 inch pieces candied orange peel or preserved ginger
- 2 ounces dark chocolate

chopped

To stuff each fig, make a 1/8-inch slit in the center of the bottom, using the tip of a small knife. Using the tip of your finger, work inside the slit to make a more rounded shape with space inside to hold a stuffing. Depending on the size of the fig, push 1 or 2 pieces of nut and orange peel or ginger inside the fig. With your fingers, work the opening to close it as much as possible.

When all the figs are stuffed, place the chocolate in a small, heat-proof bowl. Melt it in the microwave on low power, stirring several times, until the chocolate is creamy and soft. Let it cool five minutes. Set a baking rack over a plate.

Holding the stem of a stuffed fig between your fingers, dip and tilt it in the chocolate so that the bottom half of the fig is covered in melted chocolate. Set the fig on the baking rack. Repeat with remaining figs. Refrigerate, covered lightly with foil, until ready to serve, or up to 24 hours. Before serving, bring chilled figs to room temperature, about 20 minutes.

Makes 8 stuffed figs

Per serving: 115 calories, 5 g total fat (2 g saturated fat), 17 g carbohydrate, 2 g protein, 3 g dietary fiber, 2 mg sodium

Dana Jacobi writes for the American Institute for Cancer Research

Prep for your next party

BY J M HIRSCH
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) — Forget pairing foods and wine. I need help matching up appetizers and cookies.

This will be our second year hosting a holiday cookie-swap party, a festive, if fattening, way to get together with friends while enjoying good food and drink without having to do all the heavy lifting in the kitchen.

The concept is pretty simple: Invite a dozen or so friends or couples, asking each to bring two to three dozen of their favorite holiday cookies (depending on the number of intended guests).

It's simple, but it still benefits from a bit of planning. For example, be sure to ask guests to include in their RSVP the type of cookie they will bring. This will make it easier to avoid a dozen batches of chocolate chip cookies.

Also, we learned that left to their own devices, guests sometimes are too polite to assemble their own cookie assortments at the end of the evening. Thus were we left with dozens and dozens of cookies after last year's gathering.

Our solution this year relies on pastry boxes we bought from a candy and baking supply shop. Now as guests arrive, we plan to set aside half their cookies right away and divide them among the boxes. As guests leave, we will hand them variety boxes ready-to-go.

So that's the party plan. But back to my original problem — what to serve with all those cookies.

Coming up with complementary foods can be tough since you don't have control over a good chunk of the menu (and some guests likely won't tell you until the last minute what they are bringing).

Start with drinks. Soda and wine are our party staples, but for this gathering we also like to offer guests a choice between two mixed cocktails. Last year our invitation offered guests the chance to vote between several options and

we served the two most popular.

This year we're being less democratic. To go well with everything, and help cut through the sugar rush, cocktails should be mildly sweet and acidic. Cranberry juice-based drinks are a nice choice, and have the benefit of being festively colored.

This year we've opted for a cranberry, tangerine and pomegranate Champagne punch and a cherry martini, the idea being that only the martini will require actual bartending once guests arrive.

For food, I wanted to keep it simple. The day of the party there will be little time for complex preparations, as we'll likely be cleaning and baking last-minute additions (to round out the party, my wife and I usually each make several varieties of cookies).

CHERRY MARTINI

- 1/2 teaspoon cherry flavored syrup
- 1 maraschino cherry
- 2 teaspoons chopped papaya or mango
- 1 ounce vodka
- Small ice cubes or crushed ice

Pour the cherry-flavored syrup in a martini glass and place the cherry on top. Top with papaya or mango. Carefully pour the vodka over the fruit. Top with a bit of ice. Makes 1 serving.

CRANBERRY, TANGERINE AND POMEGRANATE CHAMPAGNE PUNCH WITH FRESH CRANBERRY SWIZZLE STICKS

- 12 ounce package fresh cranberries
- 1 bunch fresh mint leaves
- 2 cups pomegranate juice
- 3 cups tangerine juice (about 7 tangerines)
- 5 cups cranberry juice cocktail
- 2 bottles chilled Champagne (or other sparkling wine)

To make swizzle sticks, spear three cranberries alternately with two mint leaves on wooden skewers. Prepare 15 to 20 skewers.

Place skewers on a baking sheet. Cover with damp paper towels and refrigerate up to one hour.

In a large punch bowl or pitcher, stir together the fruit juices. Fill glasses with ice and ladle about 1/2 cup punch into each glass. Top with Champagne. Garnish each glass with a swizzle stick.

Makes 20 servings

Recipe from *Martha Stewart Living* magazine January 2005

TOMATO-BASIL SKEWERS

- 5 cherry tomatoes
- 5 small mozzarella balls
- 5 fresh basil leaves
- Extra virgin olive oil
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper

Slice each tomato in half. Thread one half several inches down a bamboo skewer, cut side facing up. Next thread a basil leaf, followed by one mozzarella ball. Finish with the second half of the tomato, cut side down.

Arrange the completed skewers on a serving plate. Drizzle with olive oil and sprinkle with salt and pepper.

Makes 5 skewers

Recipe from *EatingWell* magazine January 2006

CHEESE 'N' HERB MINI SWEET PEPPERS

- 30 mini sweet peppers (about 12 mixed red, yellow and orange)
- 18 ounces semisoft goat cheese
- 1/4 cup finely chopped fresh chives, tarragon, basil or thyme

Leaving the stem intact, cut a slit from the stem to the bottom tip of each pepper. Squeeze gently to open and remove and discard seeds. Set aside.

In a bowl, combine the goat cheese and herbs and mix well. Gently squeezing the peppers to open, carefully spoon in the cheese mixture, allowing some to show outside the pepper. Arrange stuffed peppers on a platter and garnish with fresh herbs. Makes 30 peppers.

Recipe from *Better Homes and Gardens* magazine December 2001

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AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

Tuscans cook their beans very slowly, using gentle heat to produce the most creamy tender result

Discover creamy Tuscan-style beans

BY DANA JACOBI

AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

Tuscan cooking is famous for its simplicity. Like the best cooking in the rest of Italy, it is a feast of regional dishes using locally produced ingredients. But in Tuscany, these dishes are often minimal in terms of the number of ingredients used. Tuscan bread, for example, is made solely of flour, yeast and water - no salt.

Even when they splurge, Tuscans keep their food simple. Nothing is more elegant to them than a porterhouse or T-bone steak, and Tuscans are famous for their bistecca alla fiorentina. Using what is arguably the best meat in Italy, from local Chianina cattle, this grilled steak is served with just a splash of pungent extra virgin olive oil and a spritz of lemon juice.

Most of the time, despite the wealth brought to their region by a never-ending torrent of tourists and costly real estate, Tuscans frequently skip eating meat in favor of dishes featuring their crusty bread, like *papa alla pomodoro*, a soup simmered with fresh tomato sauce. And nearly every day, Tuscans eat beans.

Tuscans love beans so much they are known throughout Italy as *mangefagioli*, the bean eaters. They have elevated cooking their beans to an art. Traditionally, this meant using a vessel called a *fiasco*, a tall clay container that some people say resembles a Chianti bottle because its narrow neck curves out into a bulbous bottom. Tuscans often start the cooking process with unsoaked dried beans, most often white cannellini, a kind of kidney bean, or speckled borlotta beans. They cook their beans very slowly, using gentle heat to produce the most creamy, tender result. Their clay pots are traditionally nestled in the coals of a wood-fired brick

oven but, in our real world, you can use canned cannellini, simmered slowly with sage, garlic and a splash of extra virgin olive oil - a pungent Tuscan oil, if possible.

TUSCAN-STYLE BEANS

- 2 cans (15 ounces each) cannellini beans, rinsed and drained
- 6 large fresh sage leaves, coarsely chopped or 2 teaspoons dried
- 3 garlic cloves, smashed and peeled
- 1 onion, quartered
- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil, divided
- 1 small carrot, finely chopped
- 1 small rib celery, finely chopped
- 1 small onion, finely chopped
- 1 plum tomato, seeded and chopped
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1/4 cup chopped flat leaf parsley for garnish (optional)

Place the beans in a deep saucepan. Add the sage, garlic, onion and 1 tablespoon oil. Pour in 1 cup water. Simmer uncovered 15 to 30 minutes, or until much of the liquid has evaporated and the beans are soft but not mushy. Remove the onion and, if desired, the garlic.

Meanwhile, heat the remaining oil in a medium skillet over medium-high heat. Sauté the carrot, celery and onion until the onion is translucent, 5 minutes. Add the tomato and cook 5 minutes longer. Stir the mixture into the beans. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Serve warm, garnished with parsley, if desired.

Makes 6 servings

Per serving: 174 calories, 5 g total fat (less than 1 g saturated fat), 25 g carbohydrate, 6 g protein, 7 g dietary fiber, 309 mg sodium

Dana Jacobi writes for the American Institute for Cancer Research

ITALIAN

FROM PAGE B5

cent pinot noir were blended to produce Ca' del Bosco Franciacorta Brut, a fresh, fragrant bubbly with apple, white peach and lime aromas. Although delicate on the palate, it has sufficient structure to marry with scallops and a creamy *buerre blanc* sauce or cheese selection with *chevre*, *Parmigiano Reggiano* and *brie*.

PROSECCO

Prosecco is a white grape variety grown in the Veneto region of northeast Italy and is also the name of the sparkling wine made from that grape.

Until recently, Prosecco was a very ordinary bubbly but state-of-the-art wine production has improved it. Its advantage is lower alcohol than most sparklers, 10.5 percent compared to at least 12 and because of lower pressure in the bottle, avoids the aggressive bubbles of expensive champagnes.

SANTA MARGHERITA PROSECCO

Santa Margherita Pinot Grigio

After being blown away by the excellence of Ca' del Bosco Franciacorta Brut (\$42) and sampling a number of Proseccos on a recent writing trip to Italy, we're suggesting Italian bubbly this year.

is well-known to wine consumers, but the newest story from this producer is Prosecco. The naturally fermented Santa Margherita Prosecco NV (\$20) with its bright fruit profile is a superb choice for an aperitif or to pair with lighter seafood dishes. It's also a good match with fruit desserts to end a meal on a lighter note.

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

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More holiday cookie recipes to try this season

CAROLING KIDS

- 1 roll (18 ounce) refrigerated sugar cookies such as Pillsbury
- 1/4 roll (18 ounce) refrigerated gingerbread cookies such as Pillsbury
- Round or flower shaped candy sprinkles
- Miniature candy coated baking bits
- Drinking straw
- Red sugar
- Red and green decorating gel (or other colors as desired)

Heat oven to 350°F Remove half of sugar cookie dough from wrapper refrigerate remaining dough until needed Cut half of dough into 15 (about 1/2-inch-thick) slices Leave 10 slices whole to resemble carolers heads, place two inches apart on ungreased large cookie sheet

Cut remaining five slices in half crosswise to make collars and hats (see photo) For collars, cut half slice into two pieces and attach under head For hats, shape half slice of dough with fingers into hat shape, do not attach at this point

Place small portions of gingerbread dough into garlic press Press to make long, short and medium hair, attach to heads gently Add hats to top of heads as desired

Place candy sprinkles (blue or green) on face for eyes With drinking straw, poke hole for mouth If desired, shape small pieces of gingerbread dough for earmuffs Sprinkle red sugar on cheeks to resemble blush Repeat with remaining dough

Bake 11-13 minutes or until light golden brown Cool one minute, carefully remove from cookie sheet and place on wire racks If necessary, re poke hole for mouth Cool completely, about 20 minutes

Decorate hats, collars and faces with decorating gel Makes 20 large cookies

- 1/2 cup powdered sugar
- 4 teaspoons red sugar
- 4 teaspoons green sugar

Heat oven to 325°F In large bowl, break up cookie dough Stir or knead in cocoa and vanilla until well blended Divide dough in half wrap each half in plastic wrap Freeze 10 minutes

Meanwhile, in small bowl, mix 1/4 cup of the powdered sugar and both red and green sugars, set aside

Shape half of dough into 1 inch balls and roll in remaining 1/4 cup powdered sugar, place on ungreased cookie sheets Repeat with remaining half of dough

Bake 9-12 minutes or until set Immediately remove from cookie sheets Roll cookies again in red and green powdered sugar mixture, place on wire racks to cool Makes 32 cookies

FUN WITH SANTA COOKIES

- 1 roll (18 ounce) refrigerated sugar cookies such as Pillsbury
- 1/2 cup vanilla ready to spread frosting (from 16 ounce can)
- Red food color (liquid or paste)
- Miniature candy coated chocolate baking bits and/or chocolate chips

Heat oven to 350°F Remove half of cookie dough from wrapper, refrigerate remaining dough until needed On lightly floured surface with rolling pin, roll out half of dough to 1/8-inch thickness

With cookie cutters, cut dough into 2-1/2-inch circles, ovals, stars and half moon shapes place 2 inches apart on ungreased cookie sheet Repeat with remaining half of dough

Bake 6-8 minutes or until light golden brown Immediately remove from cookie sheet, place on wire racks Cool completely, about 20 minutes

In small bowl, mix vanilla frosting and red food color until well blended and desired red color Decorate cookies as cleverly shaped Santas with red frosting and baking bits

Tip Paste colors can be found at baking supply stores or at craft stores among the cake decorating supplies Since paste colors produce an intense deep



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GENERAL MILLS

Chocolate-Pistachio Wedges will satisfy any sweet tooth

color, use a small amount Store paste colors at room temperature Makes 24 cookies

BUTTERSCOTCH-PECAN COOKIE WEDGES

- 1 roll (18 ounce) refrigerated sugar cookies such as Pillsbury brand
- 1 box (4 serving size) butterscotch instant pudding and pie filling mix
- 2 tablespoons milk
- 1 cup chopped pecans
- 1/2 cup semisweet chocolate chips
- 1 teaspoon vegetable oil

Heat oven to 350°F In large bowl, break up cookie dough Stir in pudding mix and milk until well blended Stir or knead in 1/2 cup of the pecans Shape dough into flattened round Cover, refrigerate about 30 minutes or until slightly firm

Divide dough into four pieces On ungreased large cookie sheet, press each piece into 6-inch round

Bake 13-17 minutes or until edges are golden brown Immediately cut each round into eight wedges Remove from cookie sheet to wire rack Cool completely, about 30 minutes

In 1-quart saucepan, heat chocolate chips and oil over low heat about 2 minutes, stirring constantly, until chips are melted and smooth Dip one side of each wedge into melted chocolate mixture, immediately sprinkle with remaining 1/2 cup pecans Place on parchment paper until set. Store covered at room temperature. Makes 32 wedges.

CHOCOLATE-PISTACHIO WEDGES

- 1 roll (18 ounce) refrigerated chocolate chip cookies such as Pillsbury brand
- 1 box (4 serving size) pistachio instant pudding and pie filling mix
- 2 tablespoons milk
- 1/4 cup chopped shelled pistachio nuts
- 1/2 cup white baking chips
- 2 teaspoons vegetable oil

Heat oven to 350°F In large bowl, break up cookie dough Stir in pudding mix and milk

until well blended Stir or knead in 1/2 cup of the pistachio nuts Divide dough into four pieces On ungreased large cookie sheet, press each piece into 6-inch round

Bake 11-16 minutes or until edges are golden brown

Immediately cut each round into eight wedges Remove from cookie sheet to wire rack Cool completely, about 30 minutes

In 1 quart saucepan, heat baking chips and oil over low heat about two minutes, stirring con-

stantly until chips are melted and smooth Drizzle over cooled wedges Immediately sprinkle with remaining 1/2 cup pistachio nuts, press in lightly Makes 32 wedges

Recipes courtesy of General Mills

SNOW-CAPPED COCOA CRINKLES

- 1 roll (18 ounce) refrigerated sugar cookies such as Pillsbury
- 1/2 cup baking cocoa
- 2 teaspoons vanilla



Enjoy Butterscotch-Pecan Cookie Wedges

CALENDAR

Cuisine du Jour
Michelle Bommarito culinary instructor and pastry chef discusses Appetizers and Desserts on Thursday Dec. 8 at a hands on culinary training session at Trevarrow 1295 N Opdyke Road Auburn Hills For information call (248) 377 2300

Schoolcraft classes
Enjoy the following culinary seminars at the VisiTech Center at Schoolcraft

College 18600 Haggerty (between Six and Seven Mile roads) in Livonia this fall For more information call Continuing Education Services at (734) 462 4448 or visit www.schoolcraft.edu

Hands On
Note Hands On classes have a prerequisite site of the Cooking 101 Skill Development class or instructor's approval Plan to wear a white chef's jacket dark pants

and comfortable shoes for all hands on classes Please prepare a tool kit with the following a set of knives peeler spatula dough cutter thermometer and measuring spoons Visit Web site www.schoolcraft.edu for more information on these classes and others Live Lobsterfest 5:30 8:30 p.m. Dec. 8 and Cooking Beef Tenderloin 5:30 8:30 p.m. Dec. 15

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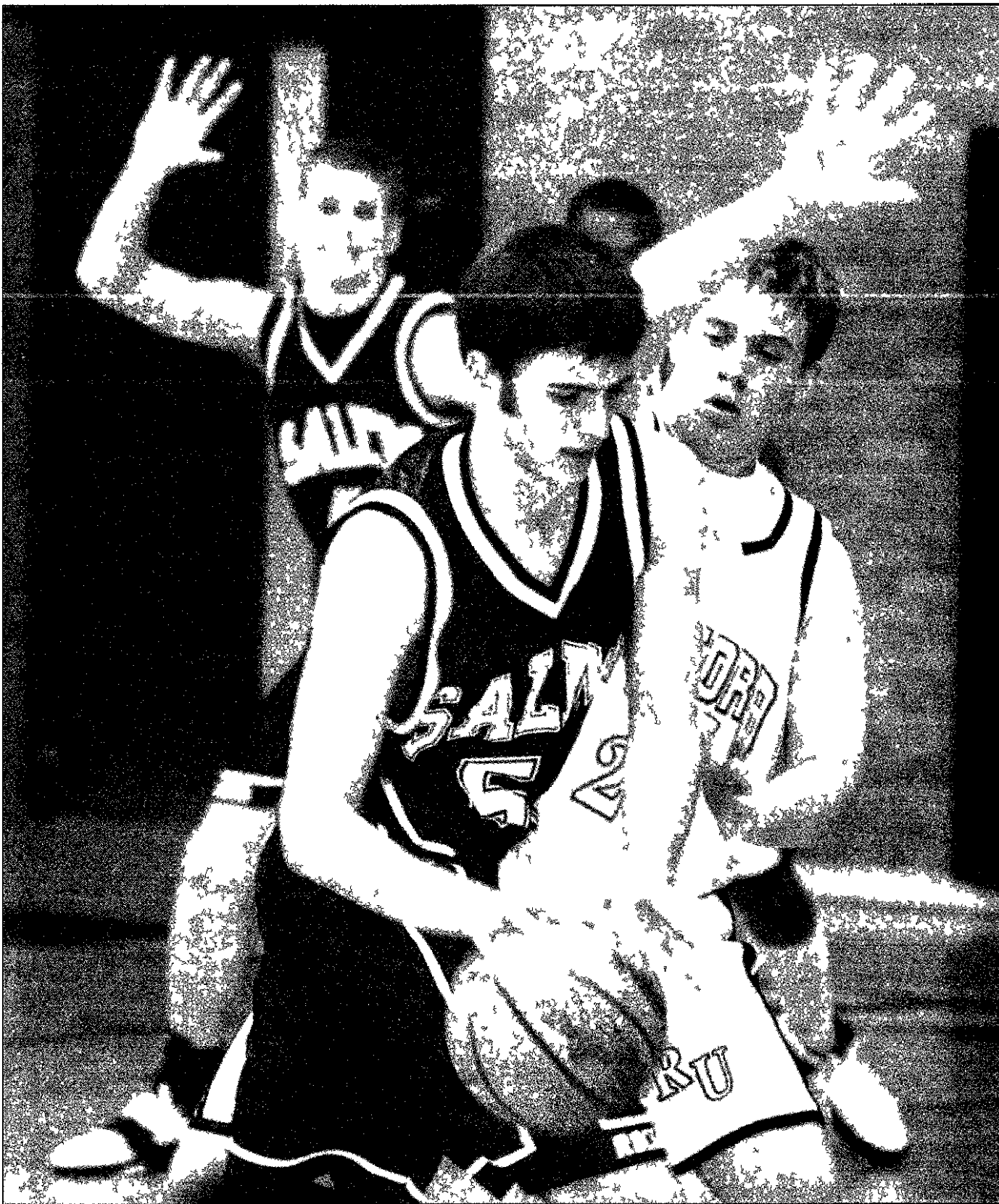
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Salem's J P Truesdell is pressured by Redford Union's Ryan Meyers during Tuesday night's 36-35 RU victory

TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

RU downs visiting Salem, 36-35

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

On a night filled with clankers and slip-ups, something went right for Redford Union in the nick of time Tuesday night.

Panthers' senior guard Chris Brown — making the most out of a broken play — floated through the key and hit a jumper as the final seconds ticked off the clock to give RU a 36-35 win over visiting Salem in the season opener for both boys basketball teams.

Salem had just tied the game on a jump shot by sophomore forward Grant Stone (10 points, four rebounds, three steals) and subsequently went up 35-34 with 30 seconds left when Stone split a pair of foul shots.

But the Rocks had a glorious chance to finish off the Panthers even after the missed free throw, rebounding the ball and calling a time-out to set up a play with 26.7 seconds remaining. Unfortunately for Salem, junior guard Jeriah Dixon (six points) slipped and was called for traveling, which enabled RU to get the ball right back. After the ensuing play resulted in the basketball going out of bounds under the Rocks basket, the Panthers were awarded possession and made good — eventually — on the opportunity.

Brown in-bounded to sophomore point guard Terrell Beard, who passed it back.

"I knew I had to take the last shot," said Brown. "I just got it and took the best shot I could."

Salem head coach Bob Brodie, who

praised his young team for battling back after losing senior forward Billy Leddy to injury in the first quarter, said the winning shot "could have easily rolled out as (much as) it rolled in."

DON'T GIVE UP

Redford Union head coach Brett Steele wasn't generally happy with how his team performed, but gave kudos to Brown (17 points) for hitting a clutch shot on a night where he missed a number of open shots.

"We wanted to run a set for him, but we didn't execute it very well," Steele said. "We hung around, he got the ball and made the play. That's a sign of maturity. Last year, there's no way he would have even taken that shot even if the situation (arose)."

PLEASE SEE SALEM, C2

Tough start Robichaud knocks off 'Cats, 63-53

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Some high school basketball teams like to open their season with a cupcake opponent.

Plymouth chose to start off with filetmignon Tuesday night.

Powerful Dearborn Heights Robichaud, whose roster is stocked with at least three collegiate prospects, knocked off the Wildcats, 63-53, in the Plymouth gymnasium.

"I think Robichaud will be one of the top teams in Class B this season," said Plymouth coach Tom Van Wagoner. "We wanted to play a tough schedule."

'I like the way we went at them tonight. They knew they were in a game. We were only down 36-32 after three quarters, but we couldn't quite get over the hump in the fourth.'

Plymouth coach Tom Van Wagoner

early on to get us ready for the conference. That's what John Glenn and Wayne did last year. They didn't have great records heading into conference play, but everybody knew they were going to be there in the end.

"I like the way we went at them tonight. They knew they were in a game. We were only down 36-32 after three quarters, but we couldn't quite get over the hump in the fourth."

D.J. Coleman had a promising debut to his 2005-06 senior campaign, leading the Wildcats with 15 points. Senior forward Josh Le Duc also played well, contributing 14 points, 15 points and seven blocked shots.

"Josh really started dominating inside in the second half," Van Wagoner said. "Whenever they'd try to drive inside, he'd get a block."

Senior point guard Brent Jones added seven for the Wildcats.

The Bulldogs were led by Venzell Russell, who twined 22. Tim Hunt added 10 and Aaron Crump chipped in with nine.

Robichaud led 17-9 after one quarter and 32-19 at the half.

"We were forcing them to miss their first shots in the first half, but they were getting a lot of put-backs," Van Wagoner said. "We have to do a better job of boxing out every time down the court."

The Wildcats were hampered by shaky shooting from the line. Plymouth canned just 11-of-22 free throws.

Plymouth returns to action Friday when it travels to Lincoln Park.

ewright@hometownlife.com | (734) 953 2108

Sidelines

Baseball sign-up

The Canton Little League will be holding a pair of upcoming registration sessions for the 2006 season. The sessions will be held from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 21, and Saturday, Feb. 18, at the Four Seasons Internet Cafe, located at 3500 Lilley Plaza in Canton.

Players from Canton, Plymouth and Plymouth Township are eligible to play in the Canton Little League. Teams will play a 20-game schedule and compete in a Father's Day tournament and a tournament against teams from Belleville.

For more information, contact Ray Waack at (734) 397-0147.

HVS break camps

High Velocity Sports in Canton will be offering its popular school-break camps again this winter. Camps offered include all sports, crafts, basketball and soccer.

The all-sport camp includes a variety of sports, including soccer, flag football, floor hockey, basketball, kickball, volleyball and an array of backyard games like capture-the-flag and hide-and-seek. The camp is offered in full-day (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) increments for 8- to 12-year-olds or half-day (9 a.m. to noon or 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.) increments for 5- to 8-year-olds.

The cost is \$45 per day or \$189 per week for the full-day sessions and \$25 per day and \$99 per week for the half-day camps.

The dates for the all-sports camps are Dec. 27-29, Jan. 2-6, Jan. 16, Feb. 27-March 3, April 14 and April 17-21.

For more information on the other HVS school-break camps, call (734) HV-SPORT or visit www.hvsports.com.

MU softball camps

Madonna University head softball coach Al White and his staff is hosting a three-hour softball hitting camp 9 a.m. to 12 noon on Sunday, Dec. 11, followed by two sessions of a fundamentals camp in January through March.

The Dec. 11 session is \$30 per girl, ages 7-18.

Meanwhile, the two sessions of MU's fundamentals camp — also for girls ages 7-18 — are slated as follows: Session I 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Saturdays, Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28; Session II 12 noon to 2:30 p.m. Sundays, Feb. 12, 19, 26, March 12.

The price to participate in one of the four-week fundamentals camps is \$150.

Checks should be made payable to Madonna Softball, 36600 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI, 48150.

Madonna coaches and players will work with the girls, who should bring a glove, bat and gym shoes.

For more information about the camps or clinic, please call (734) 432-5783, (734) 495-3719; or (734) 771-1732.

Trojans hang on to push past Chiefs in opener

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

BASKETBALL

Strong defense wins championships, but it wasn't enough to lift Canton past Monroe in Tuesday's season-opener for both teams.

The Trojans withstood a strong fourth-quarter push by the Chiefs to hold on for a 43-38 victory in Canton's Phase III gymnasium.

"Defensively, we held them to 43 points, which will win a lot of games this year," said Canton coach Charlie Payne. "But we turned the ball over 22 times, which really hurt us, especially late in the game. We'd get a steal on defense, they'd come down, make a mistake and give the ball right back to them."

"Monroe outworked us on the boards, too. Size-wise, we were about even with them, but they went after it more than we did."

Junior post player Ryan Waidmann had a strong opener,

netting 11 points and eight rebounds. Senior guard Andre Bridges added eight while Steve Payne and Rob Eppler both contributed seven.

The Trojans were paced by Josh Crooks and Jay Thompson, both of whom netted 11.

Monroe raced to an 8-4 first-quarter lead and 19-17 halftime advantage.

The Trojans led 30-27 after three before the Chiefs grabbed a short-lived two-point lead mid-way through the fourth quarter.

Both teams struggled from the charity stripe.

Canton connected on just 3-of-7 free throws while the Trojans drained just 7-of-14 foul shots.

Canton returns to action Tuesday when it hosts Rochester. Tip-off is set for 7 p.m.

Brampton Battalion's late rally upends Whalers, 4-3

The Brampton Battalion came from behind twice and then withstood a late Plymouth rally to upend the Whalers, 4-3, in an Ontario Hockey League game played Sunday afternoon before 2,379 at the Powerade Centre in Brampton.

The Plymouth loss — coupled with Saginaw's 7-4 victory over Sault Ste. Marie Sunday afternoon — moves the Spirit into sole possession of first place in the OHL's West Division with a record of 17-9-0-0. Plymouth (14-10-1-3) is now in second place, two points behind Saginaw.

Brampton captain Wojtek Wolski, who started the season in the National Hockey League with the Colorado Avalanche, led the Battalion comeback with a pair of goals. Michael Vernace and Luke Lynes also scored for the Battalion (15-12-0-1).

Plymouth defenseman Steve Ward figured in on all three Whaler goals with his fifth lamp-lighter and a pair of assists. Evan Brophy scored his first goal as a Whaler since coming over in a trade with Belleville Nov. 23. John Vigilante scored the other Plymouth goal, his 14th of the year.

Brophy gave the Whalers a 1-0 lead at

18:46 of the first period when he tapped in Ward's pass from the left hashmark in the Brampton zone at the right wing. Brampton evened the game at 1-1 on a disputed goal by Vernace at the end of the first period. The goal was originally waved off because it came after the blue light went on, but referee Sean McQuigge reversed the call during the intermission.

Vigilante gave Plymouth a 2-1 advantage with a power-play goal at 9:38 of the second period. Wolski tallied a pair of power-play goals later in the period to give the Battalion a lead they would never relinquish.

Luke Lynes scored what proved to be the game-winning goal at 7:06 of the third period when he intercepted a clearing pass and snapped a back-handed shot past Plymouth goalie Ryan Nie. Ward cut the Whalers' deficit to 4-3 with 2:01 left when he scored after a scramble in front of the net.

Brampton outshot Plymouth, 33-26.

Plymouth returns to action tonight in Sarnia. The Whalers' next home game is Saturday when they host Owen Sound at 7:30 p.m. at the Computware Sports Arena.

SALEM

FROM PAGE C1

Steele said he kept after Brown all night to not give up on his jumpers

"We got him a lot of good looks and I told him during and after the game that I'll take 16 or 17 shots like that every night," Steele continued "He's going to shoot the ball much better than that But it was a credit to him to be able to make the big shot when it was needed"

Such buckets were few and far between the entire night

It was 8-6 Salem after one frame, a period where Leddy had to leave following a collision with Brown, which knocked him hard to the floor Brodie said he didn't think the injury was serious, but Leddy was taken to a hospital for observation

In the second period, neither team had much more success, with the score tied 17-17 at halftime Brown did start to get untracked, however, nailing a triple from beyond the top of the arc to put RU up 15-12 with about four minutes to go

And Dixon knotted the score with a minute remaining when he drained a trey

Redford Union started strong in the third quarter A 10-4 run gave the Panthers a 27-21 advantage, with Brown again connecting on a three-ball

The RU lead entering the fourth was 29-24 and Brown made it 31-24 in the opening moments when he fielded a long in-bounds pass from senior forward-guard Ryan Meyers (seven points, four rebounds) and made a lay-up

"He (Meyers) brings a tremendous amount of toughness to our team, and he's a great emotional leader for us," said Steele about Meyers, who turned in a tenacious effort all over the floor "He didn't have a spectacular game, but he never stops battling"

Meyers hit a free throw with 4:10 to play, upping RU's lead to 32-24

But Brodie inserted 6-7 junior center Brian Baumgart into the game and the Panthers had no defensive answer

But the Rocks had a glorious chance to finish off the Panthers even after the missed free throw, rebounding the ball and calling a time-out to set up a play with 26.7 seconds remaining. Unfortunately for Salem, junior guard Jierah Dixon (six points) slipped and was called for traveling, which enabled RU to get the ball right back.

Baumgart, finding himself all alone under the RU basket, scored three buckets within a minute to tie the game at 32-32

Beard (eight points) made two free throws to give the Panthers a 34-32 lead with just over one minute left, but the Rocks forced RU's fifth turnover of the quarter and tied it at 34-34 on Stone's jumper

SILVER LINING

That set the stage for Brown's last-ditch heroics

"They all count as wins, or losses," said Steele "And hopefully, it won't mean a lot to us unless we improve through it And I think we will

Our kids are anxious to learn It's certainly helpful to learn off a win than it is off a devastating loss, and that's what it would have been and I'm sure that's what it was for Salem

Brodie, however, said he would take something positive out of the near-victory

"We know we can hang with anybody now, Brodie said "RU's a great basketball program we know we can play for as young as we are and even when we lose a key player like Billy in a game we still have somebody else that can step in We have some depth"

Leddy fell to the floor after a collision with Chris Brown and was taken to an area hospital for observation, Brodie said

tsmith@oehomecomm.net | (734) 953 2106

Shamrocks set to defend Division 1 hockey crown

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

It's never easy to defend a state championship

But the Shamrocks of Catholic Central - formerly based out of Redford Township but now in Novi - also have the task of returning without four all-state players who graduated from the 24-3-3 hockey juggernaut that went on to win the 2005 Division 1 crown

Head coach Todd Johnson is going to battle this season without All-State forwards Harrison Niemann Jason Lewarne, Mychael Evans and All-State blueliner Kevin Horal And don't forget the loss of sophomore goalie Bryan Hogan, who left CC to play junior hockey with the Lincoln (Neb.) Stars

"We obviously graduated a lot of very good players," said Johnson, whose team opened the season with an 8-7 win over Orchard Lake St. Mary's on Nov. 19 Those are all big losses

That doesn't mean teams in the Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League can breathe easier The Shamrocks still have quite a roster, led by senior defenseman/captain Tim Buttery and three senior forwards who also serve as assist-

tant captains - Dan Naurato and Dan Barczuk, both of Livonia, along with Wade LaFever

"Tim Buttery is as good a defenseman as we've ever had in our program," Johnson said "He has a big shot, and he is an awesome quarterback on our power play

Buttery opted against multiple offers to play in the same league Hogan is playing (United States Hockey League) to finish his prep career

And Barczuk also decided it would be better to experience a senior season with friends and classmates rather than move on to other hockey opportunities, the coach said

Certainly as coach of a program we benefit from players making decisions like that," emphasized Johnson about Buttery and Barczuk staying with the Shamrocks

Up front, the Shamrocks will be speedy and able to score thanks to two top lines LaFever and third-year senior Nick Kroll will be centered by junior Doug Raymond (Livonia)

In the opener against St. Mary's, Kroll scored two goals and added two assists

"He's a two-way left winger," Johnson said "It's good to see guys who play both ends of the

ice get rewarded" with goals

Farmington Hills senior center Steve Jankowski will be flanked by two wingers with 'a ton of speed' in Naurato and Barczuk

Those fleet lines will need to keep the burners going in order for Catholic Central to do well this winter

"We better play uptempo because we're not very big," Johnson said "There's a lot of teams that are bigger and stronger than us But we're significantly faster"

Other Observerland forwards include sophomore Alex Kolpacke (Livonia), junior Chad Wilhelm (Canton), junior Jeff Scherrer (Livonia) and junior Adam Haydon (Canton)

In addition to Buttery, the CC defense will feature third-year seniors Adam McGee, Mike Mavgha (Canton), second-year junior Dominic Scala and second-year sophomore Greg Merrill

The Shamrocks should still be in good shape between the pipes with senior Ross Tashjian (Farmington Hills), who split time last season with Hogan. Backing him up will be junior Greg Holland of Farmington

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Salem at Monroe 7 p m

WRESTLING
Saturday, Dec 10
Canton at Davison Invitational 9 a m
Plymouth at Armada Invitational 9 a m
Salem 10 Team Invitational 9 a m

HOCKEY
Friday, Dec 9

Livonia Franklin at Salem 8:30 p m
Saturday Dec 10
Pinckney at Plymouth at Compuware Sports Arena 2:40 p m

VOLLEYBALL
Saturday Dec 10
Canton at South Lyon Invitational 9 a m
Plymouth at Madonna Invitational at Plymouth HS gym 8:30 a m

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Friday, Dec. 9
(Holland Sentinel Tourney at Hope)
Marygrove vs Aquinas 6 p m
Madonna vs Hope College 8 p m

Saturday, Dec. 10
Hope College Tourney 1 & 3 p m
Lorain (Ohio) at Schoolcraft 3 p m

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Friday, Dec. 9
(Kalamazoo Valley Holiday Classic)
Schoolcraft vs Edison State (Ohio) 1 p m

Saturday, Dec. 10
Taylor (Ind.) at Madonna 3 p m
(Kalamazoo Valley Holiday Classic)
Schoolcraft vs Kalamazoo Valley 7:30 p m

ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE
Thursday, Dec. 8
Whalers at Sarnia 7:30 p m

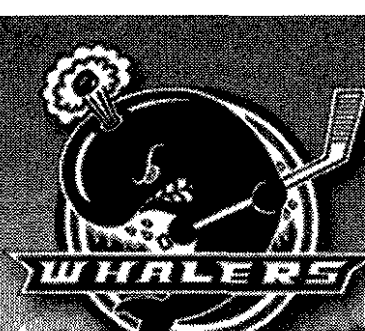
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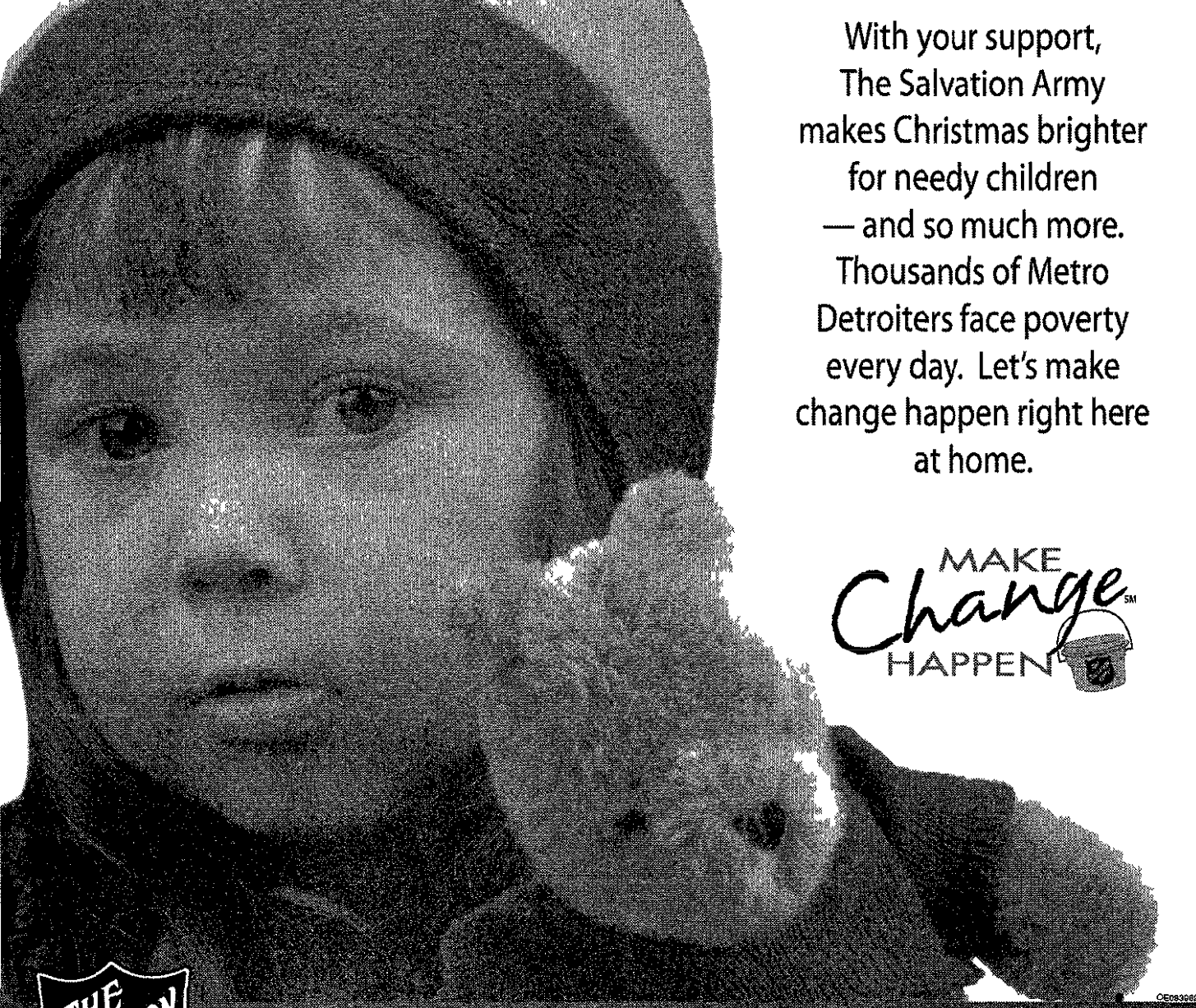


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Canton grapplers look to build on last year's success

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Canton's wrestling team earned more than just a taste of success last season.

The Chiefs paid a visit to the victory buffet, winning the school's first district title, finishing second in the Western Lakes Activities Association's Western Division and third in the conference.

"We broke a bunch of school records last season and set a new precedence for this program," said coach Casey Randolph. "Now, we have to fall in line with the football program here and develop some consistency. We have to prove we're not a one-hit wonder."

Canton returns a strong nucleus of performers from last year's history-making team that should help give Randolph the consistency he desires. Leading the way are captains Konrad Konsitzke (145-pound senior), Marwan Faraj (160-pound senior), Tom Bonnell (215-pound senior) and Corey Phillips (135-pound junior). Phillips is a two-time state-qualifying grappler and Konsitzke barely missed earning a berth in last year's state meet.

"Corey just got his 100th win, which is a big milestone for a junior," Randolph said. "He's a phenomenal wrestler and he's right on track to set the school record for wins. He's very, very tough. Corey's is a quiet leader who sets a great example for the young guys on the team with his work ethic and tenacity."

"Konrad barely missed making the state meet last year, but he beat several state-qualifiers during the season. I'm looking for him to have a very solid year. He is the epitome of hard work. He's a very emotional leader with a lot of heart."

Bonnell is a three-year performer who has overcome some serious medical issues.

"Tom came in at about 256 pounds his sophomore season, but he has worked extremely hard to get his weight down to where he's at now," Randolph said. "He blew his knee out his sophomore year, but he's made a great comeback."

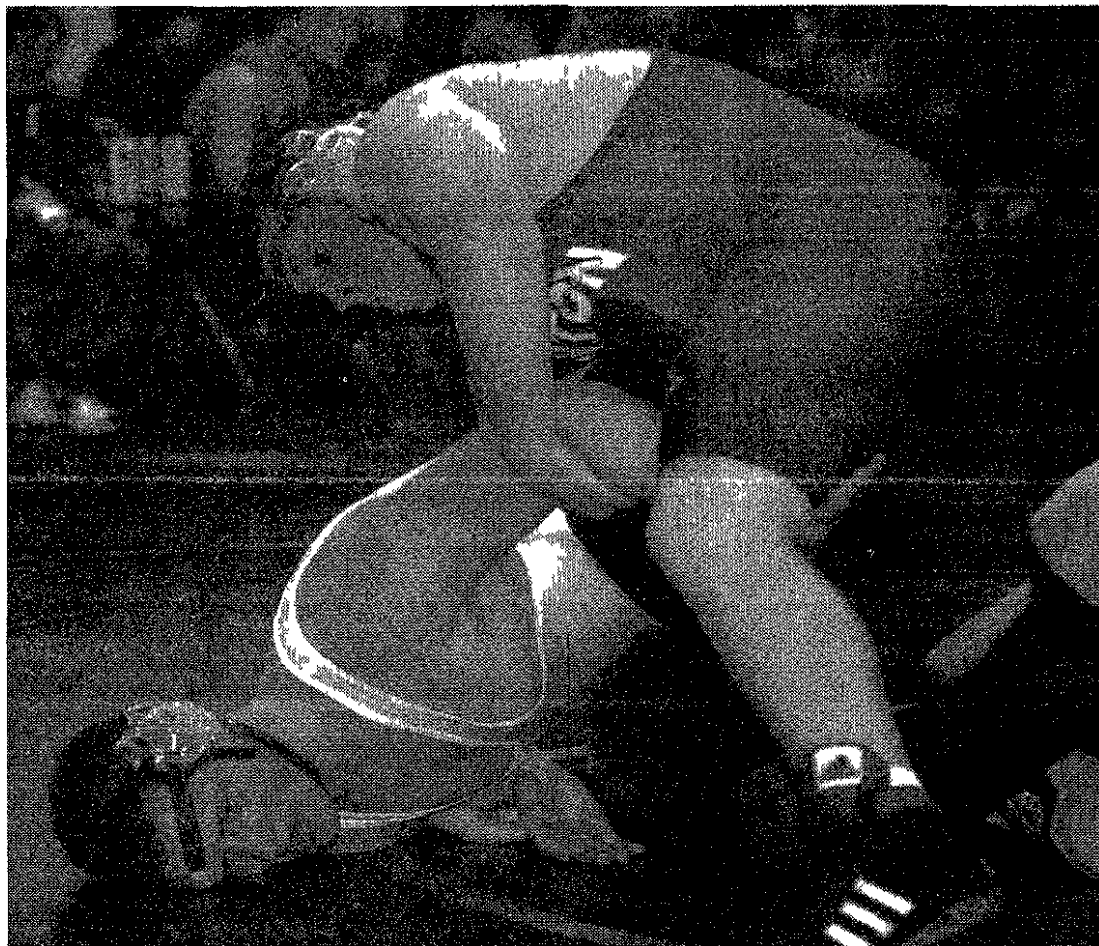
"As far as Marwan goes, no one outworks him. He is one of the best-conditioned athletes I've ever coached. He's a man of few words, but when he does say something to the team, everyone listens."

All four captains and 112-pound competitor Ryan Schnettler compiled 4-0 records at the Chiefs' season-opening first-place finish in Saturday's Hudson Dual Meet Invitational.

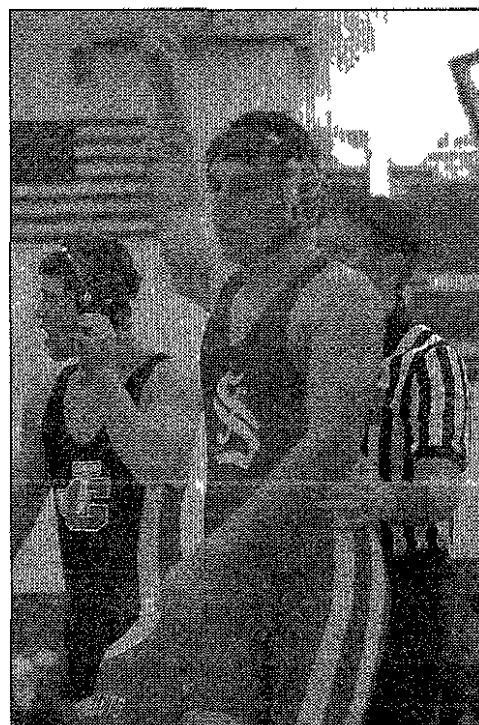
Wardell Fuqua (junior heavy-weight), Carl Lucke (103-pound freshman), Sam Santilli (119-pound senior), Steve Cox (125-pound senior), Joe Sanders (140-pound junior) and Keil Price (171-pound junior) all went 3-1 for the Chiefs.

"It was a good starting tournament for us," Randolph said. "Both Hudson and Napoleon are ranked in the top 10 in their divisions, so we beat some good teams."

"We have 36 kids (out of 52) who just got done with football, so we've only had about a week of practice. We're not in wrestling conditioned quite yet, but we will be."



Canton 215 pounder Tom Bonnell (top) will serve as one of the Chiefs' top upper-weight performers as well as one of the team's four captains during his senior season.



Senior Jeremy Henderson pictured above after winning a match last season, is off to a torrid start after going 5-0 with five pins in Saturday's Lake Orion Invitational. Henderson was a state-qualifier last year.

SALEM

The Rocks are coming off a success-filled 2004-05 campaign that saw them finish second in the district tournament while qualifying eight wrestlers to the regional meet and two to the Division 1 state meet.

"We're going to miss guys like Ryan Stump and Matt Keffler, who graduated, but we should be as strong, if not better than last year," said Salem coach Greg Woochuk. "We have a lot of strong leadership from our captains that we can rely on."

Salem's top returner is 189-pound senior Jeremy Henderson, who finished seventh at the Division 1 state meet last season. Henderson was voted the most valuable wrestler in the upper weights at Saturday's Lake Orion Invitational. He pinned all five of his opponents, all within the first period of the match.

I have high expectations for Jeremy this year, Woochuk said. He's a proven wrestler and he has good leadership qualities.

Other key leaders for the Rocks will be 215-pound Alex Smith and 125-pound Cory Mervyn, both of whom compiled impressive 4-1 records in Lake Orion. Overall, Salem finished

third at the event behind state-ranked Holt and the host Dragons.

Joining Henderson and Mervyn as returning regional qualifiers for Salem are Jeremy Stankewitz (112-pound junior) and 145-pound senior Jake Bennett, who missed qualifying for the state meet by a few points.

Filling out the Rocks starting line-up in the early going will be Kevin Bennett (103), Nick Steiger (119), Jerald Bonkowski (130), Matt Stott (135), Val Gu (140), Jeremy Epley (152), Greg Taylor (160), Andrew Ross (171) and Hussein Ajami (heavy-weight).

Last year we had eight regional qualifiers, and I think we're capable of having just as many this year," Woochuk said. "I know Jeremy Henderson has aspirations of making it to the state finals."

Salem will host a 10-team round robin tournament on Saturday. The Rocks will be joined by Adrian, Belleville, Novi, Wyandotte, Roosevelt, Walled Lake Western, New Boston, Huron, Sterling Heights and Dearborn Heights Crestwood.

The finals are slated to begin at 6:30 p.m.

PLYMOUTH

With everybody back from last season's district championship squad, the future is bright for the Wildcats.

"So far, we're off to a pretty good start," said coach Sam Amine. "We're not quite where I would like us to be yet, but we're still making a lot of adjustments."

"I'm not going to ask our kids to drop weight this year, so a lot of them are wrestling up a weight. I'd rather have them at full strength this year rather than losing strength because they're watching their weight."

Senior Danny Jammoul will serve as the Wildcats' lone captain this season. The 189-pounder, who won 70 percent of his matches last year, has made great strides since joining the Plymouth program four years ago.

"The thing that helped me make my decision to name Danny captain was how hard he worked during the off-season," Amine said. "He was a little overweight when he came in as a freshman, but he has worked so hard the past two years. He's very motivated and he's paid his dues in the weight room."

Danny played football for the first time this year and the coach told me he wishes he would have come out a few years ago.

Amine said his pre-season goals are clear-cut.

"Number one, we want to do well in the league," the four-year coach said. "We're in a very strong conference, though, with Livonia Franklin and Canton returning a lot of wrestlers from last year. If the kids keep working hard, I think we can do well."

The Wildcats will be paced this year by senior Steven Korpus, a senior who started the season at 140 but will eventually drop to 130, Amine said. Korpus, who was one victory away from qualifying for the state meet last year, is off to a tremendous start, having racked up a 7-0 record.

Steven has kind of an unorthodox style of wrestling,

but he gives kids fits," Amine said. "He has great balance and he's a tough-nosed kid."

Other pace-setters for Plymouth will be 140-pound senior Ali Youseff, who is 6-1 already, and 215-pound senior Taylor Fox, who was a regional qualifier last March.

Filling out the Wildcats starting line-up will be Santino Besco (103), Stephen D'Annunzio (112), Ben Kosmalksi (119), Amir Pakray (125), Timone Crawford (130), Andrew Saunders (135), Jon Hagar (145), Jeff Schwartz (152), Vincent Darloff (171) and Shaun Bailey (heavyweight).

Anthony Favot (103), Ben Gibson (112), Chris Favot (130), Ryan Flaherty (152) and Ramon Pakray (171) should see a lot of varsity mat action as well, Amine said.

On Saturday, the Wildcats placed third in the eight-team L'Anse Creuse Team Tournament. New Boston Huron won the event and the hosts were second. Plymouth ousted Birmingham Brother Rice, 54-19, Dearborn Divine Child, 46-28, and Orchard Lake St. Mary's, 56-16. The Wildcats dropped decisions to L'Anse Creuse, 47-24, and New Boston Huron, 40-32.

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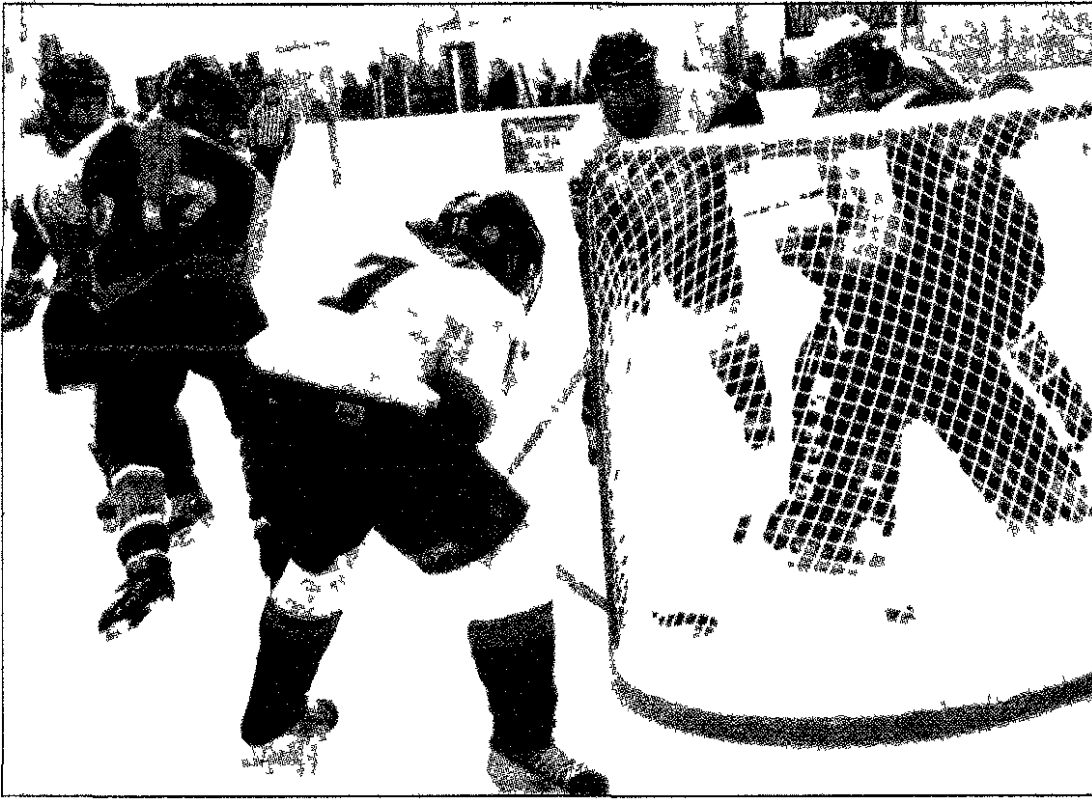
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March of the Penguins

PCS girls hockey team routs fourth-straight opponent



Plymouth-Canton-Salem's Kelli Bargowski skates past Walled Lake Unified's Shelbe Ddot during Tuesday night's 9-0 Penguin victory.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth-Canton-Salem's Katie Zimmerman slips the puck past Walled Lake Unified goalie Lauren Hutchinson during Tuesday night's 9-0 Penguin triumph. PCS improved to 4-0 while the Wild dropped to 2-2.

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Slow start Strong finish
Lopsided win

That has been the method of operations for this year's Plymouth-Canton-Salem girls hockey team, which boosted its record to 4-0 Tuesday night with a 9-0 romp over Walled Lake Unified, which fell to 2-2.

The Penguins have now outscored their opponents, 30-0, despite often struggling during the game's opening moments.

PCS senior forward Kristin Schwan ignited the rout over the Wild when she tallied her first of three goals just over 10 minutes into the game to break a scoreless tie. Schwan, who was assisted by Stephanie Murray, is tied with the team lead in goals (six) with Adrienne Cercone.

"I think we may have come out a little over-confident tonight in the first period and Walled Lake came out ready to play," said PCS coach Lori Callahan. "We weren't skating

like we meant it early on, but everyone stepped up after the first period and really pitched in. The girls did a nice job passing and on break-outs tonight."

"I thought our defense really stepped up in the third period as we only allowed three shots on goal."

Freshman forward Katie Zimmerman padded the Penguins' lead to 2-0 two minutes after Schwan's goal off an assist from Emily Patton.

PCS distanced itself from the Wild with three second-period goals that came off the sticks of Nicole Sensoh (12:55), Kelli Bargowski (5:26) and Keely Kowalski (1:33). Sensoh's goal was assisted by Sarah Skomeseny and Ann McTurner, Bargowski was assisted by McTurner, and

Murray and Edra Burris were credited with helpers on Kowalski's goal.

The scoring floodgates opened up in the final period for the Penguins thanks to a pair of goals from Schwan and singles by Ashley LaBlanc (8:35) and Zimmerman (7:28).

Murray, Skomeseny and McTurner all tallied three assists each for the winners.

Sophomore goal-tender Kristie Kowalski — the twin sister of Keely — turned back 14 shots to notch her fourth consecutive shutout. The Penguins made life difficult for the Wild goalie, peppering 42 shots on goal.

The red-hot Penguins will be idle until Friday, Dec. 16, when they travel to Livonia's Eddie Edgar Arena to square off with Farmington Hills Mercy.

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Desilets' strong play leads to tie

Senior goal-tender Justin Desilets stopped 26 shots to help Plymouth preserve a 2-2 tie with Dexter Saturday afternoon at the Compuware Sports Center. The draw left the Wildcats with a 1-1-1 record heading into Saturday's home game against Pinckney.

"Justin was outstanding again," said Plymouth coach Chuck Dubois. "He's played

very well in all three of our games. Overall, we're playing better as a team as well. We've cut down the number of penalties, now, we just need to skate a little harder."

Al DeMetriou gave the Dreadnaughts a 1-0 lead at the 9:04 mark of the first

period. Joe Perkovich beat Dexter goalie Cole McNabb with 25 seconds left in the opening stanza on a power-play to make it 1-1. Perkovich was assisted by Jason O'Guinn and Mike Barle.

After Dexter's J.T. Ledwidge put the Dreadnaughts ahead 2-1 four minutes into the second period, Plymouth's Charles Webb tallied the game's final goal at the 5:52 mark of the second period. Webb's goal was unassisted.

Plymouth outshot the Dreadnaughts, 40-28.

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CANTON 4, W.L. WESTERN 3: Senior Brett Giacomino scored the game-winner late in the second period off an assist from Kyle Kowalski.

The victory was the Western Lakes Activities Association opener for the Chiefs, who improved to 1-2 overall.

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"I thought we played well in spurts," said Canton coach Mike Behen. "The boys played hard throughout the game and our defense is coming together well thanks to Donnie Barlow and Kevin Tollison."

Sophomore net-minder Kevan Swanberg earned his first varsity victory, stopping 18 Western shots.

Pat Gallagher opened the scoring five minutes into the contest when he took a pass from Barlow and deposited the puck into the back of the net.

Two minutes later, Western's Nick Kenney knotted the score at 1-1 on his first of two goals.

Giacomino, Cory Hames and Gallagher accounted for the Chiefs' three second-period goals.

Justin Ward, and Giacomino picked up assists Jason Norville and Kenney added third-period goals for the Warriors, who pulled their goalie with two minutes to play but couldn't put one past Swanberg.

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Senior-led Wildcat spikers carry high hopes into season

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Expectations for Plymouth's volleyball team are as high as Jeanne Moise's kills are hard. That would be "very" for both of the above — with a capital "V."

The Wildcats return all of their key players from last season's impressive 48-12 team that was void of seniors.

The most prominent returner is Moise, a 5-11 outside hitter whose thundering hits last year earned her honorable mention All-State accolades.

This year, coach Kelly McCausland has eight upperclassmen and six juniors, which gives her ample reason for optimism.

"With all of the experience players we have coming back, we definitely have high expectations," McCausland said. "But our conference is still very strong, with Lavonia Churchill, Lavonia Stevenson and Salem all returning a lot of strong players."

McCausland said her team's unique situation of having played all four years in tact is advantageous, for the most part.

"The benefits are that we've been able to coach this same group throughout the past four years, so they know what we expect from them," she said. "The only negative is that they've been hearing the same thing for four years, so you hope they keep listening. The positives far outweigh the negative, though."

Over the past four years, McCausland has been able to watch Moise develop into one of the state's top players — and it's not just Moise's hitting ability that make her stand out, McCausland said.

"She's a great all-around player," the coach said. "She's very good with all of her shots plus she's one of the most dominant middle-hitters around."

Moise will have plenty of help around her as the Wildcats possess one of the Western Lakes Activities Association's deepest and most talented rosters.

Providing most of the setting will be senior Sarah Haskins (5-8), who has been the team's top setter for the past four years.

"Sarah's game has improved every year," McCausland said. "We'll be looking for her to lead the team as our quarterback."

Other key seniors include Brandi Swyhart (5-4 defensive specialist), Janet Hanchett (5-9 outside hitter), Jackie Dorre (5-9 outside hitter), Lauren Stemberger (5-6 defensive specialist) and Katie Hughes (5-7 outside hitter).

"Brandi is a tremendous passer and she can play all of the defensive positions," McCausland said.

Adding depth to the Wildcats' attack will be juniors Brittany Hengesh (5-11 middle hitter), Chelsey Quinlan (5-9 middle hitter), Kim Klonowski (5-8 outside hitter), Clare Baptist (5-7 outside hitter), Courtney Buttermore (5-7 outside hitter) and Danielle Gaudici (5-4 defensive specialist).

The Wildcats open their season Saturday at the 15-team Madonna Invitational, which they will host in the Plymouth gymnasium. Saturday's tournament will be the first of seven the team will compete in this season.

SALEM

Amanda Suder is back home again — and she couldn't be happier.

Suder was named the Rocks new volleyball coach in mid-October. She succeeds Jennifer Peterson, who resigned due to work conflicts.

Suder, a 2000 graduate of Salem, was a standout player for the Rocks before taking her skills to Madonna University, where she played for her uncle, Jerry Abraham. Despite her young age, Suder has already compiled an impressive resume, having coached the Salem freshmen team for three years before moving over to Plymouth to coach its junior-varsity unit for the 2004-05 campaign.

"It's nice being back at Salem and seeing a lot of familiar faces," Suder said. "We have a lot of returning players, which is exciting. We have a tall team,

so our strength will be our hitting. So far, our biggest weakness is our defense, but we're working on it every day."

"I like my teams to play with a lot of intensity and I stress togetherness. I tell them, when they're out on the court, they're like a family. I'm also big into defense. That's where everything starts."

Leading the Rocks returners are senior Lauren Price (6-0 outside hitter), junior Teresa Coppellie (6-0 outside hitter), Ashley Hayes (5-5 defensive specialist/setter) and junior middle-hitter Lauren Kurtz (5-1).

Lauren is a very, very talented player and a strong hitter, Suder said. "I'm expecting a lot out of her this season. Her and Teresa give us a great combination up front."

Ashley is a great leader, a great team player. She will be our back-up setter and one of our most versatile players. I'll move her around a lot.

Other front-line contributors for the Rocks will be senior middle hitter Shannon Rusin (5-9), junior middle hitter Katrina Cope (5-11), junior outside hitter Courtney Seiler (5-10) and junior outside hitter Nikka Mersch.

Salem's key back-row players include junior Kristen Kozub (5-4 defensive specialist), junior Chelsea McPhail (5-9 defensive specialist), junior Kelly Behr (5-3 defensive specialist), senior Danielle DiPietro (middle defender) and freshman Jansan Falcusan (5-7 setter).

"Jordan has excellent ball control," Suder said of her starting freshman setter. She does everything well. She has a great serve and is an excellent hitter as well.

Suder cited three squads as teams to look out for in the WLAA race.

"Our conference is tough from top to bottom, but I'd say Lavonia Churchill, Plymouth and Walled Lake Northern will be up there because they all have a lot of talented returning players," she said.

Salem opens its 2005-06 schedule Saturday Dec. 17, at the Madonna Invitational.

CANTON

The Chiefs will be led by first-year coach Kristie Drinkhahn, a former star player at Canton in the mid-90s who was hired in early October to succeed Alex Perrin, who held the post for just one year.

Drinkhahn coached the Chiefs' freshmen squad from 1996 through 1998. She has also honed her coaching skills for the Madonna Crusaders 14-and-under AAU squad.

"I'm very excited because this is such a great group of kids," Drinkhahn said. "This is a very motivated group. They've all been working extremely hard."

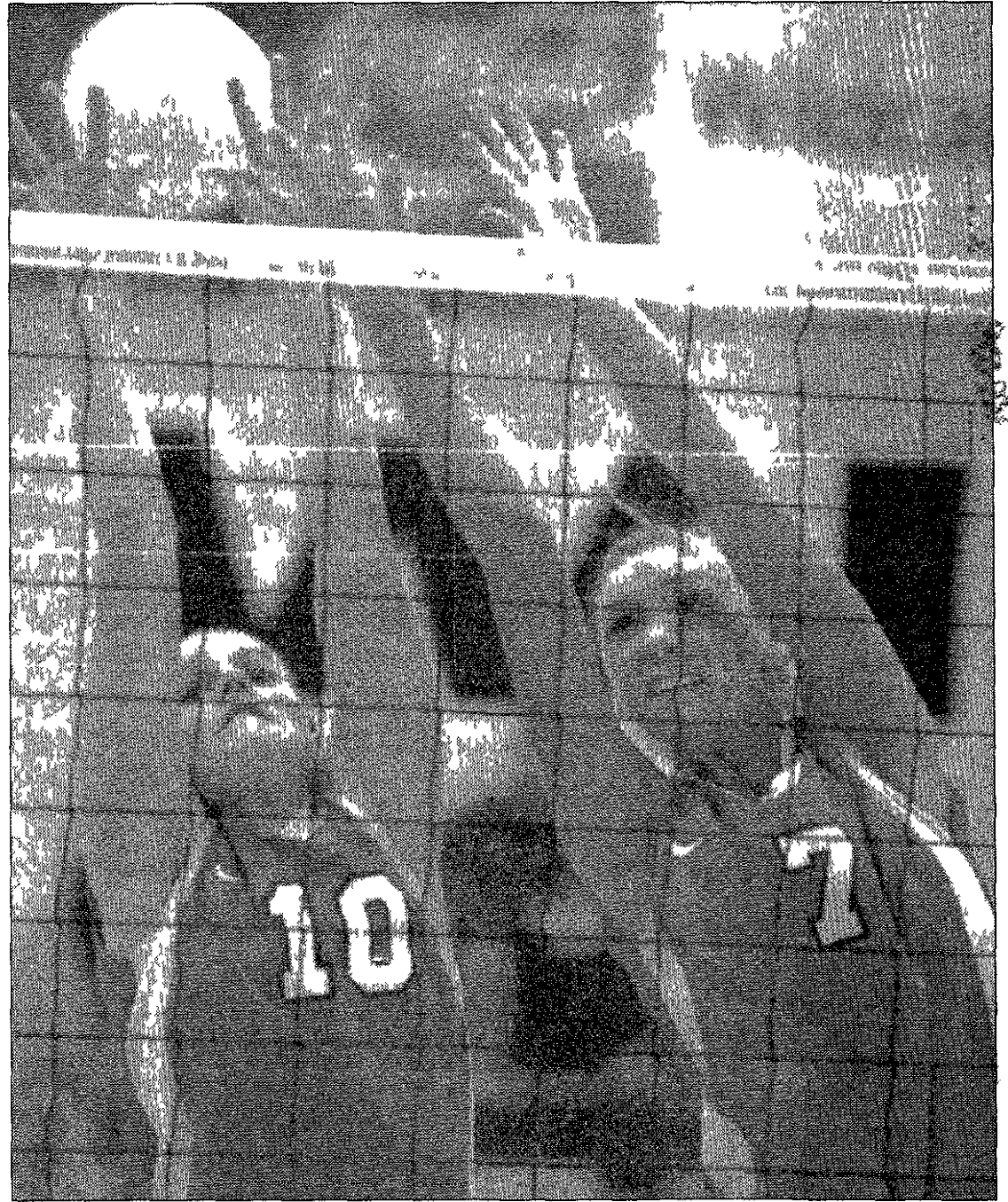
Drinkhahn said her team's strength lies in its depth.

"We have a lot of all-around great players — we're not just strong up front or in the back," she said.

The Chiefs return six seniors from last year's squad: outside hitter/defensive specialist Kelsey Bailey, setter Rachael Beaudoin, defensive specialist Krista Holcomb, outside and middle hitter Lisa Western, defensive specialist Sarah



Plymouth's Jeanne Moise gives the Wildcats one of the most dominant front-row players in high school volleyball this season.



Canton senior Lisa Western (right) will be one of the key players in new coach Kristi Drinkhahn's inaugural season. Pictured to Western's right is Stephanie Price, who graduated.

Alexander and middle hitter Izabela Paszkowska.

Kelsey has an amazing attitude and drive and is a strong outside hitter. Drinkhahn said Rachael has great hands and quick feet, and Lisa is a passionate player who supports her teammates.

Due to a knee injury, Alexander will be out of action for up to two months, but she's still contributing.

Sarah is a great organizer who always has a positive attitude," Drinkhahn said. "She's always there and ready."

Canton's roster includes a pair of juniors — outside hitters Joellen Heldt and Emily Hoernschemeyer — and four sophomores: defensive specialist Hannah Mills, setter Heidi Herendeen, outside hitter Lauren McPartlin and middle hitter Marie Martin.

Defensive specialist/outside hitter Gina Wate is the lone freshman on the Chiefs varsity roster. Canton opens its season Saturday at the South Lyon Invitational.

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Detroit Lions: Dysfunctional team

When I decided to write a monthly column for the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* this season, I did so in the hope of writing about a fun young competitive team on its way to a division title. Even with the history of this franchise I never dreamed it would be this bad. The Lions have always been, shall we say dysfunctional, but this season takes the cake. The past week was the typical Lion circus only this time there were more than three rings. Allegedly Matt Millen wanted to fire Steve Marucci on Friday after the Thanksgiving game debacle. That did not happen. So Monday the deed was done and Dick Jauron took over on an interim basis. Millen believed, and rightfully so, that the young players were not being developed. So what happens two days later Jauron announces that 35-year-old Jeff Garcia will be the starting quarterback. Yes, that's the way to develop youngsters, isn't it?



Michael Stone

A CHANCE TO WIN?

Jauron's rationale is that Garcia gives the Lions the best chance to win. Excuse me, the Lions have won four games. They are going nowhere. Why start a 35-year-old weak armed quarterback who is still suffering the effects of a broken leg? Not to mention the guy rips management and his teammates on a semi-regular basis. Oh yes, maybe it's because his teammates hate Joey Harrington.

Earlier last week, Dre Bly blasted Harrington on the NFL network, basically blaming him for Marucci losing his job. Of course the offensive line, wide receivers, coaching and a defense that gives up big plays in the clutch have nothing to do with the futility. So the Lions went into last Sunday's game with

the Vikings the way the players and coaches wanted them to - Garcia leading the team to one touchdown drive (in which he never passed the ball) and some of the worst passes seen here since Andre Ware.

The fans obviously started chanting for Joey and then the fun started. The game became secondary as 'Fire Millen' signs and chants rained on Ford Field. The rest has been documented. Overzealous security people tackling a fan with a handmade 'Fire Millen' sign. Yes, the fourth ring of the circus was now in effect.

A NATIONAL STORY

Many around these parts have laughed lovingly at the Lions for years, but now they are becoming a national story. As Super Bowl XL heads into Motown, the futility of the Lions will finally get its national due.

What should happen next? Obviously, Millen should be let go. His record of 20 wins and 56

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gets new coach, same results

esses speak for itself Three of his first round picks did not see the field Sunday and there is a chance that his first three picks - Jeff Backus, Harrington and Charles Rogers - will be gone after the season ends

I don't think William Clay Ford Sr will pull the trigger He likes Matt Millen. Many of us like Millen Unfortunately, liking someone does not make him the right person to run an NFL franchise. The only salvation for Millen is in this question Who do you trust will make the right hire? Mr Ford in selecting Millens successor or Millen in selecting the next coach Unfortunately, here is no good answer but if I had to pick one I would trust Millen more

ODDS AND ENDS

One final thought on Steve Mariucci I wish him well He is a nice guy and a good person I just felt his lack of urgency stubbornness and nice guy attitude did not fit with this football

team It just did not work here I think he will be a head coach again and will succeed Unfortunately, it was never going to happen in Detroit.

Sunday, the Lions will try to defeat the Green Bay Packers at Lambeau Field for the first time since 1991 Hmmm 1991, I remember the season well 12-4 and a playoff win This was a young team on the rise that would be good for a long time Oh, well, we know the rest. I digress, the Lions beat Green Bay on opening day at Ford Field which was a barometer for the rest of Green Bay's season It will be cold Sunday night and both teams will try not to suffer any further embarrassment. Call me crazy but somehow Brett Favre will be a little better than Jeff Garcia and the Packers will escape with their third win of the season

I wonder where all those supporters of Mike McMahon are now The former Lion has been brutal in Philadelphia. Monday night, he was

pulled in the second quarter after two interception returns for touchdowns A friend of mine from Philly thinks the Eagles would be better off with Ed McMahon and wondered how anyone in Detroit thought he was good

If you are trying to figure out how to protest the Lions futility, WDFN has the perfect way You can participate in the Angry Man March on Ford Field before the Lions home finale against the Bengals Sean Balgion will be leading the troops with signage galore If you have any tickets that you are not using, feel free to send them to WDFN c/o Stoney 27675 Halsted, Farmington Hills 48331 The tickets will either be burned at the march or given to Bengal fans Also you can be creative and come up with a slogan or picture for a billboard by Ford Field Go to WDFN.com for details

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MU spikers' national title hopes fall short

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

"California Dreaming" was nice while it lasted for the Crusaders volleyball team. Madonna University's hopes of winning the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics national championship were ruined by a dramatic, five-game loss to eventual champion California Baptist in Saturday's semifinal.

The Crusaders - who finished their spectacular season with a record of 48-2 - were defeated 3-2 at Point Loma Nazarene University in San Diego.

"It hurts real bad," said MU head coach Jerry Abraham following the crushing defeat. "But I told the kids they played their best match of the year and that's what I asked them to do."

"I'm just so very proud of them. It was an awesome, awesome season and they deserved to play for the national championship. But they played a great team and this was like a national championship game right here."

After Madonna won the opening game 30-26, the Lancers bounced back with 30-26 and 30-28 victories before the Crusaders evened things up in the fourth game, 30-23.

That set the stage for the final game, a 15-8 triumph for Cal Baptist (34-5), which went on to defeat Columbia University (Mo.) for the NAIA title.

As was the case all season, Madonna's top seniors were inspirational against the Lancers.

Outside hitter Natalja Timina led the offense with 25 kills and helped out on defense with 17 digs.

'I'm just so very proud of them. It was an awesome, awesome season and they deserved to play for the national championship. But they played a great team and this was like a national championship game right here.'

Setter Ashley Frost collected 65 assists, Libero Stefanie DeNardin contributed 16 digs and middle hitter Laura Lesko came through with 16 kills.

"They're great leaders and great people," said Abraham about the MU quartet. "I never had to worry about them in any way, shape or form. We're going to really miss them, you don't get four better seniors than that."

For Cal Baptist, the trio of Yajaira Prado, Yudelka Bonilla and Verama Willis combined for 65 kills and 27 digs while Kayla Van Duyn totaled 68 assists.

According to Abraham, whose team made it to the Final Four for the second time in school history, he and other coaches "didn't have to say too much" to inspire the Crusaders to battle back when facing deficit situations against the Lancers.

"This team is focused and very, very spirited," he continued. "They were just so gung ho to win a national championship and they really believed that. There was no quit in them, never was and never will be."

Both Frost (317 assists) and Lesko (107 kills) were named to the All-Tournament team.

All-American duo

Madonna's triumphant season had a spinoff bonus when Timina and Frost were named to the NAIA/AVCA All-America First Team. The last time MU players made the All-America first team was 2002.

Timina, an import from Latvia who starred at Madonna all four years of college, this season surpassed the college career mark for kills (2,851) during last week's pool play at the NAIA National Championships. She also posted 886 kills (seven shy of the MU school record for a season), 481 digs, 91 blocks and 43 service aces while being named Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference and NAIA Region VIII Player-of-the-Year.

Frost, WHAC and NAIA Region VIII Setter-of-the-Year, finished her senior season with 2,222 assists - the third highest total in school history. She also shattered the Madonna career assist record when she tallied her 5,146th assist in September. She finished with 6,885 helpers.

Meanwhile, coach Jerry Abraham will find out Dec. 14 whether he will be named National Coach of the Year. The selection will be announced at the AVCA National Convention in San Antonio, Texas.

The Crusaders reeled off 47 victories in a row before finally losing, in the final game of pool play at the NAIA National Championships.

After knocking off Texas Wesleyan in Friday's quarterfinal, MU's season ended Saturday with a loss in the semifinals to eventual national champion California Baptist.

CITY OF LIVONIA
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VAL VANDERSLOOT City Clerk

Publish December 1 4 & 8 2005

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REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton 1150 Canton Center S, Canton Michigan will accept sealed qualifications at the Department of Public Works until 5 00 p.m. Thursday December 29th, 2005 for the following

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The specifications are available at the Public Works Department located on the 2nd floor of the Administration building. All qualifications must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the project name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of proposal opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

Publish December 8 & 15 2005

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Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received by the Charter Township of Plymouth, 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170 for FURNISHINGS for the new Plymouth Township Hall and Police Facility and Fire Station. Proposals are to be submitted in accordance with contract documents prepared by A3C, 210 East Huron Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 dated December 8, 2005. Bid documents will be available for examination and distribution on or after December 8, 2005 at Plymouth Township Hall, Clerk's Office 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Bldg #3, Plymouth Township. Bid proposals must be received in the Clerk's Office by Thursday December 22, 2005 at 2 00 p.m.

Marilyn Massengill, Clerk
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SPORTS ROUNDUP

LACROSSE COACH WANTED

Livonia Ladywood High School is seeking girls lacrosse varsity and JV coaches for the 2006 spring season. Those interested should fax a resume to Ladywood athletic director Sal Malek at (734) 591-2386.

FRANKLIN TENNIS MIXERS

The Franklin Athletic Club will host tennis mixers every first, third and fifth Saturday of the month from 7-10 p.m. All levels are welcome. The cost is \$20 for members and \$26 for non-members. The mixers will continue through the end of April. The club is located at 29350 Northwestern Highway in Southfield. For more information call (248) 352-8000, Ext 250, or send an E-mail to www.frnklnclub@ffrc.com

NORTHVILLE ROAD RUNNERS

Runners are invited to join the Northville (Redford) Road Runners running organization. All levels are welcome. The club meets at 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday and Thursday at Hillside Middle School located at Eight Mile and Center Street, in Northville. The club also meets 9 a.m. Saturdays by the horse stables at Maybury State Park. Varying distances are run, ranging from 4-6 miles. For more information, send an e-mail to Bo@sprauer.com or call Gary Haf at (248) 231-6114.

LEARN TO SKATE

Session III of the eight-week Learn to Skate program, sponsored by the City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation, begins the week of Jan. 8 through the week of Feb. 26, 2006. Among the sessions offered include ages 4 and up - 4:40 p.m., 5:20 p.m. or 5:50 p.m. Mondays, 4:40 p.m., 5:50 p.m. or 6:20 p.m., Thursdays, boys hockey skills - 6:20 p.m. Mondays and 5:20 p.m. Thursdays, tots (3-year olds) - 4:10 p.m. Thursdays - all at

Eddie Edgar Arena, 33841 Lyndon (one-half mile south of Five Mile and just west of Farmington Road). Registration will be 5-8 p.m. (residents) and 7-8 p.m. (non-residents), Wednesday, Jan. 4 at the Livonia Community Recreation Center, located at Hubber and Five Mile roads. The cost is \$58 for residents, \$72 for non-residents. For more information, call (734) 466-2412.

AAU GIRLS HOOPS

Tryouts for the Michigan Pacers, a 16-and-under AAU basketball team, will be from 2:30-5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4 at Anderson Middle School, 3205 Catalpa Road (at 11 Mile) in Berkley. Registration starts at 2 p.m. Tryout fee is \$25 (includes AAU card). For more information, call Derrick Lockridge at (586) 536-7322, or E-mail mipacers@hotmail.com

EDGAR OPEN SKATING

Eddie Edgar Arena in Livonia recently announced its open skating schedule through May, 2006. Adults only can skate 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday-Friday, parent-child skates are 1-3 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, general open skating is 3-4:30 p.m. Wednesday, 7-8:20 p.m. Friday, 2-3:20 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Resident fees are \$2 for senior citizens, \$3.50 for adults and \$3 for children. Non-resident fees are \$2 for seniors, \$5.15 for adults and \$4.10 for children. For more information, visit www.livoniahockey.org or call (734) 427-1280.

TOTAL BASEBALL CAMPS

Total Baseball and Softball will have holiday camps in both sports for ages 7-17 Dec. 27, 28 and 29 at Total Sports Complex, 30990 Wixom Rd., Wixom. The time is 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day. The fee is \$145 per player. There is a \$10 discount for a second child. To register call (248) 668-0166, email baseball@total-

sportscomplex.com or see the Web site at www.total-baseball.com

Total Baseball's indoor pitch-and-hit baseball leagues start Jan. 5 and continue through Feb. 17. The fee is \$50 per individual or \$200 per team. Age divisions are U12, U14 and U18. To register see the above information.

CC BASEBALL CAMP

The Championship CC Baseball Camp will be 6-8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16, and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17, at Catholic Central High School, 27225 Wixom Road, Novi. The camp is for boys in grades 5-8. Campers should bring a glove, bat, gym shoes and comfortable workout attire. The fee is \$75. Checks should be payable to Catholic Central Baseball. To register contact CC varsity baseball coach Kevin Walters at (248) 596-3886, kwalters@catholiccentral.net or www.catholiccentral.net

BALLPLAYERS WANTED

The under-13 Royals, a travel baseball team, needs three players for the 2006 season. Those interested should call coach Mark Rutherford at (248) 910-6889. A new under-13 travel baseball team in Livonia is seeking players to fill a limited number of position on its roster. For more information, call (734) 238-1580. (If you receive a voice mail, leave your name, player's name, positions played, and a return call will be made about the date of the tryouts.) The Michigan Wolves, a 14-and-under travel baseball team based out of Livonia, is seeking one player for the 2006 season. (Winter workouts recently started.) To be eligible, you must be in eighth grade and cannot turn 15 before May 1, 2006. For more information, call Tim Broughton at (734) 645-9033, or E-mail tbroughton66@aol.com



Schoolcraft College sophomore guard Mikki Williams drives around Kalamazoo Valley's Jamie Munting during Saturday's tournament title game.

Top-ranked Ocelots survive K'zoo, 85-83

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

There couldn't have been more of a contrast between the two games the host Lady Ocelots played at last weekend's Schoolcraft College Women's Basketball Invitational. But it was all good for the No. 1-ranked Lady Ocelots, who edged Kalamazoo Valley Community College 85-83 in Saturday's tournament championship game. The previous day, Schoolcraft torched Myers (Ohio) University, 99-26. "It was just a great, overall basketball game," said SC assistant coach Marty Simmonds. The Lady Ocelots nearly relinquished an 84-79 lead in the final 70 seconds of play, but

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

managed to hang on when the Cougars missed a three-point shot in the final seconds. We missed a couple free throws and they missed a three-pointer at the buzzer that would have won the ballgame for them," Simmonds said. Leading the way for Schoolcraft (8-0) was Tomica Hodge, with 19 points. Also in double figures for the Lady Ocelots were Mikki Williams (14 points), Maricka Seay (13 points), Wayne Memorial's Renita Price (12 points), and Tracey Winkler (10 points). Seay also dominated with 16 rebounds while Winkler and

Williams each tallied four assists. For KVCC (7-2), Jealyn Foston scored 18 points, while Kortni Matteson and Megan Holland chipped in with 14 and 13 points, respectively. WILBERFORCE (OHIO) 75 MADONNA 61. The host Crusaders fell behind 33-29 at halftime Saturday afternoon and never could catch up, falling to 3-5 on the season. Wilberforce University (2-5) hit 16 of 30 field goal tries in the second half (53 percent) compared to MU's 11 for 33 after intermission, which hurt any chances of the Crusaders mounting a rally. Pacing the Crusaders with 14 points was Stephame Childs, with Sarah Thomson and Lydia Prusnovski each registering 11. Thomson also grabbed 10 rebounds. Kamisha Coward and Shamarah Thomas each scored 13 points for Wilberforce.

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Charter Township of Plymouth

To all residents and other interested parties: The agendas and minutes for the Township of Plymouth Board of Trustee Meetings are available for review under the Reference Desk Page of the Township website www.plymouthtwp.org. Minutes and agendas are also posted in the Clerks Office at Plymouth Township Hall 42350 Ann Arbor Road Plymouth for public perusal.

Marilyn Massengill CMC
Clerk Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish: September 8 & 22, October 6 & 20, November 3, December 8 2005

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Charter Township of Canton will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon two weeks notice to the Charter Township of Canton. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Charter Township of Canton by writing or calling the following:

David Medley ADA Coordinator
Charter Township of Canton 1150 S. Canton Center Road
Canton MI 48188
(734) 394 5260

Publish: December 8 2005

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12:30 2:45 5:00 7:15 9:30
FRI/SAT LS 11:45

YOURS, MINE, AND OURS (PG)
11:10 1:10 3:10 5:10 7:10 7:45 9:10 9:45
FRI/SAT LS 11:45

IN THE MIX (PG 13)
1:35 9:25
FRI/SAT LS 11:30

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE (PG)
11:00 1:40 4:20 7:00 9:40

JUST FRIENDS (PG 13)
12:35 2:50 5:05 7:20 9:35
FRI/SAT LS 11:50

CHICKEN LITTLE (G)
11:15 11:50 1:15 1:50 3:50 3:15 5:50 7:50 9:50
FRI/SAT LS 11:50

LEGEND OF ZORRO (PG)
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MANY WREATHS & ROPING

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 Livonia MI 48150 The deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday

DECEMBER

Christmas with family

Celebrate the holiday season with music drama skits dance numbers flying angels big screen video and more at Christmas with the Family 2005 7 p.m. Thursday Saturday Dec 8 10 at Detroit World Outreach 23800 West Chicago Redford Desserts will be served at end of performances Tickets \$10 Call (313) 255 2222 ext 236

Christmas Dinner Theater

I'll Be Home for Christmas 6:30 p.m. Friday Sunday Dec 9 11 at Memorial Church of Christ 35475 Five Mile Livonia For reservations call (734) 464 6722 Nursery and childcare provided

Christmas concert

All is Calm All is Bright with the Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra 6 p.m. Sunday Dec 9 at First Church of the Nazarene of Detroit 21260 Haggerty Northville Christmas Eve candlelight service 6:30 p.m. Saturday Dec 24 Family Christmas Day Worship 10:50 a.m. Sunday Dec 25 Call (248) 348 7600

Crosstalk

Presented by Single Adult Ministries 7 p.m. Friday Dec 9 the Rev Paul Clough discusses an issue in a current news article from a Christian perspective in a secular world in Knox Hall at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church 40000 Six Mile Northville Free Childcare Call (248) 314 5920

Journey to Bethlehem

A walk through Christmas play 6:30

8:30 p.m. Friday Dec. 9 and 2:4 p.m. Saturday Sunday Dec 10 11 at Unity of Livonia 28660 Five Mile between Middlebelt and Inkster Walk and sit with the townspeople shepherds kings and angels Drink at the well and speak with the innkeeper As you walk through the 30 to 40 minute journey others will follow (about every 20 minutes) and experience the Christmas promise For more information call (734) 421 1760

Concert

Garden City Presbyterian Church and The Fellowship of Men a recently formed church men's group invite the community to spend an evening with Mission Grace and special guests Family Tree a father and sons trio 7 p.m. Saturday Dec 10 at the church on Middlebelt one block south of Ford No charge but a donation will be welcome For The Fellowship of men to support their various mission programs Call (734) 421 7620

Cookie walk

Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church's 12th Annual Cookie Walk is Saturday Dec 10 doors open at 8 a.m. sale starts at 9 a.m. and lasts until sold out Pierogi stuffed cabbage bread nut and poppyseed rolls and more than 50 different assortments of ethnic (kiefie kolachy rugela koulourakia biscotti linzer) and traditional cookies and candy will be for sale at the church 36075 W Seven Mile east of Newburgh Livonia

Holiday cookie walk

9 a.m. to noon Saturday Dec 10 featuring cookies and candies (all home made) special orders taken for pumpkin roll (\$12 whole \$6 half) at First United Methodist Church of Wayne For orders or information call (734) 721 4801

Cookie walk

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday Dec 10 at St. Michael's Orthodox Church 26355 W Chicago between Beech Daly and

Inkster Redford Cookies are sold by the pound Come early for best selection

Holiday craft fair

11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday Dec 10 at Tri City Christian Center 3855 Sheldon north of Michigan Avenue Canton Admission \$1 Bake sale and refreshments available Call (734) 495 3363

Advent concert

The fifth annual Advent Concert featuring the Langford Men's Chorus will be held 7:30 p.m. Saturday Dec 10 at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church 9601 Hubbard at West Chicago Livonia Rosedale's own Campanelle Handbell Choir will also be featured For information call Dave Conrad at (734) 717 6356 or Ron Muresan at (248) 540 0621 For information about the church visit www.rosedalegardens.org or call (734) 422 0494

Lunch with Santa

11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday Dec 10 for children ages 1 to Grade 6 at St. Mel Parish gym 7506 Inkster Dearborn Heights \$8 for lunch a photo with Santa a gift and crafts to take home Call (313) 274 0684

Hanukkah party

Congregation Beit Kodesh and Congregation Bet Chaverim Sunday Schools are hosting a Hanukkah Party 11:30 a.m. Sunday Dec 11 at 31840 West Seven Mile Livonia Lunch arts and crafts music and games New students and families welcome Call (248) 477 8974

Christmas Cantata

Emmanuel Celebrating Heaven's Child 11 a.m. Sunday Dec 11 at Mt. Vernon Baptist Church 8828 Wormer Redford Everyone is welcome Call (313) 537 7480

Journey to Bethlehem

Labyrinth Walk 4 p.m. Sunday Dec 11 followed by Christmas concert featuring the Congregational Choir at 7:30

p.m. at First Congregational Church 2 Towne Square Wayne Call (734) 729 7550

Christmas concert

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church of Livonia presents their annual Christmas Concert 4 p.m. Sunday Dec 11 in the sanctuary at 14175 Farmington Road north of I 96 Livonia For more information call (734) 522 6830 Featured will be the Christ Our Savior Festival Choir the Jubilation Handbell Choir the Ringers of Joy Youth Handbell Choir the Laudate Choir (grades 1-6) the Confirmation Choir (grades 7 & 8) a Brass Choir and various instrumentalists providing uplifting holiday music The concert is free and open to the public with a freewill offering being taken

The Messiah

The vocal and instrumental musicians of St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church will be performing selections of Handel's Messiah at their Candlelight Concert 7 p.m. Sunday Dec 11 at 1343 Penniman at the corner of Evergreen Plymouth They will be joined by the musicians of St. Paul Lutheran Church of Livonia No charge but a free will offering will be taken Call (734) 453 3393

Christmas pageant

And Chicken Soup Dinner 10 a.m. Sunday Dec 11 at Trinity Episcopal Church 11575 Belleville Road Belleville Call (734) 699 3361 Christmas Eve Services 5 p.m. and 10 p.m. Saturday Dec 24 Christmas Day Service 10 a.m. Sunday Dec 25 and Holy Eucharist Sunday 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Jan 1 Sunday Services 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Bible Studies and Worship Center for all ages Parents with Young Children Bible Study Sundays at 6 p.m. Dinner and childcare provided

Sunday services

Continue with traditional worship and children's Sunday School at 10 a.m. and adult Bible study at 8:30 a.m. at Garden City Presbyterian Church 1841 Middlebelt one block south of Ford Road Preparations are underway for the Annual Sunday School Christmas Program Good News which will be presented at the mustard Seed Contemporary Service 6 p.m. Sunday Dec 11 Refreshments served after every service Handicap accessible Call (734) 421 7620

Wednesdays In Advent

Continue with 6 p.m. Taize Prayer and song followed by 6:30 p.m. program with meal service project and prayer Nov 14 and 21 at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church 39020 Five Mile Livonia

Caroling

Presented by Single Adult Ministries sing at Sunshine Assisted Living on Haggerty Road bus leaves parking lot at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church 40000 Six Mile Northville at 6:45 p.m. Friday Dec 16 Call (248) 374 5920

Christmas cantata

7:30 p.m. Friday Dec 16 at Christus Victor Lutheran Church 25535 Ford east of Beech Daly Dearborn Heights Admission is a donation of a toy for Toys for Tots

St. Nicholas breakfast

9 a.m. to noon Saturday Dec 17 hosted by senior high youth in the Fellowship Hall at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church 30900 Six Mile between Middlebelt and Merriman Livonia Tickets \$4 (includes pancakes sausage and beverages) free for children age 7 and under Proceeds go toward the cost of the Spring Hill Winter Retreat for youth For more information call (734) 422 6038

Fine arts festival

An afternoon of Christian youth entertainment and holiday shopping 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday Dec 17 at Westside Christian Academy 9540 Bramell one mile east of Telegraph between Plymouth and Chicago Call (313) 533 1956 or (313) 226 8109 for information or to obtain crafters table space

Christmas opera

The Children's Ministry of New Hope Baptist Church will perform a free Christmas opera titled FA LA LA MOO! 6 p.m. Saturday Dec 17 at 33630 Michigan Avenue Wayne It is the story of Jesus birth told from the animals perspective For more information call Ailyn Verbal at (734) 728 2180

Children's choir

Present Leon (Noel spelled backwards) 6 p.m. Sunday Dec 18 at Bethel Baptist Temple 29475 West Six Mile Call (734) 525 3664

Hanukkah party

12:30 p.m. Tuesday Dec 20 held by Congregation Beit Kodesh Sisterhood Lunch will be served followed by a brief meeting There will be games prizes music Donations of toiletries requested for the needy No charge for members If interested in becoming a member of or RSVP call (248) 477 8974 RSVP required by Dec 14

Coffeehouse

7:10 p.m. Friday Dec 23 an evening of relaxation and fun for singles at Knox Hall at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church 40000 Six Mile Northville Cost is \$5 includes snack games fellowship and specialty coffees Free Childcare Call (248) 374 5920

Christmas Eve service

Festive Holy Eucharist 6 p.m.

Saturday Dec 24 at Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit 9083 Newburgh Livonia Guest organist Joan Haggard Christmas Day Holy Eucharist at 10 a.m.

Family Hanukkah party

5 p.m. Monday Dec 26 at Congregation Beit Kodesh 31840 West Seven Mile Livonia Dinner music games and prizes Bring your family Menorah candles will be provided Cost is \$6 adults age 13 and up \$3 ages 5-12 free for age 4 and under Reservations required by Dec 19 Call (248) 477 8974 or visit www.beitkodesh.org

Friends in fellowship

Evening includes holiday dinner Single Adult Ministries 2005 in Review show entertainment by Keith Longbotham punch reception at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 7 p.m. Friday Dec 30 in Knox Hall at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church 40000 Six Mile Northville Cost is \$26 per person Free Childcare Call (248) 374 5920

Series on Spiritual Principals

Continues 7 p.m. Wednesday Jan 4 at Unity of Livonia 28660 Five Mile between Middlebelt and Inkster For more information call (734) 421 1760

ONGOING

Worship services

All are welcome to attend worship service at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church Five Mile and Inkster roads Livonia Service is held at 10 a.m. every Sunday with an education hour all for ages at 9 a.m. Call (734) 422 1470

Fall Sunday services

8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m. Bible study and 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist and Sunday school at Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit 9083 Newburgh Livonia

Unity of Livonia

Services 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays at 28660 Five Mile between Middlebelt and Inkster roads Call (734) 421 1760

Shabbat services

The doors of Congregation Beit Kodesh a Conservative synagogue located at 31840 W Seven Mile between Farmington and Merriman Livonia are open to the Jewish community of southeastern Michigan Call (248) 477 8974

Bet Chaverim

Services are open to all living in the western counties including Canton Plymouth Livonia and Northville The congregation follows traditions of Reform Judaism Interfaith families welcome to attend services at 321 S Ridge south of Cherry Hill Canton Call (734) 646 3864 for information or visit www.betchaverim.com

Detroit World Outreach

A non denominational church with cutting edge drama productions energized contemporary music high tech video and lighting programs for kids and teens a great place for college students singles married adults and seniors Services are 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday (6:30 p.m. the first Sunday of the month) Sunday school for all ages at 10 a.m. and Wednesdays at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. Call (313) 255 2222

Trinity Episcopal Church

Sunday Services 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Wednesday service 6:15 p.m. Bible Studies and Worship Center for all ages at 11575 Belleville Road (four miles south of Michigan Avenue) Belleville Parents with Young Children Bible Study 6 p.m. Sundays includes dinner and child care Call (734) 699 3361

Shabbat Rocks

A musical celebration precedes traditional Shabbat service once a month at Adat Shalom Synagogue 29901 Middlebelt in Farmington Hills For more information call (248) 851 5100 or visit the Web site at www.adatshalom.org

English classes

Conversational English as a Second Language classes are being offered for adults of all ages and back grounds 7 p.m. Monday and Tuesday at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church 14175 Farmington Road Livonia Tutors will work on a one to one ratio to help students better understand and speak the English language No charge To register call (734) 525 0191 or (734) 522 6830

Scripture from scratch

If you've always wanted to learn about the Bible from square one here's square one 7:30 p.m. Thursdays in the Activity Center at St. Aidan Catholic Church 17500 Farmington Road Livonia Call (734) 425 5950 to register

Sunday school

Congregation Beit Kodesh (31840 Seven Mile between Farmington and Merriman Livonia) is registering children age 4 and up for Sunday school Financial assistance available Special discounts for new members For more information call (248) 477 8974

Services

St. John Lutheran Church (23225 Gull Road Farmington Hills) invites the community to a new worship service 5:30 p.m. Saturdays Also Sunday traditional worship services are 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. contemporary service is at 9:50 a.m. and Sunday School hour for

all ages is at 9:45 a.m. Call (248) 474 0584 for more information

Single Point Ministries

For ages 30 and older join more than 350 single adults 11:30 a.m. Sundays for fellowship and related topics in Knox Hall at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church 40000 Six Mile Northville Coffee doughnuts conversations are present Call (248) 374 5920 Tennis continues 1 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays and 4 p.m. Tuesdays at Rotary Park Six Mile and Hubbard Livonia

Bible talks

4 p.m. Sundays at the Friendship Center 1119 Newburgh Westland Call (734) 728 9157

Worship services

All are welcome to attend worship services 10 a.m. Sundays at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church Five Mile and Inkster roads Livonia For more information call (734) 422 1470

The Gap

A new youth Sunday School (God Always Present) at Garden City Presbyterian Church 1841 Middlebelt south of Ford Road Lessons are taught using various media computers story telling games cooking music and art and a small theater complete with popcorn making machine Adult Bible study at 8:30 a.m. with a traditional service and The Gap at 10 a.m. Child care available Mustard Seed contemporary service at 6 p.m. with refreshments served afterward Call (734) 421 7620

Qigong

The ancient form of Chinese energetic medicine A safe and effective way to rid body of toxic pathogens and years of painful emotions Learn the art of natural movement and breath to cultivate vital life energy Classes at Livonia Unity 28660 Five Mile Monday movement Qigong 7:30 p.m. Thursday Qigong meditation 10:15 a.m. and Friday Therapeutic Qigong 7:30 p.m. Call (810) 813 4073 for more information or send e-mail to gary@energeticarts.org.

Worship services

8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays with an education hour 9:30 10:40 a.m. at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church 31775 Palmer Westland Social hour follows each service Call (734) 722 1735

Detroit World Outreach

Nondenominational church with cutting edge drama productions contemporary energized music high tech video and lighting relevant life changing messages ministries for all ages services times are 8 a.m. 10:45 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday (Sunday school for all ages at 9:30 a.m. junior high serves for grades six eight at 10:45 a.m.) Wednesday services 8:45 a.m. and 7 p.m. (Family Night) and service for ages 18-28 at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at 23800 W Chicago Redford Call (313) 255 2222 or visit www.wayofvictory.com

Worship services

All are welcome to attend worship services 10 a.m. Sunday at Church of Our Saviour Presbyterian 6655 Middlebelt West Bloomfield For more information call (248) 626 7606

Aerobic class

Trinity Church of the Brethren 27350 W Chicago at Inkster is offering a Women's Low Impact Aerobic Class to the community every Monday and Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the church basement To participate in this cost free 30 minute class wear comfortable exercise attire (floor mats optional) For more information call the church office (313) 937 1199

Bible studies

Led by C. Jack Brinkman 8:9 p.m. Thursdays at the Birmingham YMCA 400 E. Lincoln Brinkman wrote the book *The Word of God: Jesus Christ Part of the proceeds from book sales go to the YMCA*

Community Bible study

Studying the Book of Proverbs breakfast 7 a.m. or Bible study 8:9 a.m. at the American Table Eight Mile Farmington Come when you can leave when you must For more information call (248) 924 2779

Contemporary service

New informal service in a casual environment 6 p.m. Sunday at Garden City Presbyterian Church 1841 Middlebelt south of Ford Fellowship hour after services including 10 a.m. traditional Call (734) 421 7620

Trinity Episcopal Church

Sunday worship 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Bible studies Sundays at 8:50 a.m. and Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. at the church 11575 Belleville Road four miles south of Michigan Avenue Belleville Call (734) 699 3361

Support group

Provides spiritual social and educational support for divorced and separated Catholic men and women 7:30 9:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month at St. Andrew's Parish Center 1400 Englewood Rochester For information call (248) 652 9173 or (248) 652 3860

New contemporary service

9 a.m. on the last Sunday of the month at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church 9601 Hubbard Livonia A group of church members present a short drama on a theme relevant to the season a church event or current newsworthy situation For more information call (734) 422 0494

Passages Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances 1-800-579-7355 fax 734-953-2232 e-mail OEObits@oehomecomm.net

GEORGE REMICK LIBBY, JR. December 3 2005 Age 90 Husband of the late Maxine Dear father of Robert (Jan) Loving grandfather of Sharon Vlasak (Dean) and Bret (Tessa) Great grandfather of Emily John and Grace Also survived by 5 brothers and sisters Funeral services were held at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward Ave, Royal Oak In lieu of flowers memorials to Alzheimer's Assoc or MI Humane Society View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

RENE J. COLTON Age 43 Suddenly December 4 2005 Beloved wife of Mark Loving mother of Kandice, Benjamin, Travis and Dale Dearest daughter of Richard Hale and Ilene Markley Dear sister of Sherry Bonnell and David Hale Cousin of Debbie Keller Rene worked for Godiva Chocolates Visitation at R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home 31551 Ford Road, Garden City, Wednesday from 1:00 to 9:00 PM and Thursday from 10:00 AM until the funeral service at 1:00 PM Please sign the online guest book at www.rggrharris.com

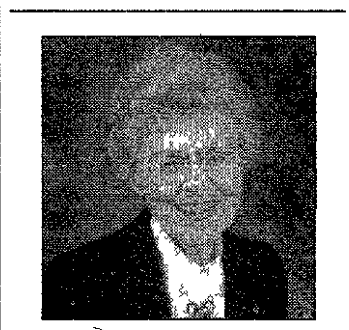
TOBIN MORBACH Age 50, passed away on Tuesday November 29 2005 Tobin moved to Plant City from West Bloomfield, MI, he worked at James Ranch and was a member of St. Clement Catholic Church In October of 2005 Tobin was elevated to 4th Degree by the Knights of Columbus In West Bloomfield, he was employed by Sign of the Beef Carver for almost 10 years He received many awards and was loved by those who knew him and worked with him Throughout his life, Tobin had a zest for family church and sports Where his brothers and sisters went, Tobin was always with them Survivors include his parents Donald and Margaret Morbach his brothers and sisters Anthony of Adrian, MI, Terrence and his wife Patricia of Racine WI Timothy and his wife Jean of Northville MI Thomas and his wife Connie of Troy MI Theodore and his wife Nicole of McDonough GA Theresa and her husband Thomas Angott II of W. Bloomfield, MI Tina and her husband Todd Nagatins of Cumming GA, Tamara and her husband David White of Royal Oak MI Memorial Mass will be on Saturday at St. Colmans Church 10:00 A.M. 32500 Middlebelt Road Please mail condolences to Don and Mickey Morbach 378 Grandiflora Drive, McDonough GA 30253 Donation may be made to LifePath Hospice Attention Donations Department 3725 Upper Creek Drive, Ruskin FL 33573 Wells Memorial Funeral Home Lacey McClellan & Staff 813 752 1111 Interment will be in Southfield, MI at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery

JACK H. CARR Age 98 Died November 29 2005 Husband of Ruth H. Carr Cousin Mrs. Barbara Lvy of Bloomfield Hills Retired from Firestone Tire and Rubber Co. Industrial Products Division Member of Birmingham Senior Men's Club and active with Intergenerational Program of BASSC Memorial service St. Luke's Chapel Canterbury On The Lake, 5601 Hatcherly Rd., Waterford Twp Saturday January 14 2006 at 2:00 p.m. Tributes to Hospice of Michigan Oakland Team Arrangements Wm R. Hamilton Co 1-248 644 6000

MARGARET MACIK Age 56, December 4 2005 Loving mother of William Jr and Elizabeth Macik Former wife of William Macik, Sr. Dear sister of Delphine Christensen Bernadine Markja JoAnn Nash Charlene Sargent Joseph Frank and Charles Sorentino Jr Cynthia Hill Claudia Manuszak and Norita Sullivan A Memorial Mass will be held at St. Kenneth Catholic Church 14951 Haggerty Plymouth, Saturday December 10 2005 at 11am followed by a luncheon with the family Donations in lieu of flowers to Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (www.pancan.org or 877 272-6226) Cremation Society of Michigan 313-839 4100 in charge of arrangements Please sign online guestbook at www.cremationmichigan.com

LOUISE G. BAUGHMAN Age 88, of Green Lake, passed away Friday, Nov 18, 2005 at Munson Hospice House in Traverse City Louise was born in Northville on July 17, 1917, the daughter of Charles and Hattie (Timyan) Peck She married Keith D. Baughman Nov 5 1946 in Plymouth Louise served as a pilot in the WASPS during World War II and co-owned a private plane following her military service Louise and her husband lived in the Plymouth area for 35 years prior to moving to Interlochen to enjoy their retirement Before her marriage Louise was a hairdresser, operating her own salon She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth She enjoyed working crossword puzzles, playing computer solitaire and feeding the birds Her other hobbies included sewing, crafting afghans and hooking rugs Survivors include her daughter, Linda (Rev. William) Alderman Koch of Rogers City, grandchildren, Marc (Dede) Alderman of Interlochen and Lara (Jeff) Kelley of Vancouver, British Columbia, a great-grand daughter Sienna Grace Kelley step grandchildren, Shan (Todd) Bowns of Battle Creek, Maya (Jeff) Kassab of Traverse City and Chay (Holly) Gray of Grawn, step great grandchildren, Mkenzi Bowns, Carter Kassab and Nadia Gray and several nieces and nephews Louise was preceded in death by her parents, husband, Keith and daughter Lisa A celebration of Louise's life will be held in the spring Interment of her cremated remains will take place in Grant Township Cemetery Memorial contributions may be directed to Munson Hospice House 1105 Sixth St., Traverse City MI 49684 The family was served by The Reynolds Jonkhoff Funeral Home, Traverse City You may sign Louise's on line guest book at www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com

EILEEN FRANCES LITTLE Age 89 December 4 2005 Westland (formerly of Belleville) Arrange ments David C. Brown Funeral Home Belleville 734 697 4500



SISTER MARY CORALITA ELLERBROCK, RSM Sister of Mercy, Educator, Nursing Leader (Farmington Hills MI) - Sister Mary Coralita Ellerbrock, RSM a Sister of Mercy for 63 years died on December 3 2005 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Ann Arbor She was 90 She was born to Charles and Eina (Mattix) Ellerbrock on April 12 1915 in Auburn Iowa and baptized Maxine Lucille She earned a certificate in primary teaching from Iowa State Teachers College and taught in Iowa schools for several years before joining the Sisters of Mercy in Detroit in 1942 There she received the name Sister Mary Coralita and made perpetual vows on August 16 1948 Sister Coralita earned a diploma from St. Joseph Mercy College of Nursing in Sioux City Iowa, a bachelor's degree from Mercy College of Detroit and a master's degree in nursing education from St. Louis University Her ministries in health care included service as nursing supervisor for Mt. Carmel Mercy Hospital in Detroit director of nursing for St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Sioux City and director of nursing education for St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Dubuque Sister Coralita was a member of the Sisters of Mercy Detroit Provincial Council from 1961 to 1967 where her main responsibility was preparation of young sisters for their future ministries She developed and served in the role of provincial coordinator of nursing education and nursing service for nine years When the Sisters of Mercy Health Corporation was formed in 1976 Sister Coralita developed quality assurance programs After the system became known as Mercy Health Services she served as senior advisor for quality assurance as consultant for development of a potential reflection center for the health system and in governance as a member of the divisional board of St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Pontiac Sister Coralita is survived by several nieces and nephews and by the members of her Mercy community The Mass of Resurrection will be on December 9 2005 at 10:30 am in McAuley Center's Sacred Heart Chapel 28750 Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills Interment will be at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery Southfield McCabe Funeral Home Farmington Hills is in charge of arrangements Memorial donations may be made to the Mercy Ministry Fund, 29000 Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills MI 48336 1405

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 www.aldersgatemi.org

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For Church Directory changes and information regarding advertising in this directory, please call Donna Hart (734) 953-2153 the Friday before publication.

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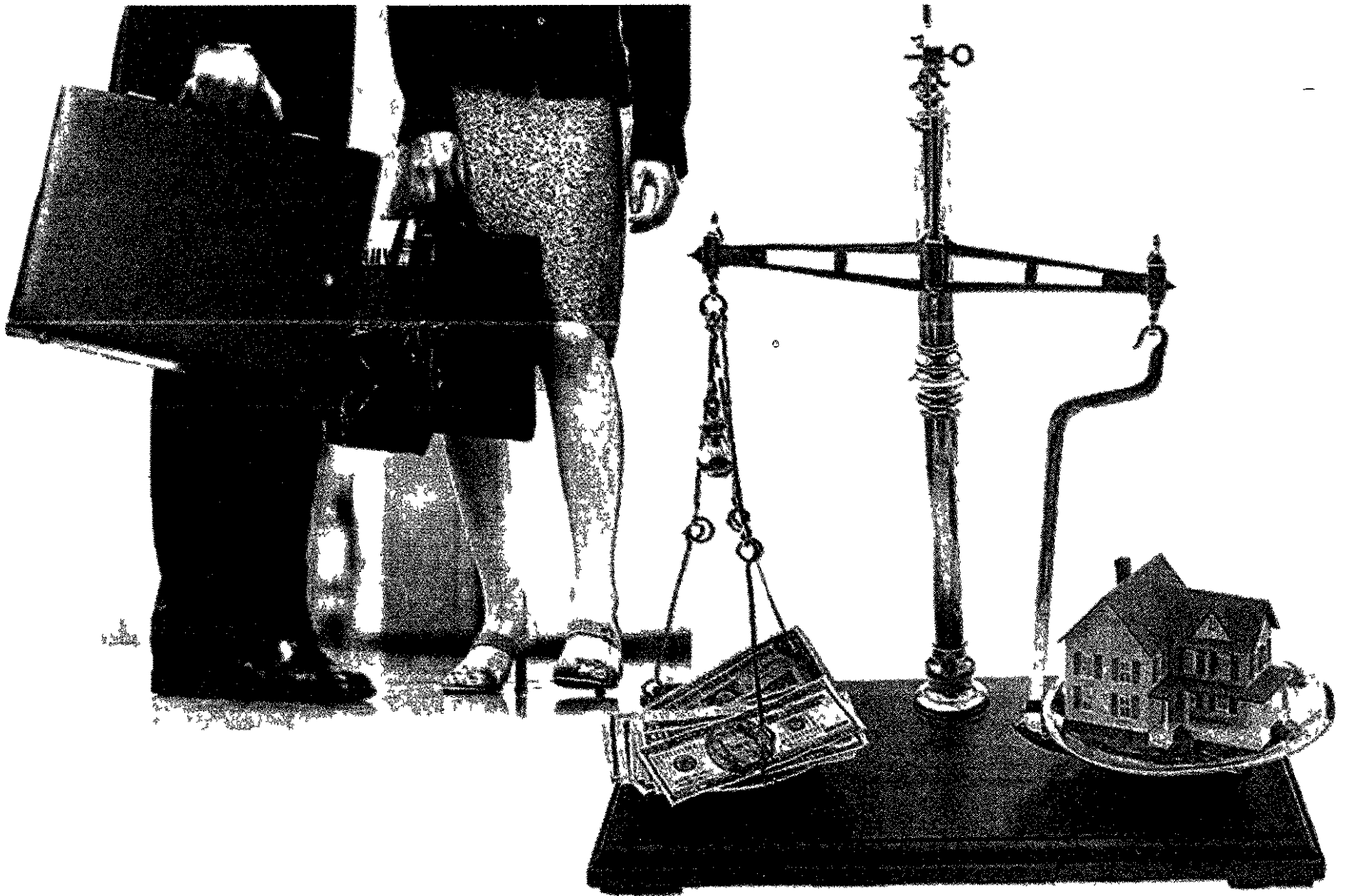


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Equal credit laws: Know your rights

BY JULIE BROWN
STAFF WRITER

There was a time years ago when a married woman, despite a respectable income, couldn't get a department store credit card in her name. These days, laws protect women and others from discrimination in credit decisions ranging from charge cards to mortgages.

The October 1974 Equal Credit Opportunity Act prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, gender, marital status, religion, age, national origin or receipt of public assistance. "Any type of credit," said attorney Mark McConnell of the Westland firm Angelo Plakas and Associates

He's found people generally assume there are laws protecting them from such discrimination. McConnell doesn't see a lot of such complaints in his practice, but noted those complaints are subject to redress by regulating agencies.

It's stuff that's regulated by the federal government," he said. "Obviously, it's cheaper that way" than hiring an attorney.

I would say the majority of people do know they have their rights," said Mary McGaw, assistant vice president for LaSalle Home Lending. She finds women, for example, generally want to establish credit in their own name.

"They definitely want to have credit," McGaw said. "They want to be established as an individual."

Attorney Steve Bernstein, who practices in Farmington Hills, finds most clients know they have certain legal protections when it comes to credit.

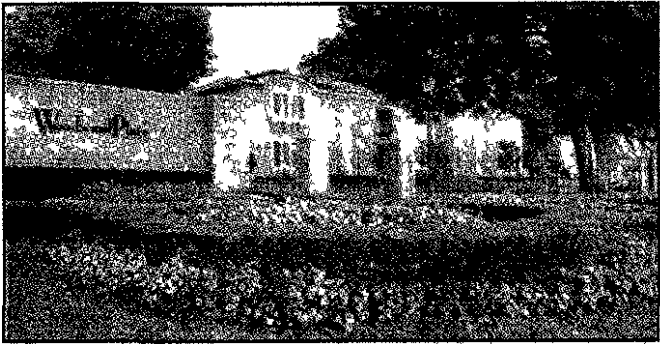
"I think that most people are aware that there are laws that prohibit discrimination," he said. "I think they know they're entitled to equal consideration in credit transactions."

People may not know legal specifics, Bernstein said, but do know generalities. He recommends that women have credit established on their own, regardless of their marital situation. "I think women should have credit in their own name. What if something happens?" Even if it's just being able to get a car fixed or check into a hotel, having your own credit helps. "They know about credit in their own name," he said.

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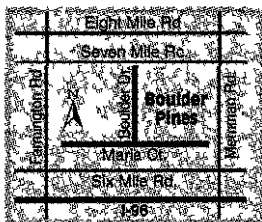
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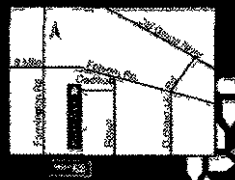
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HOMES SOLD IN OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the Observer & Eccentric area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Aug 15 19 2005 at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities addresses and sales prices.

4278 Arcadia	\$420 000	Beverly Hills	1471 Humphrey	\$175 000	4380 Meadowlane	\$268 000	37255 Chesapeake	\$350 000	3777 Orion	\$180 000		
873 Chase Way	\$315 000	16244 Buckingham	\$228 000	2806 Pembroke	\$285 000	4750 Pickering	\$365 000	31166 Country Bluff	\$147 000	3444 Tremonte	\$195 000	
3030 Debra	\$130 000	16313 Buckingham	\$235 000	756 S Glenhurst	\$532 000	4450 Pine Tree	\$560 000	38917 Country	\$150 000	Orchard Lake	\$12 000	
186 Hillfield	\$11 000	31100 Downing	\$381 000	1885 Shipman	\$260 000	2937 Turtle Pond	\$3 700 000	24650 De Phillipe	\$248 000	5860 Pontiac	\$12 000	
3969 Hillsdale	\$335 000	16920 Kinross	\$269 000	Bloomfield Hills/Township			2945 Turtle Pond	\$240 000	27401 Elsworth	\$240 000	Rochester	
3366 Nichols	\$149 000	16280 Locherbie	\$300 000	1867 Brookview	\$350 000	1043 Westview	\$270 000	30658 Knighton	\$379 000	503 First	\$318 000	
5335 Rohr	\$160 000	18120 Locherbie	\$265 000	3850 Burning Tree	\$435 000	2501 Wildbrook	\$310 000	31179 Misty Pines	\$187 000	140 Albertson	\$246 000	
388 Vista	\$200 000	Birmingham	4611 Burnley	\$410 000	Davisburg			23987 Noble	\$259 000	1048 Churchill	\$245 000	
158 Vista	\$184 000	500 Bloomfield	\$269 000	542 Cambridge	\$585 000	9857 Creekwood	\$115 000	30414 Orchard Lake	\$130 000	1964 Dunham	\$338 000	
2715 Williamsburg	\$163 000	1981 Bradford	\$236 000	4247 Carey	\$319 000	11976 Rusty	\$245 000	27875 Peppermill	\$200 000	2007 Dunham	\$250 000	
		1245 Derby	\$133 000	6975 Cathedral	\$395 000	Farmington			22265 Purdue	\$182 000	827 Garnet	\$333 000
		2056 Dorchester	\$252 000	150 E Long Lake	\$185 000	33255 Flanders	\$196 000	21680 River Ridge	\$262 000	1398 Ross	\$435 000	
		2109 Dorchester	\$275 000	1782 Golf Ridge	\$2 500 000	32374 Lee	\$195 000	21945 River Ridge	\$210 000	1216 Sycamore	\$214 000	
		2616 Dorchester	\$236 000	224 Hadsell	\$290 000	32450 W Nine Mile	\$220 000	28738 Rockledge	\$300 000	1911 Watson	\$504 000	
		1253 E Lincoln	\$500 000	2578 Hunters Bluff	\$734 000	Farmington Hills			27991 Rollcrest	\$120 000	1418 Welland	\$432 000
		1067 Emmons	\$650 000	1725 Huntingtonwood	\$215 000	37711 Amber	\$333 000	21777 Sheffield	\$415 000	647 Wyngate	\$410 000	
		1645 Hanley	\$291 000	5519 Kingsmill	\$315 000	22168 Cape Cod	\$139 000	32220 Shrewsbury	\$229 000	Southfield		
		1637 Hazel	\$256 000	5050 Lone Pine	\$115 000	22380 Cape Cod	\$128 000	24894 Toddy	\$324 000	27726 Aberdeen	\$205 000	
								21844 Tulane	\$165 000	20870 Andover	\$200 000	
								35756 Vicksburg	\$293 000	23280 Brandywynne	\$177 000	
								28706 W Nine Mile	\$125 000	25802 Briarbank	\$165 000	
								21230 Waldron	\$118 000	19675 Butternut	\$242 000	
								27804 Westcott Crescent	\$246 000	29145 Candlewood	\$155 000	
								27860 Weymouth	\$900 000	24319 Connecticut	\$385 000	
								21816 Whittington	\$108 000	29117 E Chanticleer	\$245 000	
								Lathrup Village			27309 Everett	\$195 000
								27440 Evergreen	\$99 000	29592 Fairfax	\$110 000	
								27245 Lathrup	\$260 000	18860 Filmore	\$257 000	
								Oakland Township			22639 Glastonbury Gate	\$255 000
								4073 Calumet	\$426 000	20930 Harvard	\$235 000	
								1280 Harmon	\$250 000	24535 Lathrup	\$127 000	
								96 Indianside	\$405 000	24482 Lee Baker	\$175 000	
								3649 Mountain Laurel	\$685 000	20506 Mada	\$149 000	
								1641 N Rochester	\$220 000	21340 Mada	\$108 000	
								4127 Oak Tree	\$577 000	17299 Magnolia	\$189 000	
								3530 Oakmonte	\$183 000	19362 Melrose	\$155 000	

THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MORTGAGE MONITOR

	30 Yr	Pts	15 Yr	Pts	Other		30 Yr	Pts	15 Yr	Pts	Other
1st Choice Mortgage Lending (734) 499-0792	3	0	5.625	0	J/A	GMAC Mortgage Corp. (800) 833-4622	5.875	3	6.875	1	J/A/V/F
1st National Bank in Howell (517) 545 2207	6.25	2	5.75	2	J/A	Golden Rule Mortgage (800) 991 9922	5.5	2.125	5	1.875	J/A/V/F
A Best Financial Corp. (800) 838-8818	5.5	2	4.875	2.375	J/A	Goldenstar Mortgage (800) 784-1074	5.875	0.375	5.5	0.25	J/A/V/F
AAXA Discount Mortgage (877) 728 3569	6	0	5.625	0	J/A	Group One Mortgage (734) 953-4000	6.375	0	6	0	J/A/V/F
AFI Financial (677) 234-0600	5.875	0.375	5.375	0.5	J/A	Home Finance of America (800) 456-5626	6	0	5.5	0	J/A
Amenca s Premiere Mortgage (800) 585 8730	6	0	5.625	0	J/A/V/F	Horizon Financial Group (866) 538 7887	6	1	5.5	1	J/A
Amerplus Mortgage Corp. (248) 740-2323	5.99	0	5.625	0.125	J/A	JMO Mortgage Corp. (248) 499-4020	5.75	3	5.25	3	J/A
Bay Pointe Mortgage Corp. (248) 652 3598	NR	NR	NR	NR	J/A/V	Keystone Mortgage (866) 539 3733	5.5	2.5	5.25	2	J/A
Brighton Commerce Bank (810) 226-9846	0	1	5.825	1	J/A	LaSalle Bank Midwest (800) 466-3800	6	2	5.825	2	J/A/V/F
Brnks Goldstar Mortgage (800) 785-4755	5.75	1	5.5	1.125	J/A/V/F	Lira Financial (586) 228 0900	6	0	5.5	0	J/A/V/F
Capital Mortgage Funding (248) 565-7283	5	2.25	5.625	2	J/V/F	Macomb Schools & Gov. CU (586) 288-8800	5.75	2	5.25	2	J/A
Captiva Group Mortgage Co (248) 682 8643	6	0	5.625	0	J/A	Mainstreet Mortgage (800) 900 1313	6.125	0	5.75	0	J/A/V/F
Centerbrook Mortgage (248) 851-4150	6	0.25	5.625	0	J/A	Manufacturers (586) 777-1099	5.75	1.25	5.625	1	J/A
Charter One Bank (800) 342-5336	6.625	0	6.125	0	J/A/V/F	Mortgages by Golden Rule (800) 991 9922	5.75	0.75	5.25	1	J/A/V/F
Client Services by Golden Rule (800) 569-5805	5.625	1.5	5.125	1.5	J/A/V/F	National City Bank (586) 825-0825	6	1.75	6.5	1.875	J/A
Co-op Services Credit Union (734) 466-6113	6	2	5.5	2	J	Northlawn Financial (248) 988 8488	6	0	5.625	0	J/A/V/F
Community Bank of Dearborn (734) 981-0022	6.25	0	5.375	5	J/A	Pathway Financial LLC (800) 726-2274	6	0	5.5	0	J/V/F
Credit Un on One (800) 544-5587	6.375	0	6	0	J/A	Peoples Mortgage (800) 730 5087	5.875	0.375	5.5	0.5	J/A
Dearborn Fed. Savings Bank (313) 565-3100	6.25	0	5.875	0	J/A	Premiere Mortgage Funding (248) 958-2600	6	0	5.75	0	J/A/V/F
DFCU Financial (800) 739 2770	6	2	5.5	2	J/A	Prime Financial Group (248) 203 7010	6	0	5.5	0	J/A/V/F
ERFI.com www.ERFI.com	5.99	1	5.625	1	R	Shore Mortgage (800) 678-5663	5.5	5	5	5	J/A/V/F
Fifth Third Bank (800) 792 8830	6.375	0	6	0	J/V/F	Sterling Bank & Trust (800) 926 5626	6.25	0	5.875	0	J/F
First Alliance Mortgage Co. (800) 262-7357	6.25	0	5.875	0	J/A/V/F	United Mortgage Group (586) 288-9500	6	0	5.5	0	J/A
First International Inc (248) 258 1584	6	0	5.625	0	J/A	York Financial Inc (888) 839 9675	6	0	5.625	0	J/A

Above information available as of 12/6/05 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on \$150,000 loan with 20% down. Jumbo rates ARM rates specific payment calculat ons and most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at www.rmcreport.com A partic pat n lenders are Equa Housing Lenders Key to 'Other' Column J = Jumbo A Arms V = VA F = FHA R Reverse Mtg and NR Not Reported © Copyright 2005 Residential Mortgage Consultants Inc. All Rights Reserved

Lake Orion \$254,900
Come vacation all year in this lovely updated neutral 4 bdr 2 1/2 bath colonial in a private all sports lake community - fish ski swim ice skate your private playground Great community acclaimed schools perfect location

Lake Orion \$194,900
WOW - Keatington sub w/lake privileges on the best all sports private lake for under \$200,000 3 bdr 2 full bath doll house w/2 car garage updates galore - stop renting and be a homeowner now!

Century 21 Hallmark West
Nina Fetzer
248-814-0600 Ext 111

24730 Mulberry	\$243 000
18947 Nadol	\$200 000
22485 Nancy	\$157 000
15629 Pennsylvania	\$212 000
21224 Poinciana	\$56 000
22301 Providence	\$158 000
17281 Revere	\$226 000
23575 Rockingham	\$211,000
20193 Rodeo	\$155 000
28552 San Marino	\$213 000
20854 W Eight Mile	\$175 000
18652 Webster	\$202 000
Sylvan Lake	
2349 Maplewood	\$129 000
Troy	
2219 Academy	\$235 000
2256 Alexander	\$190 000
2260 Atlas	\$244 000
1980 Axtell	\$119 000
1775 Brentwood	\$178 000
3135 Camden	\$283 000
2180 Camelot	\$239 000
5300 Capri	\$470 000
106 Chopin	\$149 000
2791 Continental	\$270 000
850 Hartland	\$177 000
3151 Helena	\$205 000
3322 Jasper	\$214 000
1197 Kinlock	\$352 000
914 Muer	\$228 000
3765 Old Creek	\$166 000
3894 Old Creek	\$153 000
2216 Paris	\$177 000
1042 Prosper	\$359 000
4962 Rivers Edge	\$432 000
2026 Stratford	\$140 000
2069 W Watties	\$284 000
1760 Westwood	\$152 000
West Bloomfield	
2056 Allendale	\$350 000
6466 Aspen Ridge	\$230 000
5155 Bantry	\$227 000
6670 Buckland	\$184 000
6691 Carlyle	\$738 000
4995 Cherry Blossom	\$443 000
4900 Fairway Ridge	\$580 000
4154 Fallow	\$170 000
6187 Forest	\$282 000
3794 Green Lake	\$220 000
7493 Kennington	\$530 000
5205 Latmer	\$315 000
5205 Latmer	\$575 000
7393 Linda	\$206,000
6874 Maple Creek	\$728 000
6905 Meadowfield	\$120 000
7147 Michigan	\$116 000
4366 Multhead	\$185,000
3515 Oakleaf	\$473,000
5120 Old	\$250 000
5518 Perrytown	\$279 000
2571 Pine Ridge	\$246 000
4450 Savioe	\$381 000
6779 Scotch Lake	\$238 000
6042 Simsbury	\$450 000
1756 Stauch	\$330 000
3333 Timber Crest	\$550 000
5528 Victoria	\$535 000
5484 Walnut Knoll	\$280 000
6180 Wynford	\$244 000

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35 YEARS IN MICHIGAN!

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27100 Woodward
7115 Orchard Lake
1460 Walton Blvd.
39395 Twelve Mile
34122 Woodward

www.prudentialcranbrookrealtors.com One of the largest and most experienced Realtors® in Michigan

BEAUTIFUL GARDENS TO THE MAX! 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths "Strathmore Model" on interior 3/4 acre lot Master ste w/luxurious bath & sitting area Gourmet island kitchen w/maple cabs, hardwood floors 2 story great room w/fireplace Library. \$557,900 (25153120FEL) 248-324-3800

New Listing

CANTON RARE OPPORTUNITY! Located deep in sub & backs to commons & nature! Recent updates incl kitchen, baths, windows, carpeting, roof, sprinklers, deck & more! Excellent fin bsmt! Enjoy the all-sports municipal park close by! \$225,900 (25173367REC) 248-324-3800

CANTON Best condo deal in town! 2 bedrooms, 2 full & 1 half baths Cathedral ceiling in LR Large kitchen, FP, ceramic tile, Berber carpet, full basement, lots of closet space, 2 car garage, 1st floor laundry Backs to woods for privacy Patio & deck! \$199,000 (25140869PRE) 248-324-3800

WESTLAND Beautiful East facing home on gorgeous 200' wooded lot Nicely landscaped, vaulted ceiling in great room, open kitchen w/oak cabinets, natural fireplace Large master bdrm w/full bath Textured walls throughout. 1 Year Warranty \$209,900 (25134066MAR) 248-324-3800

LIVONIA Priced for quick sale! 3 bdrm ranch won't last! Immaculate condition Large kit w/breakfast nook. Hardwood floors Neutral carpeting Stone & brick patio overlooking pool Backyard great for entertaining \$176,000 (25139397OLS) 248-324-3800

LIVONIA Nestled in the heart of the Laurel Park District! Updated kitchen & baths, all appliances included Delightful screened porch w/ panoramic view \$139,900 (25035040UNI) 248-547-2000

CANTON LEASE Newer construction ranch condo overlooking Fellows Creek golf course! Great open floor plan, private entry, end unit. Master ste w/huge bath & WIC. 1st floor laundry, attached direct entry 2 car garage. All appliances included! \$1,400/mo (25145074ARC) 248-647-6400

Read Taste

You can rebuild credit

A mortgage client of mine recently complained that credit repositories were unfairly harsh with their credit scoring. She and her husband had 20 years of exceptional credit, then recently some minor financial hiccups. The result: Their credit scores tumbled over 100 points.

Unfortunately, their situation is not uncommon. However, it does expose an important aspect of credit scoring formulae. Though actual calculations are a closely guarded industry secret, I estimate that a credit user's most recent 12 months of activity are weighted at least twice as heavily in the credit scoring calculations as are the previous 12 months. And that previous 12-month history is weighted about twice as much as the five years prior to it.

The good news: Credit users can aggressively re-establish their credit scores within a year or so, even if they are fresh out of a bankruptcy or a foreclosure. Here are the basic steps:

First, remove old, obsolete or erroneous derogatory information from your credit report either by yourself or with professional help.



Timothy Phillips

Next, bring existing judgments or collections current and try to pay off the balances (I find it beneficial to have a professional negotiate reduced payoffs for high balances, especially if scores are very low).

Once you have mitigated the number and severity of negative entries to your credit report, you can then begin to rebuild. If you have any remaining open, active credit lines, treat them like gold. If you need to open new credit lines, you can sign up for secured credit cards online (see below) or at your local bank. Charge only a single \$10-\$20 item on each of three credit cards and then nothing else. Make the minimum payments on those cards on time for at least six months. Do not pay them off and do not run up the balances.

Today's TIMBIT! For better or

For worse, your most recent credit activity has a much stronger impact on your credit scores than does your older credit history. In a year's time, you should be able to improve your credit score by about 100 points. For more detailed information, visit www.USCreditAcademy.com

Timothy Phillips is a mortgage banker and newspaper columnist. Visit www.PhillipsHQ.com for free information online or call him toll free at (866) 369 4516. Homebuyers should always consult a professional for guidance specific to their situation.

Good time of year to add festive touch

Peeking out a window may provide all the inspiration you need this holiday season. Bringing out door accents into the home is a simple way to add a sense of calm to what inevitably becomes a very busy time of year. Natural elements can be incorporated into any decorating style whether you prefer a rich, traditional theme or a fun, whimsical look.

It wouldn't be the holidays without a touch of shimmer and shine. Mimic the glister of sun rays on icicles with a metallic spray paint on bare branches, or a grapevine wreath. Embellish your houseplants by placing traditional glass ball ornaments in or around them. Grouping candles on or near reflective surfaces

evokes a sense of warmth and wonder throughout the home.

Decking the halls with live greenery is always a beautiful choice, but the lack of time often leaves us in store aisles searching for authentic looking replicas—and, lucky for us, today's offerings are hard to distinguish from the real thing. Artificial berry wreaths and pre-lit trees can be adorned with genuine natural elements like curly willow branches and pine cones for a close-to-authentic experience. Imitation fruit adds a fresh touch to wreaths and mantle displays or can be just the right choice to liven up a centerpiece.

Indulging the senses is the final touch in creating the perfect

holiday experience. Start with the warm glow of a crackling fire. Dim the lights and use spruce-scented candles or cinnamon potpourri to fill the air with the aroma of nature. Hanging sleigh bells on a door adds a sense of charm with a jingle reminiscent of old. And the pleasing sounds of wind chimes strike the perfect melody to spread holiday joy.

This is the time of year when nostalgia fuses with the creation of new traditions. So whether you gather decor al fresco or shop for authentic reproductions, let Mother Nature's exterior decorating experience be your guide.

For more on holiday decorating ideas, visit www.lowes.com online.

Birmingham 248-644-6300
Plymouth 734-455-6000
Rochester 248-691-3500
West Bloomfield 248-351-5500

WEIR MANUEL REALTORS

NOVI \$349,900
Excellent location! Chase Farms back to pre-rected w/ ds. Trans in wmd w & 17' ceiling in living r m & f rml d ngr room. C mact kitchen up dated w/ granite. Built ins in lbrn, 1 in basement. 4 455 6000
TPOW: 1 751-7774

NOVI \$249,900
Great ranch cond. ne de l v th c mplex C ds / com s l v hb painted through ur fireplace in great r m n Fat kitchen. All appliances including washer & dryer & nice wvc. Neutral decor. 7 4 455 6000
TPI: 1 251 7025

NOVI \$249,900
Great ranch cond. ne de l v th c mplex C ds / com s l v hb painted through ur fireplace in great r m n Fat kitchen. All appliances including washer & dryer & nice wvc. Neutral decor. 7 4 455 6000
TPI: 1 251 7025

NOVI \$249,900
Great ranch cond. ne de l v th c mplex C ds / com s l v hb painted through ur fireplace in great r m n Fat kitchen. All appliances including washer & dryer & nice wvc. Neutral decor. 7 4 455 6000
TPI: 1 251 7025

LIVONIA \$159,900
Walk to Hines Park. Back end on aln st. ac e p o living & dining r on Retr ear kitchen. Kn r m p c 3rd bedrm on dr w/ vdr r m Sunroom v r l ok uge r nct l y rd
7 4 45 6 000
TPI: 1 815 251 5042

LIVONIA \$159,900
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Walk to Hines Park. Back end on aln st. ac e p o living & dining r on Retr ear kitchen. Kn r m p c 3rd bedrm on dr w/ vdr r m Sunroom v r l ok uge r nct l y rd
7 4 45 6 000
TPI: 1 815 251 5042

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LIV

Good life: Livonia cited for housing affordability

Indianapolis, Ind., has claimed the title of the nation's most affordable housing market among major metros with populations over 500,000, according to the National Association of Home Builders/Wells Fargo Housing Opportunity Index (HOI) for the third quarter of 2005.

Other top-rated major cities for housing affordability include the metro area consisting of Youngstown-Warren and Boardman, Ohio-Pa., as well as Detroit-Livonia-Dearborn, Mich., Buffalo-Niagara Falls, N.Y. and Oklahoma City, Okla., in that order.

Challenged by steadily rising home prices, overall housing affordability across the United States fell for the third consecutive quarter to its lowest level since the HOI was first reported in 1992, dipping 2.7 points to 43.2 on the HOI. This means that just over 43 percent of all new

and existing homes sold in the country during the third quarter were affordable to median-income families. The decline was mostly attributable to a 5-percent gain in the average price of homes sold in the third quarter versus the second quarter.

"Strong house-price performance is the double-edged sword that has simultaneously attracted and discouraged new homebuyers," said Dave Wilson, NAHB president and a custom home builder from Ketchum, Idaho.

Though mortgage interest rates have risen significantly since the HOI was taken, they were likely not a significant factor in the affordability decline for the third quarter. The average weighted interest rate for fixed- and adjustable-rate mortgages, tabulated as an HOI component, held at 5.84 percent in the

July-through-September period. This was barely above the 5.82 percent weighted interest rate used in second-quarter HOI calculations.

In the most affordable major metro area of Indianapolis, Ind., 89.7 percent of new and existing homes sold in the third quarter were affordable to families earning the area's median income of \$64,000. The median price of homes that sold in Indianapolis during that time was \$125,000.

Meanwhile, in the nation's least affordable major housing market of Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale, Calif., a mere 2.4 percent of all homes sold were affordable to those earning the median income of \$54,500 when the median sales price was \$495,000.

California once again dominated the HOI

rankings for the least affordable major metropolitan areas. Right behind Los Angeles on this list was Santa Ana-Anaheim-Irvine, Calif., followed by San Diego-Carlsbad-San Marcos, Calif., and Stockton. The metro of New York-White Plains-Wayne, N.Y.-N.J., was the only non-California entry on the list of the five least affordable major housing markets.

The HOI also ranked housing affordability in metro areas with populations fewer than 500,000. At the top of that list was Mansfield, Ohio, Cumberland, Md., Lima, Ohio, Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, Iowa-III., and Lansing-East Lansing, Mich., respectively. At the bottom of that list were the California cities of Merced, Salinas, Santa Barbara-Santa Maria, Modesto and Santa Cruz-Watsonville, respectively.

Please recycle this newspaper

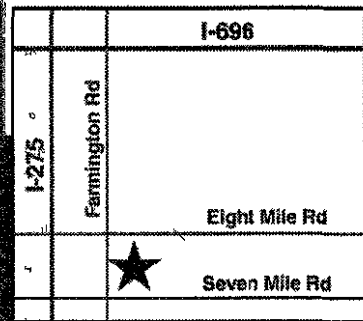
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REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

How To Class

Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland will sponsor "Learn How To Qualify a Tenant or a Real Estate Buyer" presented by Angela.

Harding from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8, at Knights of Columbus Hall, 870 N. Main, Clawson. Seminar free to members, \$20 non-members. Call (800) 747-6742 (www.REIAofOakland.org). For more information, call Don Eichstaedt, (248) 552-8030.

Friedman Real Estate

Friedman Real Estate Group Inc. recently negotiated the sale of the Simply Wine Building located at 22635 Woodward in Ferndale. Dan Karfowsky sold the 6,000-square-foot building, a potential bank location, to 9 Mile Investments, LLC. Kevin George, real estate adviser at Friedman, and Rob Hubbert, a vice president of Friedman Real Estate Group, represented the seller in this transaction.

Purchased Property

NAI Farbman, the brokerage division of Southfield, has purchased a one-inch square parcel of property located in Owen County, Ind. The transaction is the smallest recorded for the Michigan real estate group. The announcement was made by company founder and chairman, Burton Farbman.

Located in a wooded ravine, the postage-stamp sized parcel was sectioned by a previous landowner to deed a relative access to Cataract Lake through the property because only landowners could fish or swim in the lake. In 2002, when the owner of the full parcel failed to pay the mortgage

on the property, First National Bank of Cloverdale foreclosed on the property. Because of the unusual deed, the bank separated the square-inch parcel from the 1.12-acre property. The larger property was sold, but taxes kept piling up on the tiny parcel as if it were the larger property. The smaller parcel was put up for auction.

Education Seminars

The Building Association of Southeastern Michigan is sponsoring the following seminars:

■ 8 a.m. to noon Thursday, Dec. 8, "Codes and Quality Control" at BIA Headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills. Chuck Breidenstein of Builders Professional Services Group will discuss setting performance expectations, a superintendent's responsibilities regarding codes and will provide tips to enforce code compliance on the job site. Registration fee is \$145. (248) 862-1033.

■ 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Monday, Dec. 12, "Managing a Business for the Long Term" seminar at BIA Headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills. Richard G. William, CPA, of Polk and Associates PLC will discuss strategic planning for the small to medium size business, exit strategies and business valuation. Registration is \$20 for BIA or AAM members and \$40 for guests. (248) 862-1033.

■ 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. Friday, Dec. 16, "Managers Roundtable" discussion at AAM headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills. The program is free for Property AAM, PMC and BIA members and \$15 for guests. Coffee and bagels will be provided. (248) 862-1033.

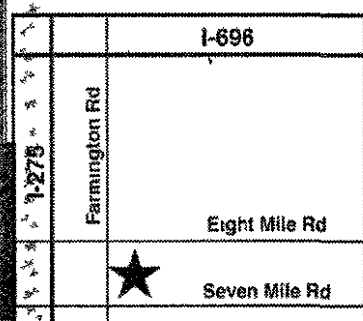
CAREFREE living at an AFFORDABLE price, in LIVONIA'S most DESIRABLE area.



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Ranch/Lofted Ranch Homes from \$290,000

- 1800-2100 sq. ft. plans available with first floor master suites
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HOMES SOLD IN WAYNE COUNTY

These are the Observer & Eccentric area residential real estate closings recorded the weeks of July 11-15, 2005 at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses and sales prices.

City	Address	Sales Price	
Canton	7526 Andover	\$555,000	
	1245 Dundee	\$333,000	
	1508 Emerald Pines	\$85,000	
	2187 Preserve	\$294,000	
	690 Roosevelt	\$50,000	
	4420 Timberline	\$287,000	
	Garden City	33521 Alta	\$103,000
		33138 Alvin	\$155,000
		32357 Donnelly	\$198,000
		30763 Elmwood	\$177,000
32932 Brookside		\$303,000	
18750 Deering		\$145,000	
33013 Hees		\$145,000	
Livonia	31478 Merriwood Park	\$165,000	
	19050 Middlebelt	\$174,000	
	37836 N Laurel Park	\$235,000	
	15552 Newburgh	\$195,000	
	9057 Newport	\$178,000	
	9339 Patton	\$205,000	
	18232 Whitby	\$171,000	
	Plymouth	437 Blunk	\$447,000
		10803 Brookwood	\$375,000
	Redford	9264 Corinne	\$177,000
44475 Gov Bradford		\$227,000	
111 Pinewood		\$144,000	
9230 Tavstock		\$250,000	
13333 Wendover		\$378,000	
11311 Appleton		\$115,000	
13585 Brady		\$144,000	
15948 Denby		\$128,000	
18498 Denby		\$117,000	
9015 Hemingway		\$140,000	
9919 Hemingway	\$120,000		
Westland	15401 Leona	\$80,000	
	17394 Macarthur	\$160,000	
	15577 Pomona	\$86,000	
	12951 Salem	\$162,000	
	26917 W Chicago	\$144,000	
	25847 Westfield	\$140,000	
	7416 August	\$167,000	
	37165 Baker	\$300,000	
	2629 Caledonia	\$110,000	
	7040 Central City	\$205,000	
7412 Central	\$86,000		
32901 Chapman	\$152,000		
29108 Manchester	\$110,000		
29128 Manchester	\$98,000		
410 Marquid	\$156,000		
32011 Merritt	\$149,000		
38470 Milton	\$185,000		
37150 Riviera	\$270,000		
37170 Riviera	\$271,000		
621 Summerfield	\$170,000		

Read Sports for great prep coverage

Classified

0001-2450 Home & Service Guide

3000-3890 Real Estate For Sale

3890-3980 Commercial Industrial

4000-4980 Real Estate Rent/Lease

5000-5980 Employment Instruction Services

6000-6980 Announcements LOOK HERE

7000-7780 Merchandise

7110-7130 Garage and Moving Sale

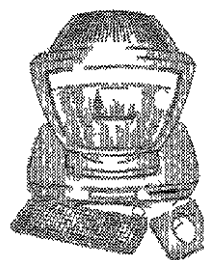
7800-7980 Animals Pets/Livestock

8000-8780 Automotive Recreational Vehicles

Place your ad toll free at 1-800-579-SELL



Walk-In Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 5:00 pm... SUNDAY PAPER.....5:00PM Friday... THURSDAY PAPER.....5:30PM Tuesday



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3000's Real Estate. List of properties including Homes, Open Houses, and various locations like Ann Arbor, Dearborn, etc.

Open Houses 3030. CANTON CONDO OPEN HOUSE SAT 1 4 6821 New Providence Way... JUST LISTED! HIGHLAND Upper Pettibone Lake... SOUTHFIELD OPEN SUN 1 4 25639 Briarbank

Open Houses 3030. Plymouth Open House Sat 2 5 9010 NORTHERN AVE... BIRMINGHAM 3047 COMPLETELY UPDATED 1950 S BUNGALOW... BIRMINGHAM 3050 ONE BLOCK TO PEMBROKE PARK!

Brighton 3060. HANG YOUR CHRISTMAS LIGHTS across the large covered front porch... ENGLAND REAL ESTATE 888 211 9560 or 810 632 7427

3000-3890 Real Estate For Sale. JUST LISTED! NEED SOMETHING SPECIAL? 1/2 ACRE LOT 1 YEAR OLD Over 3500 sq ft

3900-3980 Commercial/Industrial. List of properties including Bus/Service/Professional, Office Space, etc.

Century 21 Chalet. REAL ESTATE CAREER INTERVIEWS WEDNESDAYS 6:30 PM. LIVONIA Check out this recently updated bungalow... WESTLAND Outstandingly updated 3 BR 1 1/2 BA brick ranch

Westland Open Saturday 12 5 3232 Kalamazoo W of Merriman S of Palmer... BIRMINGHAM 3060 BUILDERS CUSTOM Parade of Homes home over 2100sqft

BRIGHTON 3060. NATURE LOVER'S Beautiful views from every room... Farmington 3140 BRICK RANCH 3 Bedroom Finished Basement \$0 Down \$500 approximate

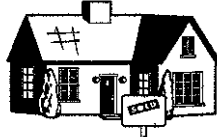
hometownlife.com. OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 pm 37540 Bloomfield, Livonia S of 6 Mile W off Newburgh on Mallory

NATURAL CEDAR & BRICK BEAUTY. This gorgeous home in White Lake Twp boasts 2700 sq ft with a 27 ft high vaulted living room

WESTLAND Just reduced to make this the best buy you can get... LIVONIA Don't miss this opportunity to own this house in NW Livonia

Year End Closeout! Everything Must Go! PLYMOUTH 4 bedrooms 2 story in town \$372,500... SOUTHFIELD ranch one acre call for price reduction

Christine Foster Associate Broker 248-909-3905. Fabulous colonial w/sophisticated updates inc Kitchen w/quartz counters



Classifieds Work!

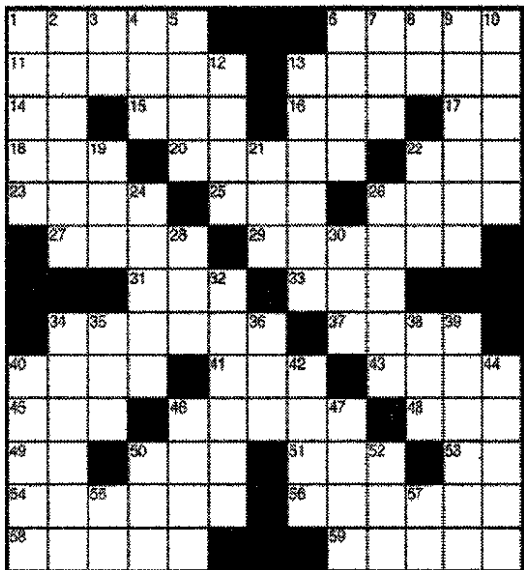
CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- 1 Major appliance
 - 6 Oddballs
 - 11 Lots and lots
 - 13 Cafe —
 - 14 Doubtful answer
 - 15 Archaic interjection
 - 16 Ct parts
 - 17 Appliance
 - 18 Some MDe
 - 20 Floor models
 - 22 Blue chip giant
 - 23 Not his
 - 25 PC memory unit
 - 26 Greek war god
 - 27 Habitual
 - 28 Kind of gas
 - 31 Santa — winds
 - 33 Id companion
 - 34 In a nonthreatening manner
 - 37 Mimicked
 - 40 Formal dance
 - 41 Tarboosh
- DOWN**
- 1 Flour mixture
 - 2 Frolicsome one
 - 3 QB game
 - 4 Brownie
 - 5 Green Hornet's secret identity
 - 6 Squirrel staples
 - 7 Ernie — of the PGA
 - 8 Nile sun god
 - 9 Skimmed down
 - 10 Box-score info
 - 12 Come across as
 - 13 Farthest point
 - 19 B'way posting
 - 21 Tormentor
 - 22 Eur country
 - 24 Play for time
 - 26 Pass a bill
 - 28 Conclusion
 - 30 Turkish potatoe
 - 32 Lord
 - 34 Rum drink (2 wds)
 - 35 Feverish
 - 36 Thumbs-up vote
 - 38 Help-wanted abbr
 - 39 Obedient
 - 40 Mixture
 - 42 Territory
 - 44 Whodunit
 - 46 Has bills to pay
 - 47 Coming up
 - 50 One hundred percent
 - 52 Reporter's query
 - 55 Corn Belt st
 - 57 "— shucks!"

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE



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Metropolitan Consolidated Association of Realtors

Hartland 3200

YOUR CHRISTMAS TREASURE!

Beautiful 3 bedroom 2 story farm house on gorgeous rolling 9.56 acre parcel. Lovely kitchen with cherry cabinets formal dining room living room with gas log wood stove office could be 1st floor bedroom hardwood floors cherry trim 24x24 deck basement 30x50 pole barn 10x20 lean to spillable bring your horses! Hartland Schools \$365 000

HAVE A HOLLY JOLLY CHRISTMAS in this wonderful country home on 1.9 acres. Convenient floor plan and finished walkout lower level are included with this 3 bedroom 3 bath home. Kitchen with snack bar open to dining area. Natural fireplace in living room 18x16 patio 16x24 deck 2 car garage and 32x52 pole barn. Wonderful setting and great location! Hartland Schools \$305 900

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Livonia 3250

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3 bdrm 1.5 bath Colonial offers eat in kitchen & beautiful family room w/skylights. Updated bath newer windows floor carpet doors & trim. Bsm't 2 car garage. Extra deep lot. Home warranty \$184 900 (D0156)

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w/creek and nature beauty at its best on this 2146 sq ft 4 bdrm 2 bath home. CALL KEN GENTILE Quality GMAC (734) 542 2538 or cell (734) 968 7213. N off Six W Farmington on Pollyanna.

Southfield/Lathrup 3390

LATHRUP VILLAGE Spacious 4 bdrm 2.5 bath fireplace in shed bsmt garage \$239 000. ShareNet Realty 248 642 1620

West Bloomfield 3440

(NORTHWEST) 3 4 br 3 bath. Flexible layout 1900 sq ft. 6 2 car garage. With deck which views private wooded preserve. Below Market \$299 900. Agents Protected. Call 248 761 3467. no listings

ELEGANT & CONVENIENTLY LOCATED Fantastic West Bloomfield colonial is set on 1/3 acre & features numerous updates — floor, driveway, hot water heater, kitchen, windows, bath, shagreened tile, huge Florida room. \$220 000. Call Century 21 M.L. Corporate Transfer Service 248-551-6700

Genesee County 3500

A CHRISTMAS WISH COME TRUE! Elegant 3 bedroom 2.5 bath ranch located in area of attractive homes. Lovely floor plan includes attract w/ kitchen and dining area with wood floors formal dining room comfortable Great room with gas log fireplace basement 2 car attached garage and more! Home is like new! Linden Schools \$320 000

TOO BIG FOR A STOCKING! Desirable 20 acre setting surrounds this newer quality built country ranch. Delightful well planned oak kitchen with snack bar opens to comfortable living room w/bay window. 3 spacious bedrooms 2 with walk in closets. Large bath w/ w/rooftop tub and separate shower. Den could be 4th bedroom. Daylight basement. Oversized 2 car attached garage plus 34x48 insulated pole barn with 220 electric. Linden Schools \$328 000

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Condos 3720

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By owner better than new completely updated 3 bdrm 3.5 baths. Library atrium 3rd shed bsmt. MUST SEE! \$549 900 (248) 433 1184

Livonia 1999 BUILT

2 bdrm 1 1/2 bath ranch w/convenient location. Deck attached garage all appliances. Immed at occupancy. Now \$169 900. **MARY McLEOD RE/MAX Alliance** 734 462 3600 248-477 2006 www.marymcleod.com

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VICTORIAN MOVE IN! 2 Bed rooms 2 Baths. All Appliances. C.A. Shed & Deck! Must See **\$45,500**

SKYLINE MODEL • MODEL 3 Bed rooms 2 Baths. Includes Ref. gen. Stove. Garage. Dishwasher. Laundry. Floor. & Mo. In. **\$29,900**

Now, School #

QUALITY HOMES at **HIGHLAND HILLS ESTATES** on Beech & N. of Grand Pk. **(248) 474-0320**

Howell 3230

AND TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT! Serene setting surrounds this wonderful 2400 sq ft ranch on quiet 2+ acre partially wooded setting. Home features 3 bedrooms family room living room with natural fireplace 1 car garage with workshop and large deck to enjoy the peace and quiet. Nicely updated kitchen and master bath. Howell Schools \$249 900

ENGLAND REAL ESTATE
888-211-9560 or 810-632-7427

West Bloomfield 3445

Shows like a Model home!

OPEN SUN 2 5 00 7062 Brookridge N/ of 14 E Middlebelt. Totally renovated 4 bdrm 2.5 bath Colonial in prime sub. Move right in! SUPER BUY! \$249 800. JILL BLUM Agent/owner 248 224 0877 Real Estate One 52561 Middlebelt Farmington Hills

By Owner

WEST BLOOMFIELD \$259 900 \$4000 cash back at closing! 2238 sq ft 4 bdrm 2.5 bath Colonial. All appl. Large covered deck off 2nd floor. Circular drive corner lot. Great location! Many rooms of furniture for sale! Call 248 737 0301

Westland 3445

JUST LISTED!

\$124,900 GETS ALL THIS!

3 spacious bdrms garage 1st floor laundry bsmt covered patio C/A newer roof windows carpet driveway Fresh & clean! Call DANNY for details Group Ten Realtors (734) 454 0000

By Owner

Marion Twp SPACIOUS & SPOTLESS! 4 bedroom 3 bath ranch on 2 acres living room family room dining room finished lower level with wet bar 3 car garage \$245 000. **CENTURY 21 PREMIER (734) 453-4300** www.premiersoldit.com

Livingston County 3520

SEARCH THOUSANDS of homes online @ www.livingstonmi.com 810 599 6471

Wayne County 3570

Builder's Closeout! Bargains

Romulus Brand new 3 bdrm brick ranch 1.5 bath APPLIANCES incl Carpet bsmt attached garage. ZERO DOWN! ROSS REALTY (734) 926 8300

Farms/Horse Farms 3630

MILFORD/HIGHLAND Stately 4 bedroom 3.5 bath 2 story family room walk out basement garage & barn 7+ acres \$424 900

Raised ranch w/attached garage pool & barn on 5+ acres near horse trails \$379 900

Newer Cape Cod with attached garage walk out basement & barn on 5+ acres \$274 900. 248 887 6900. FIRST AMERICAN

Westland 3720

JUST LISTED!

ROYAL OAK

Awesome condo with updates galore! Must see to appreciate \$68 900. Call CHERYL LYNN Century 21 Row 734 464 7111

Westland 3 BEAUTIFUL CONDOS AVAILABLE

2 Bedroom 2 bath condo overlooking pond with clubhouse pool tennis courts and sauna. Great place to live close to shopping and restaurants! All appliances stay! Must see! Century 21 Hartford North 734 525 9600

Westland TWO YEARS NEW

And ideally situated at the rear of complex this 2 bedroom 2 bath unit is neutral with vaulted ceilings deck attached garage and more \$157 500. **MARY McLEOD RE/MAX Alliance** 734 462 3600 248 477 2006 www.marymcleod.com

Commercial/Retail For Sale 3755

MEGA MICH RESORT

1 000 acres of golf courses ski hills & hotels seeks part ner. \$20M/Yr income. 616 638 9862

Northern Property 3790

KALKASKA COUNTY

10 wooded acres maintain County rd electric access to snowmobile/ORV trail. CLOSE TO STATE FOREST! \$24 900 \$1500 down \$325/mo. 8% land contract. More acreage available. See photos. greatkalkaskand.com 231 331 4227

Great Lakes Land Co.

Lathrup Village 3236

JUST LISTED!

BIG & BEAUTIFUL! 4 bdrm 3 bath brick Quad Family room w/fireplace Updated kitchen w/breakfast room & appliances Finished bsmt Newer furnace C/A & windows Deck 2 car garage Home warranty \$224 000 (W1176)

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Northville 3280

Move before Christmas!

Newly updated home w/open floor plan great location close to town oversized 2 1/2 car garage & more Only \$214 900

Fantastic

4 Bdrm 2 1/2 bath colonial centrally located in sub has extra galore & 3 car garage. Now \$549 900

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Real Estate Wanted 3870

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Any area condition or price. Close quickly. 247 call 248 232 6336

Commercial/Industrial/Retail For Sale 3890

Plymouth Commercial/Multi Family For Sale

1 On Ann Arbor Tr 176 frontage. Development opportunity \$1 495 000. 2 3 Family 1 blk from Main St. \$339 000. **C21 Curran & Christie - Commercial 313-563 4210**

Land 3890

HOWELL/MARION TWP

3 Country Acres Parked w/Driveway \$78 000 Call (617) 546 6478

Livonia 3250

3 BEDROOM BRICK RANCH

With attached 2 car garage. Partially finished basement breakfast room with cozy fireplace and doorval leading to patio and yard. Great curb appeal. New carpeting new landscap ng. \$189 900. **Century 21 Hartford North 734 525 9600**

ALL THE UPDATES!

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BY OWNER 3 bdrm 1.5 bath brick ranch 2 car. Perfect for young family priced to sell. No Realtors (734) 591 6772

IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY on this 1567 sq ft brick ranch offering newer kitchen w/hickory cabinets and ceramic tile floor newer thermal windows hardwoods floors finished basement w/wet bar 1st floor laundry brand new year off dimensional roof and tons more \$244 900. **WHAT A BARGAIN** on this 1029 sq ft 3 bdrm 2 bath brick ranch w/finished basement newer windows country kitchen w/ceramic tile floor immediate occupancy home warranty and tons more \$169 900 or LESS! **CALL KEN GENTILE Quality GMAC (734) 542 2538 or cell (734) 968 7213**

LAND CONTRACT 3 bdrm ranch 2 car garage freshly remodeled fenced yard \$100/mo. 313 805 5309

Redford 3550

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LOVELY & UPDATED

3 bdrm bungalow w/in finished bsmt & garage. New windows newer carpet kitchen flooring roof & more. All appliances stay. Home warranty \$124 900 (SU197)

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Over 3 100 sq ft of living area in 1994 built Ranch style home 4 bdrms 3 full baths. Great room w/dining area. Kitchen w/ nook & snack bar C/A. Finished walk out lower level. Tier decking 2 car attached garage \$299 000 (OU197)

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Condos 3720

BIRMINGHAM Open Sat 10 4pm 436 N Eton unit D3 2 bdrm newly ref. mshed hard wood floors pool \$147 000. 586 354 5044

BIRMINGHAM First floor end unit 1 bdrm 1 bath 790 sq ft. Newly remodeled \$92 900. 248 705 8818

Bloomfield Hills City of

Gorgeous condo 2 bdrm 2 bath den dining room living room kitchen w/a nook & 2 car attached garage. model condition. Overlook ng park like setting. 1835 sq ft. \$349 000 or lease. Michael @586 929 6055. Killarney Realty 1280 US 12

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Be sure you look in your Observer & Eccentric Classified section for all the newest local listings!

Westland

Woodland Creek Manor 7833 Manor Circle No 201 Central City Parkway/Warren 915 sq ft upper unit 2 bdrm 1 bath large walk in closet master bdrm in unit laundry New La nate kitchen/dining room floor includes kitchen appliances \$93 500. Call for appt 248 982 5513

Manufactured Homes 3740

CANTON

For sale in Holiday Park 734 453 0589 269 963 7677

DEALER CLOSING SALES CENTER!

Close out pricing 3 bdrm 2 bath sectional home. **Was \$49,995 Now \$19,995!** Pmt less than \$200 mo. Dealers Welcome. Only 6 Homes Remain ng! Northfield Estates. **Phone 800 369 9578 or 810 348 2830**

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Belleville 734-455-7000
PERFECTLY INVITING SPACIOUS COLONIAL 4BR 2 5BA finished basement FR w/cathedral ceiling and stone FP Great deck w/view of commons (25128903) \$223 000

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GOLFERS DREAM HOME IN OAK POINTE! Fabulous cape cod overlooking 6th green of championship course Gorgeous views Lovely 1st fl mstr suite Fin walk out LL & more 349 6200 (25115093) \$489 900

Brighton 734-591-9200
Waterfront Stylish 3BR ranch w/fin walkout bsmt on 1/2 acre Everything updated tastefully decorated! Hartland schls See featured properties (25090515) \$239 900

Brighton 248-348-6430
7+ SPLITTABLE ACRES backing to Shenandoah Sub Wooded Hartland Schools Great for small development private estate Convenient to Brighton Expressways! 349 6200 (24080021) \$169 000

Brighton 248-348-6430
Prestigious condo for lease-Oak Pointe Lease this 2000 sqft 4 BR unit w/gourmet kit full fin daylight LL 3 car gar & sec system Great golf course community 349 6200 (25155584) \$2 000

Canton 734-455-7000
ONE OF A KIND ENERGY EFFICIENT HOME! New construction Foyer w/cir staircase hrdwd fl in foyer kit & half BA Granite tops in kit isl and lav Rear staircase Mstr ste w/fash BA Ready to move in (25159198) \$499 900

Canton 734-455-7000
HOME SWEET HOME! Mstr Ste w/bonus rm private balcony w/deck fashion BA WIC LR w/French doors Lg FR w/FP/Lg deck w/hot tub off Kit A yard filled w/trees bushes & flowers (25139270) \$459 900

Canton 734-455-7000
FAIRWAYS WEST BEAUTY! 4BR/2 5BA Colonial Formal DR GR lbrary Mstr ste w/sitting rm/nursery 3car gar Immed occup (25159689) \$429 900

Canton 734-455-7000
JUST THE RANCH YOU VE BEEN LOOKING FOR! Backs to woods New deck Small pond Prof landscaped Mstr Ste w/fashion BA WIC High ceilings Kit w/granite counters SS appl stay (25139274) \$414 900

Canton 734-326-2000
GET BACK TO NATURE This 4 BR 2 5 Bath Colonial overlooks a nature preserve Spacious Open Floor Plan w/ loft overlooking a 2 story GR w/fireplace & bay window (25161716) \$294 900

Canton 734-591-9200
Welcome to this exquisite 2003 built 4 BR 2 5 bath 2 448 sq ft 2 car att garage & basement detached condo w/maple cabs corian counters & a great view (25057048) \$279 900

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CLOSEST THING TO CAREFREE LIVING! Best lot in complex backing to woods Hardwood thruout Mstr on main fl Corian counters Jetted tub 3BR/2 5BA (25165192) \$264 900

Canton 734-591-9200
Outstanding ranch! Conveniently Located 3 BR 2 1/2 BA FR eat in kitchen & part fin bsmt-plumb for lav Ply/Canton School System Home warranty (25070973) \$211 900

Canton 734-326-2000
CAPTIVATING CANTON COLONIAL Is this 3 Bedroom 2 1/2 Bath Bnck with Family Room Fireplace Dining Room Central Air Full Basement & 2 Car Attached Garage Large Rooms and Master Suite PC 220452 (25078654) \$205 000

Canton 734-455-7000
KISS YOUR LANDLORD GOOD BYE! 3BR 1 loft (14x10) 2 5BA 1514 sq ft Canton condo 2 car gar Full fin bsmt 1st fl Indry 2 story GR w/gas FP Ply/Canton schools (25158639) \$198 000

Canton 734-455-7000
CANTON CONDO BACKS TO POND! Tastefully decorated beautifully maintained 2BR 2 5BA Condo Hardwood in foyer and great room Gas fireplace Basement 2car finished garage (25118081) \$194 900

Canton 734-591-9200
Ready to move in! Great Family Sub Large fenced backyard This 4BR 1 5 BA home has been freshly painted some wood flrs newer doorwall wndws furn C/A kit flr part fin bsmt w/lots of storage (25107135) \$179 900

Canton 248-348-6430
RARE 3 BR W/BASEMENT & GARAGE Rare condo with basement & garage Updated & freshly painted Neutral thruout Lots of room Great location clubhouse & pool 349 6200 (25120222) \$149 900

Canton 734-455-7000
RENT A TRUCK and start moving This well maintained condo is waiting for new owners Back of sub loc Spac master w/private BA Appl stay Call soon! (25167170) \$124 999

Canton 734-326-2000
NEED A RANCH? WANT A CONDO? So Much Charm! Fireplace Private Patis Dining Area Eat In Kitchen 2 BR Full Basement C/A End Unit Close Parking & Clubhouse Sellers have loved it here (25140524) \$124 900

Dearborn 734-591-9200
What a great place to live! All the conveniences that Dearborn offers & close to all schools Many updates furn A/C wndws roof kit etc 5 BR & 2 full BA form DR & rec rm in bsmt (25157183) \$139 900

Dearborn 734-326-2000
GREAT PRICE GREAT PLACE 3 BR 2 1/2 BA Hardwood Floors Full Bsmt 2 Car Gar Fenced Lot Custom Landscaping Covered Front Porch New Furnace C/A Great Home! PC 2202 (25155538) \$129 900

Dearborn Heights 734-591-9200
Spotless 3BR brnk ranch with 3 car att gar Home features FR w/FP roof 05 vinyl windows hot water 05 recessed lghting hrdwd flrs updated kit deck lg lot & much more (25151693) \$219 900

Dearborn Heights 734-591-9200
Great curb appeal on this 3 bedroom brnk colonial Newer vinyl siding nicely landscaped main BA recently remod fin bsmt w/bar & sauna rm w/shower Close to schools shopping & pub golf course (25076112) \$184 900

Dearborn Heights 734-591-9200
Huge new eat in kitchen with tons of storage in the new oak cabinets Great open flr plan perfect for entertaining large groups of family & friends Newer wndws roof furn and more (25162385) \$144 900

Farmington Hills 248-348-6430
STATELY COLONIAL ON WOODED CUL DE-SAC 4 BR 2 5 BA Colonial on very priv lot Mstr w/priv BA cozy FR w/FP lib DR full bsmt w/workshop Newer furn & wndws 2 5 car gar 2600 sqft Home prot plan 349-6200 (25147070) \$340 000

Farmington Hills 734-591-9200
Do some of your own updating and reap the rewards 3 BR brnk ranch in ever popular Kendalwood w/large lots LR w/FP fam rm full bsmt 2 cat att gar Good condition & some updates (25153478) \$219 900

Farmington Hills 734-455-7000
CRACKLING FIRE AND PUMPKIN PIE! Honey of a home for the holidays needs a new king and queen Newer 1999 3BR brnk ranch 2 car garage close to 1/2 an acre (25099269) \$192 815

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Mint Condition 3 BR 2 5 bath condominium a newer complex w/pool club house with exercise rm loc in Nantucket townhouse complex End unit freshly painted with new carpet (25162825) \$145 000

Garden City 734-326-2000
DESIRABLE AREA Sharp Three Bedroom 1000 sq ft Ranch w/ Open Floor Plan Finished Basement w/ Fireplace 2 Car Garage on lovely tree lined street Home is waiting (25151826) \$144 900

Garden City 734-326-2000
BUY TODAY & MOVE TOMORROW Into this 3 Bedroom 1 Bath Bungalow w/ Full Basement 23x14 FR/DR addition & 1 1/2 Car Garage Extras include newer windows furnace and Central Air PC 220882 (25161565) \$139 900

Garden City 734-591-9200
Great move in perfect little starter on large lot with 2+ car garage Loads of updates & quality features Call for complete list (25129285) \$134 900

Genoa Twp 248-348-6430
YEAR-ROUND FUN ON BEAUTIFUL LAKE CHEMUNG Summer & winter fun in updated 3 BR home Many updates make this maintenance free home special New siding wndws & more 24x14 deck overlooks lake 349 6200 (25131181) \$259 900

Green Oak 248-348-6430
NEW CONSTRUCTION RANCH W/LAKE ACCESS Almost 2000 sqft of fabulous 1st flr living full brnk extenor Awesome Island kitchen Huge master suite All sports Whitmore Lake privldges 349 6200 (25129235) \$349 500

Green Oak 248-348-6430
LIVE IN TRANQUILITY COUNTRY LIVING 5 min from I 96 & I-23 This spotless 3 BR 2 5 BA has everything you re looking for Enjoy moving before the snow Immediate occupancy 349-6200 (25162405) WELLINGTON \$269 900

Howell 248-348-6430
WOODED WONDERLAND Serene setting on picturesque lot spacious brnk ranch huge kit lgr mstr comfortable GR full w/o bsmt priv circular drive rolling acreage 349 6200 (25113632) \$449 900

Inkster 734-326-2000
5 ROOMY BEDROOMS & 2 BATHS 5 Bedrooms for the Growing Family Many updates including Kitchen & baths Wayne-Westland Schools PC 220192 (25119511) \$159 900

Inkster 734-326-2000
INTERESTED IN NEW CONSTRUCTION? Then come check out this 3 BR 2 full bath W/1st floor laundry Your home should be exactly what you want it to be (25091447) \$148 000

Inkster 734-326-2000
BEAUTY BEYOND COMPARE Is this 3 Bedroom Brnk Bungalow with Remodeled Kitchen & Bath Full Finished Basement Formal Dining Room & 2.5 car Garage on a Nicely Landscaped Lot (25041006) \$119 900

Livonia 248-348-6430
WONDERFUL LIVONIA HOME Nicely updated & in desirable Nottingham woods sub New roof updated kitchen & baths Andersen windows brnk walkway & Livonia Stevenson High School area 349 6200 (25148476) \$309 900

Livonia 734-591-9200
New Construction Cape Cod W/ 3 BR 2 5 BAs 2 051 sq ft 2 car att gar & basement Comes w/maple cabs granite cntrs & cer tile in the full bas Liv Schools (25070889) \$294 900

Livonia 734-591-9200
Don't miss this one! Updates & renovations like you would see in a magazine Open flr plan Maple kit stainless appis main bath w/jetted tub fin bsmt 2 car att gar (25118783) \$229 900

Livonia 248-348-6430
QUALITY BUILT COLONIAL ON A 1/2 ACRE LOT Clean well maintained coved ceilings bay window in DR Updated kit roof wndws all appliances 3 BR 1 5 BA Bsmt & garage Don't miss this one 349 6200 (25168827) \$224 900

Livonia 734-591-9200
Afordable brnk ranch North of Five Mile Ever popular Country Homes Sub offers 3BR brnk ranch w/fin bsmt 2 car gar & costly updates T/O Interior lot (25100660) \$210 900

Livonia 248-348-6430
CHARMING & COMFORTABLE HOME 3 BR 1 5 BA cove ceilings & hrdwd flrs under carpet Partial finished bsmt Updates incl roof furnace A/C & windows Newer washer & dryer remain 349 6200 (25167969) \$179 900

Livonia 734-591-9200
All brnk bungalow Livonia with 1467 sq ft 2 full BA newer roof electrical HWH & more 2 5 car garage w/220 heat built in air lines & a second story for finishing or storage (25149222) \$149 900

Livonia 734-326-2000
LIVONIA CHARMER This Beauty is loaded! 3 BR Ranch w/ gorgeous fin Bsmt & 2 Car Garage All New Roof Vinyl Windows Updtd Electric & More Open Floor Plan Clean & Bright (R191) (25163678) \$146 500

Livonia 248-348-6430
GREAT STARTER OR RETIREMENT HOME Upper end unit w/doorwall to balcony overlooking commons & pool Mstr w/WIC Lg LR carport appliances included Immediate occupancy 349-6200 (25166129) \$85 900

Northville 248-348-6430
END UNIT CONDO ALL ON ONE FLOOR Great 2 BR 2 bath condo all on one floor Wallside wndws Pergo floor in kit Lg Indry rm All appl stay Newer refig & self cleaning convection oven 349 6200 (25135214) \$139 900

Novi 248-348-6430
ISLAND LAKE 4 SEASON LAKE VIEW HOME Wooded lot! 4456 SF of spacious living area plus professionally finished w/o LL w/kit bath office & more Granite kit & luxury master suite 349 6200 (25159384) \$889 900

Novi 248-349-6200
CUSTOM BUILT ESTATE HOME ON 3+ ACRES Lovely home in the country 3500 sf in the LL walkout Beautiful property inground pool and much more Additional 1 87 acres also available 349 6200 (25054179) \$829 900

Novi 248-348-6430
ELEGANT BRICK HOME IN TOLLGATE RAVINES Beaut hrdwd flrs Gourmet island kit Mstr BR has 2 WIC whirlpool tub All 3 BR have full baths Cozy nat FP in lg open GR is perfect for entertaining 349 6200 (25144750) \$424 900

Novi 248-348-6430
REMARKABLE BLEND OF DESIGN Outstanding charm delightful kit & brkfst area formal DR w/cathedral cglg inviting FR LR 3 nice size bdrms + loft J & J bath bsmt & 2 car att garage 349-6200 (25113102) \$313 900

Oceola 248-348-6430
GOOD AS NEW & GOOD TO GO No waiting to build on this less than 1 yr old home Beautiful 3 BR 2 5 bath w/ w/o bsmt Hrdwd flrs gas frplc island kit w/maple cab Sub has pool & sidewalks (25095225) \$232 000

Plymouth 734-455-7000
PRESTIGIOUS LIVING! Gorgeous Cape Cod in Country Club 3BR & loft Gourmet kitchen w/cntrl island maple cabs custom counters and hrdwd flrs 2 sided FP 4 car garage (25165961) \$624 000

Plymouth 734-591-9200
Built in 2001 3 BR 2 5 BA Cape Cod delivers exclusive upgrades incl maple kit cabs extensive HDWD flrs 1st flr Mstr w/bath that offer jetted tub & sep shower volume clngs in GR & FP (25130836) \$424 900

Plymouth 248-348-6430
CUSTOM PLYMOUTH HOME ON ALMOST AN ACRE 3 bdrm 2 baths 2400 sqft ranch with 2000 sqft LL & 4 frplcs on almost an acre of private specimen treed setting 349 6200 (25120918) \$399 900

Plymouth 734-455-7000
RANCH WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE TO DOWNTOWN Rare Find Ranch within walking distance to schools and downtown Flowing open floor plan w/3BRs 2 5BAs FR 1st fl Indry side entrance garage (25151733) \$369 900

Plymouth 734-455-7000
PREMIUM LOT W/WOODED BACKDROP Walk to downtown from spacious ranch loaded w/updates in the last 5 years 3BR 2 5BA FR Bonus Rm wooded lot etc (25139439) \$369 900

Plymouth 734-455-7000
PRIDE IN OWNERSHIP Four Bedroom 3 5 Bath loaded with updates-roof furnace A/C hot water countertops carpet sod landscaping etc Bonus Huge three-season sunroom (25101511) \$349 900

Plymouth 734-455-7000
WELCOME TO PRIVACY! Almost an acre surrounds this graceful 3 bedroom home Two fireplaces updated kitchen oversized family rm etc Handicap friendly Location location (25165781) \$298 900

Plymouth 734-455-7000
PRIME PLYMOUTH LOCATION! 3 Bedroom Bungalow offering premium downtown Plymouth location & schools Loaded with updates and available for immediate occupancy (25142144) \$229 900

Plymouth 734-591-9200
Beautiful home! In the heart of Plymouth Huge bckrd w/lrg deck Updts incl New wndws roof newer furn HWH & landscaping Hrdwd flrs & part fin bsmt & more (25123021) \$229 900

Plymouth 734-455-7000
CLEAN AS A WHISTLE! 3BR 1 5BA Updates oak kit cabs roof furnace vinyl windows C/A Built in pool 2-car gar Unfin bsmt Great Ply Twp location Walk to Farrand elementary (25129211) \$190 000

Redford 734-591-9200
1400 sq ft brnk ranch comp updts incl New kit & BA Furn w/C/A Elect services roof wndws cerm flr in kit & foyer 2 car att gar sun rm brnk paver patio & fenced yard (25146630) \$189 900

Redford 734-591-9200
3 BR 1 5 bath ranch finished basement with bar for entertaining family & friends Bath and a half on the main floor All appliances stay (25158479) \$25158479 \$144 900

Redford 734-591-9200
Not your average Bungalow Fir plan has been redesigned making it wonderfully unique & functional New furn updated kit wndws wiring plumb & crpt & much more Mstr has nat FP & more (25121601) \$136 900

Redford 734-591-9200
Affordable updtd ranch All new kit w/cer fir updated BA w/ marble flr & pedestal sink Refin hrdwd flrs all new paint & lgt fix Clarenceville Schls Appl too! (25157771) \$104 900

Redford 248-348-6430
VERY CLEAN 1ST FLOOR END UNIT CONDO Payment lower than renting Incl heat/water newer wndws/roof New berber carpet hrdwd flrs in mstr bdrmr w/WIC Appl stay 349-6200 (25140702) \$50 900

Romulus 734-326-2000
3 Bedroom 2 5 Bath Colonial Located in a beautiful neighborhood on an extra large lot Nicely landscaped Large Bedrooms Pnced to Sell! PC 220262 (25110945) \$149 900

Salem 248-349-6200
Victorian 20 spltable acres*4000 sqft country charmer w/ wrap-around veranda*3 BA beaut updtd*Gorgeous mstr ste w/10 ft ceilings*Impressive treed site 349-6200 (25168614) \$1 500 000

Salem 734-455-7000
GORGEOUS SECLUDED ESTATE! Fabulous Cape Cod on Nature's finest 3 5 acres High-end custom builder's personal home filled with quality and attention to detail (25132308) (25151354) \$899 900

Warren 734-591-9200
Custom built brick ranch in prime area Neut decor w/no wall paper Newer C/A remod half BA & bsmt BA Newer kit part fin bsmt w/bar & newer crpt provides cozy liv area full brk gar (25088887) \$165 000

Westland 734-591-9200
Why wait to build? Job transfer forces owner to sell comp 9/04 Brnk 3 BR 2 5 BA 2000 sq ft cape cod 1st flr Mstr w/sep shower & tub oak kit Lg loft (25080744) \$219 900

Westland 734-591-9200
Welcome Home! Clean 1 140 sq ft brnk ranch updated kitchen & bath finished basement 2 car garage with carport Westland w/Livonia Schools (25108602) \$169 900

Westland 734-591-9200
Great Starter home 3 BR 1 5 BA Livonia schools walk to parks schools & churches Clean & neat neighborhood Fin bsmt w/wet bar & pool table Lg deck w/hot tub (25131493) \$164 900

Westland 248-348-6430
Remodeled Brick Ranch Holiday Bonus Home \$2500 Credit toward closing costs Nice kit LR mstr fin bsmt fenced yd patio 2 car gar Livonia Schools 349-6200 (25166356) \$164 900

Westland 248-348-6430
BROWNSTONE CONDO Hardwood entry & kitchen 9ft ceilings 2 BR 2 1 BA 1 car att garage Bsmt w/daylight wndws Last Avalon style Immed Occ All appl stay 349 6200 (25145749) \$159 900

Westland 734-326-2000
REALLY NICE TRI LEVEL 3 BR Fam Rm w/wood stove 2 car gar pool & patio awaits you Newer Wndws Merillat Cab HWH Roof 1 Yr Home Warranty 1400 sq ft Popular Curtis Woods Sub (25135332) \$159 900

Westland 734-326-2000
HIX & CHERRY HILL AREA This 3 Bedroom 1500 sq Ft Chamer features Family Room w/ Fireplace Lovely Kitchen is 16x12 w/ Doorwall to Patio Insulated 2 Car Garage (25163654) \$149 900

Westland 734-326-2000
JUST TOO WONDERFUL Is this 3 Bedroom Br Ranch w/ Remodeled Country Kitchen Full Finished Basement w/ Bar & Great Storage 2 Full Baths C/A Florida Rm & 2 5 Car Garage (PC 220962) (25114948) \$144 900

Westland 734-326-2000
BETTER THAN NEW 3 BR Ranch has newer Everything Windows Roof Ice Guard Shingles Seamless Gutters Dwnsp Doorwll Hardwood Fl in DR Bsmt Plumbed for BA Hurry Won't Last! (PC 221082) (25129477) \$142 900

Westland 734-326-2000
PAINTBRUSH SPECIAL Just needs a little TLC 3 bedroom Ranch Basement 2 Car Garage Fenced Yard Wayne Westland Schools Purchaser to assume City Repairs (P322) (25148465) \$115 000

Westland 248-348-6430
IMMACULATE MOVE-IN CONDITION Ranch Condo w/vaulted ceiling Open airy feeling & bay window Bright kit w/doorwall leading to wood deck Mstr BR & BA bsmt tiled w/glass block windows 349-6200 (25158801) \$114 999

Westland 734-326-2000
ALL DRESSED UP & WAITING Updates Include Gorgeous Oak Kitchen Bath Roof Shingles Windows Driveway Stove & Doors Newer Flooring Deck off Rear Nicely Landscaped (PC 220172) (25100095) \$114 900

Westland 734-326-2000
TOO SHARP FOR WORDS Absolutely Stunning Loft Condo Great Condition Fresh Paint New Berber Beautiful Bath new 6 panel doors & trim All appliances stay including washer & dryer (25127273) \$70 000

Westland 734-591-9200
Perfect for downsizer or 1st time buyer! 2 BR 1 bath condo Freshly painted w/new furn C/A A wndws (except front) updated elec & comes w/newer appls Updated eat in oak kit & bath and more (25160751) \$69 900

Whitmore Lake 248-348-6430
1ST FLOOR MASTER W/LAKE PRIVILEGES! This 2004 built Cape Cod has upgrds gelore including granite counters & daylight bsmt Cul-de-sac location on an 670 acre all sports lake 349-6200 (25142561) \$398 500

Whitmore Lake 734-591-9200
3000+/- finished sqft! Amazing Master fin bsmt hot tub FR w/ fireplace and surround sound Photos virtual tour and dimensions available (25141648) \$334 900

Wyandotte 248-348-6430
BETTER THAN NEW DOUBLE LOT COLONIAL Perfect for the new house buyer Updts incl roof wndws siding gutters paint carpet BA 2 car gar 349-6200 (25064760) \$182 900



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What makes a 'senior community'?

Q. I was told the Fair Housing Act prohibits our association from refusing to rent or sell to families with children. My friend lives in a "senior" housing community which does not allow children. She said we could restrict families with children if the condominium qualified as a "senior community." How can we qualify as a "senior community"?

A. The Fair Housing Act prohibits a housing provider from refusing to rent or sell to families with children. The Act also prevents them from imposing any special requirements or conditions on tenants with custody of children or limiting their access to recreational services provided to other tenants. However, housing which meets the Federal Housing



Real Estate Inquires

Robert Meisner

Act definition of "housing for older persons" is exempt from the law's familial status requirements. Briefly stated, but by no means complete, such housing must be occupied solely by persons who are 62 or older, or house at least one person who is 55 or older in at least 80 percent of the occupied units. The association must demonstrate the intent to house only persons who are 55 or older which can be accomplished by amending

the condominium documents. **Q.** Our association is considering putting a limitation or prohibition on leasing. Can it be done?

A. That is a relatively complex question but there is case authority around the country supporting a prohibition on leasing if a proper amendment is adopted and properly approved by the co-owners and mortgagees. You should consult with a knowledgeable community association attorney who has up to date information on the ability to prohibit leasing and how far an association can go in that regard.

Robert M Meisner is a lawyer and the author of *Condominium Operation Getting Started &*

However, housing which meets the Federal Housing Act definition of 'housing for older persons' is exempt from the law's familial status requirements.

Staying on the Right Track second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote *Condo Living A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium* available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. For more information call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisnerassociates.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

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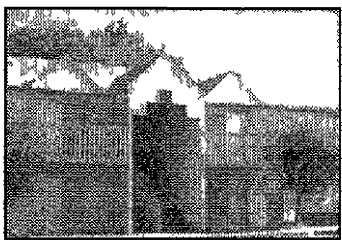
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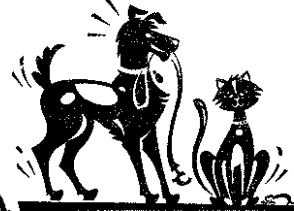
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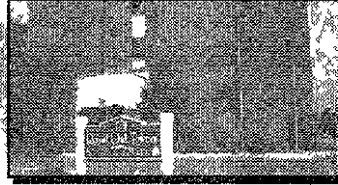
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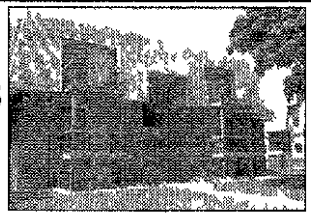
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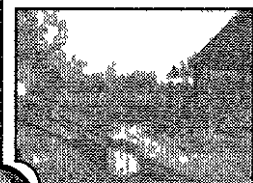
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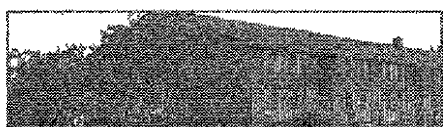
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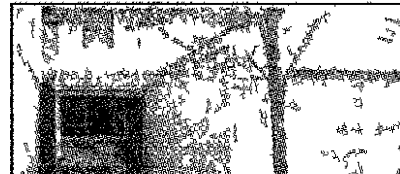
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(E25BAN) 248 349-5600 \$539,000




NORTHVILLE Executive Retreat
Wow Great floor plan great location Northville Hills Golf Community 4 spacious bedrooms 3.5 baths & granite Backyard features a private resort in ground pool daylight A must see
(E05MER) 248 349 5600 \$775,000



DEARBORN Charming Brick Ranch
Popular locat on close to Ford Motor Co hospital freeways & shopping offers 3 bedrooms 2 baths fr n shed basement garage 2 lndscd deck & patio New roof windows & furnace + al appliances stay
(E65SNO) 734-455 5600 \$154,900



NORTHVILLE Premium Location
2 BR 2 full & 2 half BA condo Fr n W/D has patio & view of treed area w/creek Newer kitchen cabinets hardwood floor 3 apps incl Double doors LR & DR Neutral crpt FFL att gar newer furn C/A roof 6 pane drs
(E64WAS) 734 455 5600 \$194,900



PLYMOUTH A Pleasure To Show
Shows like a model! Clean & many updated 3 BR ranch has Andersen wood windows Newer roof 2003 open kt w/btl n desk pantry stove & frig ncu FR has drill to deck & priv landscaped yd fr n LL 2.5 car gar
(E83RED) 734-455-5600 \$229,500




BRIGHTON Gorgeous Hilltop Setting
Traditional 4 bedroom 2.5 bath colonial on approx mately 1/2 acre lot Private yard & patio Interior freshly painted & carpeted New well 03 Fire place in family room Brighton schools Awesome ne gborhood
(E75WAS) 248-349 5600 \$265,000



FARMINGTON HILLS Welcome Home!
Is what this house says to you Cape cod 3 bedroom 2.5 bath w/vaulted ceilings great room w/built ins deck off dining room 3 season room off kitchen Some updates 2 car s de ent y garage Lg treed lot & more
(E64WIL) 248-349 5600 \$425,000



WESTLAND All Brick Ranch
Updated throughout n this charming 3 bedroom 1.5 bath home Offer ng ove s zed 2 car garage with br ck font Fr n shed basement w/crown molding Nicely landscaped ya d A real must see
(E41MAC) 734 455 5600 \$169,999




PLYMOUTH Location Location!
Just a few blocks to downtown & 2 parks One of the few English style co on als w/all the character & charm still intact n th s 3 bedroom 1/5 bath home Fine molding & hndvl floors Engl sh gardens & 2 car gar
(E44HAR) 734 455 5600 \$274,900



GARDEN CITY Wow! Cape Cod
With 2 baths detached condo Great pr ce super sharp master suite + 2 vaulted ceilings first floor laundry brick & vinyl 2 car attached garage r/replace C/A builder pays trans tax
(E27BIR) 734-455 5600 \$187,000



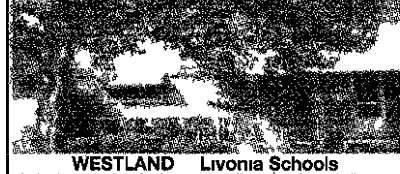
PLYMOUTH Off With The Old
On w th the new 3 bedrooms 2.5 baths finished bsmt + 2.5 car gar Completely redone Top to bottom Beautiful kit & baths hndvl floors msster ste w/WIC & luxury BA FFL Deck & covered porch Walk to town
(E87ADA) 248-349-5600 \$369,900



TROY Gorgeous Colonial
4 BR 2.5 BA home on deep wooded Neutral decor cath ceilings & bright ceramic foyer Lg LR w/bay window Fireplace n FR French doors into library/den Island kt w/cab space Mstr ste W/W closet 1 yr warr
(E71GAT) 248-349-5600 \$429,900



REDFORD Spic & Span Bungalow
Updated 3 bedroom home w/oom to room on an extra large lot Freshly painted & carpeted newer bath & updated windows roof HWH electric interior & exterior doors + 1 year home wa ranty
(E51NOR) 734 455-5600 \$105,900



WESTLAND Livonia Schools
3 bedroom 1.5 bath ranch offers hardwood floors Fr n shed basement updated Florida room eads to patio & fenced yard Nicely landscaped dining L or eat in kitchen
(E04HUB) 734 455-5600 \$159,900



PLYMOUTH Move Right In!
Excellent location n Plymouth Th s 2 bedroom condo has newer carpet kitchen cabinets dining room flooring & windows in vinyl room Large private basement & more
(E99SHE) 734-455-5600 \$84,000



NORTHVILLE Professionally Decorated
All the brand new furniture stays That's right condo looks like it's rght out of pottery barn 2 bedrooms 1 bath hardwood in LR & DR Carpet in bedrooms All appliances stay Call today Exceptionally priced
(E25FAI) 248-349-5600 \$116,000



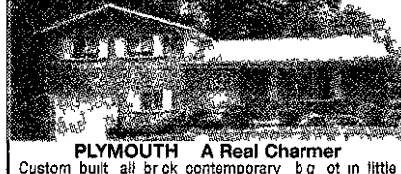
HIGHLAND Larger Than It Looks
3 bedrooms 1st fr 4th & 5th bedroom in fin wa rout 2 baths hndvl frs T/O Newer furn A/C guest house att to 2 car gar Huge pole barn porch patio deck frlps n LR rec & kit over ent y garage Zoned for horses
(E30HIC) 248 349-5600 \$289,900



INKSTER Built In 2004
Th s charming 3 bedroom 2 bath ranch offers master bed oom off s full bath & WIC Open floor plan & vaulted ceiling Large wood front porch & garage You must see this one
(E45SPR) 734 455 5600 \$116,000



DEXTER Perfection Plus
3 bedroom 2.5 bath oo onal on prem um lot w th large backyard coated on cul de sac Home s tastefully decorated & great floor plan Family room w/gas fireplace basement & 2 car attached garage
(E18BOU) 734 455-5600 \$274,900



PLYMOUTH A Real Charmer
Custom built all br ck contemporary lg ot in little Plymouth Very clean & well taken care of Has built in double ovens newer roof & HWH Un que floor plan in th s 2 bedroom 1.5 bath home Brng all offers
(E90ANN) 734 455-5600 \$179,900



HOWELL All Most New Move In Ready
2 story colonial w/4 BRs 2 BAs w/a lot of executive features Hndvl frs 9 base raised stone patio FR w/custom frlce mantle 3 car side entry gar open stairses 2 story entry MBR w/outst she ves & drawers
(E92FOU) 248-349 5600 \$307,900



TYRONE TWP Charming Country Setting
5 bedroom 2.5 bath nicely updated home on over an acre Newer roof windows sloing & more Oak kitchen w/skylight Mechanics dream 2.5 car garage heated w/wrkhoo Large LR w/frplc w/rst
(E62MCG) 248-349 5600 \$279,900



GARDEN CITY Buyer Alert
Very nice 2 bedroom home offer ng newer flooring n kitchen & bath tile foyer newer windows & custom b nts newer entry & lnto o doors Hardwood floors under carpet Privacy fence & garage
(E29ELM) 734 455 5600 \$109,900



BRIGHTON Exceptional 1st Floor Condo
Offers 2 bedrooms 2 baths master bedroom has walk in closet & bath Large kitchen w/oak cabinets & all appliances 1st floor laundry partially finished basement & 1 car garage
(E10RID) 734 455-5600 \$169,900



REDFORD Nice Size Corner Lot
4 bedrooms new windows gutters & glass block in cedar paneled LL since 2004 Hardwood under carpet on 1st floor Entire home repainted in 05 Partially finished LL 2 car garage w/x storage next to it
(E02WOR) 248-349-5600 \$135,000



LIVONIA Clean & Cared For Ranch
Castle Gardens sub Hardwood floors ceramic tile Andersen windows & 6 panel doors T/O Closet organizers n 2 bedroom closets & re finished bsmt Enclosed doorwall to paver patio 2 car att gar
(E35HIJ) 248 349-5600 \$209,500



STERLING HGTS Spotless Brick Ranch
3 BR 2 full BA FR w/frplc Newer kit roof furnace & C/A F nished basement Tons of storage Lovely hardwood floors private yard w/patio Perennial gardens sprinkler sec system curb appeal All appls
(E03DRY) 248-349 5600 \$199,900



SUPERIOR TWP Desirable Interior Lot!
This outstanding 2002 4 bedroom 2.5 bath color all looks like new inside & out offer ng many upgrades natural decor & ready to move into Large master ste w/WIC & spacious bath + 2 car garage & full bsmt
(E35WEX) 734-455 5600 \$264,500



GARDEN CITY Spectacular 3 Ranch
Spacious 3 bedroom 1 bath ranch on double lot Beautifully landscaped yard Spacious rooms LR w/frplc Flor da rm newer kit w/applcs newer windows freshly painted 1.5 car att gar w/dedl space HPP
(E09LAT) 734 455-5600 \$169,900




REDFORD Cozy Comfortable Home
Fall n love w th this home Newer windows furn/AC Updated kitchen w/ceramic tile Large owner suite Fresh painted T/O Hardwood floors T/O Two car gar Close to schools shopping & x ways Man t free brick exterior
(E27WIN) 248 349-5600 \$134,900



NOVI Spacious Colonial
4 bedroom 2.5 bath home Open kitchen to dinette & family room w/frplce MBR w/louzza tub library bonus room for playroom guests or hobbies Deck includes hot tub Homeowners warranty
(E34MAR) 248-349-5600 \$377,900



FARMINGTON HILLS Great End Unit Ranch
2 bedroom 2 bath condo with oak kitchen formal dining room two doorwalls to deck Kitchen has brkfst rm & pantry Master bedroom with walk in closet & Jacuzzi tub Full finished basement 2 car att gar
(E54SYL) 248-349 5600 \$249,900



LIVONIA Newburgh Lake Condo
has prime locat on Gate access to Kings Park & lake for walking fishing & sports Association includes heat water pool Near shopping & highways Updated kitchen windows Carport 2 BR 2 BA great storage
(E40ANN) 734 455-5600 \$137,900



ANN ARBOR All You Need Is A Picket Fence
Lovely liv ng space with remitted hardwood floors updated kitchen & bath newer windows & furnace all offered n th s 2 bedroom 1.5 bath bungalow
(E85BEL) 734 455 5600 \$152,900



COMMERCE Builders Model Closeouts
Quality plus Mystic Forest 2 story on premium suite w/walk out bsmt 3 car garage GR w/sloping ceilings custom kitchen w/granite counters crown moldings recessed lighting Whirlpool tub Andersen windows
(E89PHI) 248 349-5600 \$448,500



SOUTH LYON Newer Cape
2 bedrooms 2.5 baths Beautiful cape cod style home has cathedral ceiling nice master suite large master kitchen FFL formal dining room library 9 ceilings attached 2 car garage huge unfn shed lower level
(E88GRE) 248 349 5600 \$345,900



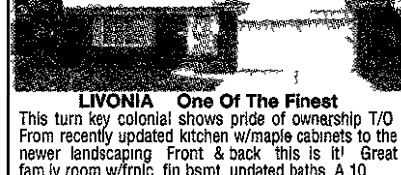
NOVI Crosswinds Townhouse
2 bedroom 1.5 bath 2 story condo with newer kitchen roof furnace HWH plus all appliances Two skylights recessed lighting and fireplace Fr n shed basement and one car garage
(E80PON) 248 349 5600 \$156,900



CANTON Great Pride Shows
In this well cared for ranch condo in great locat on of complex Fireplace in living room formal dining room lots of cabinets & counter space newer vinyl windows furnace & HWH You will love this one
(E78SOU) 734 455 5600 \$124,900




DEARBORN Unique Home
Offers 2 bedrooms 2 baths basement 2 car garage Un que floor plan 2 bedrooms converted to FR w/vaulted ceiling Attic converted to loft style 2nd bedroom Newer windows carpet n FR & master
(E31HOM) 734 455 5600 \$129,900



LIVONIA One Of The Finest
This turn key colonial shows pride of ownership T/O From recently updated kitchen w/maple cabinets to the newer landscaping Front & back this is it! Great family room w/frplc fin bsmt updated baths A 10
(E50SUN) 248 349 5600 \$249,900



COMMERCE TWP Model Home Can Be Yours
Now for sale in Mystic Forest 2 story foyer lots of ceramic hardwoods & 2 fireplaces Huge daylight basement oversize 3 car garage sprnkler deck landscaping and much much more
(E87PHI) 248 349-5600 \$489,900



WESTLAND Upper Ranch Condo
End unit with attached garage 2 bedrooms 1 bath large open liv ng/dining room area Spacious master roof furnace HWH plus all appliances Two skylights recessed lighting and fireplace Fr n shed basement and one car garage
(E26CAR) 248 349 5600 \$89,900



WESTLAND Beautiful Brick Ranch
In a low traffic locat on offers th s 3 bedroom home w/updated oak kitchen ceramic bath hndvl frs v o updated windows new tear off roof (04) 2 car powered msu ated garage some appls & warranty
(E71CHI) 734-455 5600 \$167,400



REDFORD Super Sharp Brick Ranch
Finished basement in th s 3 bedroom 1.5 bath home w/2 car attached garage updated kitchen & bath hardwood floors T/O Beautiful yard with patio deck & in ground pool A must see and a great buy
(E14WES) 734-455-5600 \$137,900



ROYAL OAK Nicely Updated Ranch
Great location for th s 3 bedroom home w/basement & 2 car garage Newer kt w/ceramic tile All appliances stay Newer roof windows furnace & CA Newer 50 gal HWH Quick occupancy & 1 yr warr Prof Indscpd
(E29AME) 248-349-5600 \$179,900



FENTON Waiting For You
Newer very clean 3 bedroom 2 bath ranch w/master bedroom w/bath Two car garage Large basement 1st floor laundry Has never been decorated waiting for your personal touches Close to I 75 & US 23
(E25MIL) 248 349 5600 \$169,900



LIVONIA Updated Ranch
Convenient locat on 3 bedroom 1 bath ranch w/lots of updates including roof kitchen crown moldings hardwood floors living room & family room 2 car garage Livonia schools a one year home warranty
(E05PAD) 248 349-5600 \$159,900

Relocation Services 800-448-5817

Birmingham 248-642-8100	Chesterfield Twp. 586-849-5590	Clarkston 248-620-7200	Clinton Twp. 586-286-6000	Commerce Twp. 248-363-1200	Fraser 586-294-3655	Grosse Pointe 313-886-5040	Northville 248-349-5600
Plymouth 734-455-5600	Rochester 248-652-8000	Royal Oak 248-280-4777	Shelby Twp. 586-731-8180	St Clair Shores 586-778-8100	Sterling Heights 586-939-2600	Troy 248-524-1600	West Bloomfield 248-626-8800

CENDANT Mobility Broker Network

Observer & Eccentric



Apartments

HOMETOWNLife.com

<p>This Classification continues from Section F</p>	<p>Duplexes (4030)</p>	<p>Flats (4040)</p>	<p>Homes For Rent (4050)</p>	<p>Homes For Rent (4050)</p>	<p>Homes For Rent (4050)</p>	<p>Homes For Rent (4050)</p>	<p>Mobile Home Rentals (4070)</p>	<p>Rooms For Rent (4140)</p>
<p>Condos/Townhouses (4020)</p>	<p>Belleville 2 bdrm Hwd floors updated kitchen wall appliances new vinyl w/d washers & dryer hook up possible 3rd bedroom \$625/mo \$1000 sec dep 2 units avail now pets negotiable Call Tina 734 416 8736</p>	<p>ROYAL OAK 1 bdrm flat hardwood floors stone fireplace no pets \$775 includes utilities 248 423 9334</p>	<p>DEARBORN HEIGHTS Dearborn schools 1700sq ft 3 bdrm 2 bath brick ranch w/ fireplace 1st floor laundry wooded lot Attached garage 1350+ security 734 231 9220</p>	<p>LATHRUP VILLAGE Spacious 4 bdrm 2 1/2 bath fireplace bsmt garage \$1975/mo ShareNet Realty 248 642 1620</p>	<p>PLYMOUTH 5 bdrm 4 bath 2500 sq ft finished bsmt 2 car garage \$2000 mo + security 734 788 1642</p>	<p>WEST BLOOMFIELD 4467 APPLE VALLEY Newly remodeled 2700 sq ft 4 bdrm 2 1/2 bath family room fireplace appliances 2 5 car attached garage deck C/A \$13 920 5966 248 593 0064</p>	<p>REFURBISHED MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE OR RENT Small down payment & seller finance Small family oriented community Free month's rent to qualified applicants ask for details Riverview Mobile Home Park 734 721 7215</p>	<p>SOUTHFIELD 2 rooms 1 small cozy room & 1 large knotty pine private bath 1st place Quiet wooded Non smoking 248 352 4528</p>
<p>DETROIT 6/ Grand River Section 5 OK 1 & 2 bdrm condo like new gated parking \$650 \$550 734 765 5859</p>	<p>FARMINGTON 32718 Grand River Unit C 31 River Glen's Condo Sharp 2 bedroom End Unit 1st floor with Park View all appliances common basement area \$800 a month Heat included RE/MAX Classic Dave Reardon 734-432-1010</p>	<p>ROYAL OAK 3 bdrm flat 1 1/2 bath approx 1500 sq ft stone 1 fireplace hardwood floors no pets \$1300/mo incl water & gas 248 423 9334</p>	<p>DETROIT Investors Welcome 3 bedroom bungalow basement Warrenside Immediate occupancy Rent to own/buy 248 931 7840 248 921 2432</p>	<p>LIVONIA \$1 275 w/\$500 move in Beautiful ranch w/3 bdrm 1 1/2 baths Attached garage Hix/Joy area Mark Riegall Agent Direct 734 718 6176</p>	<p>PLYMOUTH TWP 3 Bdrm ranch 1 bath full bsmt 1/2 finished & 1/2 Laundry & storage 2 5 car garage fenced yard \$1195 + utilities & water 734 455 2690</p>	<p>REDUCED TO \$1895/mo WEST BLOOMFIELD 3 bdrm ranch 2 bath fireplace c/a garage fenced beach pri vestes \$1085 248 478 0213</p>	<p>Southern Rentals (4090) BONITA SPRINGS FL New villa 2/2 en Upscale decor 2 car garage Great views \$3400 mo 248-474-9257</p>	<p>TRIPLE A DELUXE MOTEL A/C Jacuzzi in rooms maid service HBO Low daily/wkly rates Tel 96 Inn 313 535 4100 Royal Inn 248 544 1575 Fairlane 248 347 9999 Relax Inn 734 595 9990</p>
<p>NORTHVILLE 1609 sqft 2 bdrm 2 1/2 bath 2 car built 2003 Stainless washer/dryer \$1500 734 502 4512</p>	<p>BIRMINGHAM Lower 2 bdrm hardwood floors bsmt air no pets \$1100/mo (248) 644 1689</p>	<p>DEARBORN AREA EVERGREEN & FORD RD Newly renovated 2 bdrm duplex w/ bsmt near Fairlane HFCC & U of M Ext \$825 + sec Avail now! 248 388 2905</p>	<p>DETROIT 16927 Winston 6 & Telegraph 3 bdrm 1000 sq ft w/bsmt \$695/mo \$1500 move in (313) 492 0311</p>	<p>LIVONIA Updated 3 bdrm ranch 1 bath 2 car attached garage fenced yard \$985/mo 734 420 5154</p>	<p>REDFORD 3 Bdrm 1 1/2 bath brick ranch Could be 0 down \$675/mo Call Mstb 734 521 0194</p>	<p>WESTLAND 2 odr duplex garage new windows appli cence fenced yard no pets \$550/mo 734 522 5246</p>	<p>BOYNE CITY HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS Newer 2 bdrm 2 bath sleeps 6 Ski Boyne Mt swim Ave lanche Bay 1/2/24 Jan 1 Other times avail 1-800-292-7405</p>	<p>Office/Retail Space For Rent/Lease (4220) BIRMINGHAM 600 Sq ft Excellent opportunity to lease a small office located downtown Furnished or not Call for appt & details Angela (248) 594 8245</p>
<p>LIVONIA First mo rent free 2 bdrm 2 bath screen porch appliances \$1050/mo D&H Properties 248 737 4002</p>	<p>CANTON 3 bdrm 1 1/2 bath Appliances No pets Ford Sheldon area \$865/mo Call 248 514 0585</p>	<p>DEARBORN AREA EVERGREEN & FORD RD Newly renovated 2 bdrm duplex w/ bsmt near Fairlane HFCC & U of M Ext \$825 + sec Avail now! 248 388 2905</p>	<p>DETROIT 3 bdrm with a r/Telegraph & 7 Mile By month for at east 6 months \$800/mo (313) 737 8915</p>	<p>LIVONIA Updated 3 bdrm ranch 1 bath 2 car attached garage fenced yard \$985/mo 734 420 5154</p>	<p>REDFORD 3 bdrm fresh paint Bsmt garage fenced Clean! Sec 8 OK \$930 mo 1 1/2 mo sec 734 997 8074</p>	<p>WESTLAND 2 odr duplex garage new windows appli cence fenced yard no pets \$550/mo 734 522 5246</p>	<p>Living Quarters To Share (4120) CANTON female seeks room mate to share 3 bdrm apt Non smoker \$500 \$600/mo 313 737 2616</p>	<p>FARMINGTON HILLS Retail Space Great Exposure 1300 4480 sq ft Excellent Rates CERTIFIED REALTY INC 248 471 7100</p>
<p>NORTHVILLE 1609 sqft 2 bdrm 2 1/2 bath 2 car built 2003 Stainless washer/dryer \$1500 734 502 4512</p>	<p>FARMINGTON HILLS 1 bdrm gas electric & water included \$575/mo plus 1 mo security deposit (810) 217 0675</p>	<p>DEARBORN AREA EVERGREEN & FORD RD Newly renovated 2 bdrm duplex w/ bsmt near Fairlane HFCC & U of M Ext \$825 + sec Avail now! 248 388 2905</p>	<p>DETROIT 16927 Winston 6 & Telegraph 3 bdrm 1000 sq ft w/bsmt \$695/mo \$1500 move in (313) 492 0311</p>	<p>LIVONIA Updated 3 bdrm ranch 1 bath 2 car attached garage fenced yard \$985/mo 734 420 5154</p>	<p>REDFORD 3 bdrm fresh paint Bsmt garage fenced Clean! Sec 8 OK \$930 mo 1 1/2 mo sec 734 997 8074</p>	<p>WESTLAND 2 odr duplex garage new windows appli cence fenced yard no pets \$550/mo 734 522 5246</p>	<p>BOYNE CITY HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS Newer 2 bdrm 2 bath sleeps 6 Ski Boyne Mt swim Ave lanche Bay 1/2/24 Jan 1 Other times avail 1-800-292-7405</p>	<p>FARMINGTON HILLS Retail Space Great Exposure 1300 4480 sq ft Excellent Rates CERTIFIED REALTY INC 248 471 7100</p>
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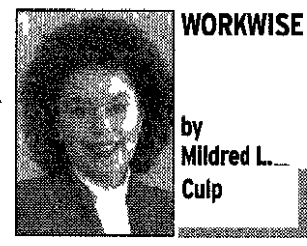
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Sexual Harassment In Nursing Article Breaks New Ground



WORKWISE
by Mildred L. Culp

How has our attitude toward sexual harassment changed? How does the nurse-patient relationship

-- the relationship between the alleged harasser and the claimant (boss, customer, whatever), or -- the extent of unreported cases in an industry

These numbers do tell us, however, that, despite increased awareness of the problem, "If you pick an industry, it's there," in the words of Randy Gold, attorney at Fox & Fox S C, Monona, Wisc. Another attorney, Edward Buckley of Atlanta's Buckley & Klein L L P, comments, "I think employees have the right to assume the workplace will be harassment-free." Is this realistic?

PATIENT HARASSMENT

The complicated nature of the relationship between harasser and victim may be no clearer than that of nurses in relation to patients. Debbie Dougherty, assistant communication professor at the University of Missouri-Columbia, details it at length in "Paradoxing the Dialectic," to be published in the Spring, 2006, Management Communication Quarterly. Her article states that "nurses must negotiate between closeness and distance to fulfill their roles as caregivers. The sexual harassment of nurses by their patients, however, serves to destroy this ability to move between these poles and instead calls for a single response -- distance."

Attorneys are quick to point out that in this relationship the nurse wields the power, making the dynamic different

from traditional harassment. However, the harassment is no less real (and capable of suit, according to Gold), particularly since the nurse has to consider whether quitting is the answer, even in an occupation begging for workers. Dougherty's research uncovers alarming statistics of 60 percent to 87 percent of nurses in studies citing patient-nurse harassment.

Dougherty also writes that most nurses thrive on their ability to develop "connections" or "relationships" with patients, that they require "closeness," both relational and proximate, to do their work. For them, like many others throughout industry, the EEOC statistics reflect that sexual harassment comes with the territory.

DISTANCE

What can a person in any occupation do when confronted with harassment in any field? Some laugh it off. Consultant Patricia Trite of Healthcare Compliance Resources in Augusta, Mich., points out that reporting can lead to "the added humiliation of being ostracized (or) mocked," and, thus, working in an extremely uncomfortable environment. Others may hesitate to sue because of a "smart" harasser. Buckley has represented a number of clients whose harassers have been described this way because of their ability to operate undetected.

Buckley argues that "harassment is not smart and most harassers leave



Randy Gold says that every industry still has some sexual harassment problems

'footprints' in the form of e-mails, text messages, hotel receipts, voice messages or even greeting cards. Cellphones now double as cameras and videocameras and victims can now record harassment as it occurs." The EEOC allows charges to be filed within 180 days after harassment occurs. For security, Buckley prefers to report multiple incidents.

Clearly, people who are harassed must ask themselves how much trouble they're willing to go to for the distance they seek to create.

(Dr. Mildred L. Culp comments upon the workplace in national media. Copyright 2005 Passage Media.)

Industry	EEOC Offices	State & Local FEP Agencies*	Total
Retail	1152	871	2023
Health Care	469	36	838
Financial Services	350	190	540
Professional Services	316	205	521
Automotive	294	139	433
Hotel/Hospitality	169	134	303

*State and local equivalents of the EEOC

These numbers don't tell us -- whether sexual harassment is increasing or decreasing over previous years,

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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

ISO GOOD FRIEND?

Possible relationship? Read on SWF 47 N/S enjoys cooking dining out art museums plays reading and traveling Seeking honest WM 42 57 N/S ☎857253

ARE YOU OUT THERE?

SWF 42 Aries smoker never married looking for companion ship Seeking good hearted hard working SWM 30 50 ☎819435

ATTRACTIVE, HONEST

SWF youthful 43 down-to-earth I enjoy camping fishing amusement parks dining blockbusternights etc Seeking honest WM 35 45 for dating possible LTR ☎865670

RECENTLY DIVORCED MOM

SWF 43 N/S would like to meet an outgoing friendly non-smoking man 35 53 who likes outdoors bicycling walking family ☎115795

SHALL WE DANCE?

I am a SBF 58 53 170lbs attractive intelligent creative articulate seeks SWM 57 73 who is kind hearted articulate who enjoys dancing walking traveling movies dining out ☎812098

LET'S ENJOY LIFE

SWF 57 N/S seeks intelligent kind hearted young-at-heart WM 57-68 N/S who enjoys traveling camping boating (Great Lakes or ocean) music book stores and laughter ☎759907

A GREAT CATCH

Slim attractive lady 69 employed full of vim/vigor loves dancing singing the opera concerts fine dining cooking in walks life in general ISO loving fun man w/good sense of humor ☎860625

HI

SBF 48 Aries N/S seeks man 45 60 who loves movies plays and dining out Lets spend some time together ☎853245

MYSTICAL WOMAN

Feminine SBF 37 loving and lovable 54 135lbs seeks creative compassionate metaphysical Feminine woman for long talks romantic weekends love? ☎865148

FORMER MODEL

SWF 50 56 slender intelligence creativity passion for music and dancing Seeks partner 38 50 who is attractive and fit to share his interests and more ☎600106

LET'S LAUGH TOGETHER

SWF 49 55 full-figured brown/brown romantic lovable humorous likes entertaining traveling family time Seeking SM 40 56 N/S social drinker ok who puts God first in his life for possible LTR ☎861408

SEXY REDHEAD/GREAT LEGS

DWF 54 142lbs 56 enjoys blues animals gardening homeowner no kids Seeking SM 5'10" N/S social drinker for LTR ☎548938

GET TO KNOW ME

SBF 39 5 6 provides care for the elderly N/S loves action mystery and suspense movies Seeking man 25 45 for friendship possible romance ☎853842

FRIENDSHIP FIRST

SWF 40 brown/brown plus-size likes walks most movies reading cuddling time with family an friends more Looking for WM 35-38 for dating ☎859885

SEEKING SECURE MAN

SF 53 long red hair semi retired Vietnam vet looking for a real man 35 60 Must be able to commutate and be affectionate ☎860537

LONESOME

Senior WF retired 54, active honest healthy Needs the attention of a WM 65-75 enjoys everything easy to please So hurry up and call me! ☎449585

DOWN-TO-EARTH HOMEBODY

SBF 37 5 160lbs single mom of 2 nice smile hard working N/S seeks teddy bear type SBM 37-42 N/S kids + for friendship maybe LTR ☎848200

RESCUE ME!

SBF 41 5 5 average build, enjoys church family shopping, much more Looking for SBM 43-47 professionally employed N/S who knows how to treat a woman ☎408635

ASIAN MAN WANTED

Pretty blonde eyed blonde 55 plus-sized warm and bright seeks intelligent handsome man for dating Troy area ☎827007

LIKE HAVING FUN?

SF 5 112lbs blonde/green looking for a romantic guy 20-25, who is tall handsome nice and knows how to treat a lady ☎845044

SOULMATE SEARCH

Slim attractive, 57-yr-old JF looking for her soulmate any sincere successful JM between the ages of 54 64 please respond ☎589875

SINGLE MOM

WF 28 looking for a handsome guy 28-35 who likes boating skiing cuddling and more Hope to meet you ☎858742

CUTE AND CLASSY

SBF mid-50s, seeks attractive gentleman 50+ with similar interests I love jogging walks concerts quiet evenings ☎574342

LIFE'S AN ADVENTURE

Active sociable SWF 44 5'4" size 10 Auburn/green mother home/business owner enjoys horror, foreign films Middle-Eastern cuisine the beach reading dancing cycling Seeking romantic sociable happy man open to life/love ☎746704

SINGLE MOM

WF 20 one young son likes watching tv different kinds of music more Looking for WM 20-25 for dating ☎858473

GOOD MAN WANTED

Attractive SBF marriage-minded, 5 6 average build 40 Capricorn, N/S seeks BM 40-51, N/S to enjoy life and more ☎692032

SLIM AND PETITE

Easygoing active DWF, retired, ISO fun male 60+, who likes bridge tennis reading, hiking, animals kids popcorn willing to do a tuxedo now and then ☎271793

BEAUTIFUL MIND WANTED

Beautiful full figured SBF 35 enjoys comedy and romance, bowling walks in the park Seeking tall, dark handsome SBM 33-50 ☎481293

BROWN SUGAR AND SPICE

SF 47 years young 5'3" very outgoing loves family fun life Would like to spend time with someone 40-60 who loves jazz concerts movies, dinners weekend getaways ☎208051

VERY OLD-FASHIONED

Widowed BF 58 185lbs would like to meet a very nice man to be my good companion ☎837276

COULD YOU BE MR RIGHT?

Are you a big tall handsome man? DWF 47 very attractive loving fun seeks SWM to share life together ☎443339

TALL BRUNETTE

SWF 51 marriage minded N/S has a great smile likes romantic comedies, music plays outdoors seeks SWM 49-60 N/S for LTR ☎790785

SEEKING COMPANIONSHIP

Loving, attractive SWCF 74 trim fun N/D N/S homebody type seeks lasting friendship and happiness with a quality gentleman in his 70s Lets talk! ☎794040

GREAT COMPANION

SF 65 looks 55 52 unique bright w/many talents and interests I'm well traveled very attractive health conscious How about you? Seeking non-smoking court partner, 62-70 ☎633527

ENJOYS THE SIMPLE THINGS

Attractive DBF, early 60s feels much younger, N/S loves music and dancing stays physically active would like to hear from friendly honest man 56-68 N/S ☎672174

ENERGETIC AND HAPPY

Very attractive blonde, refined fit full of life easygoing well dressed professionally employed affectionate romantic kind early very youthful 60s 53 green eyes feminine shapely enjoys dining travel music theatre dancing family and friends Seeking an honest hand some fit educated college graduate gentleman over 55 N/S with a youthful passion for life Serious replies only ☎652360

HAPPY & SECURE

DCF 68 52 long dark brown/brown, N/S N/D with positive attitude enjoys leisurely drives movies and dining out Seeking man 58-75 for LTR ☎669606

GOOD LOOKER

Positive caring easygoing SBPF 53 (looks younger) N/S not into bars enjoys jazz old school music and fun times Seeking special secure man 48 60 N/S for laughter good times and LTR ☎725001

KIND HEART

Full-figured SF 55 enjoys dancing and all types of music likes working with animals seeks good-natured single man 44 60 ☎742466

LOVING LEO

Widowed WPF 53 59 brown/brown N/S nursing home activities coordinator enjoys boating swimming and Michigan State football games Seeking WM 50-62 with similar interests ☎759316

59 YEARS OLD ENTREPRENEUR

Pretty charming SWF successful kind compassionate lots of fun looking for her knight in shining armor Any sincere caucasian gentlemen 55-80 please respond Hopefully we'll be each others soul mates ☎592074

WILDFLOWER

SWF 63 56 average build Aries N/S, enjoys dancing dining out seeks WM 58-75 N/S with a sense of humor for friendship possible romance ☎720594

A KIND HEART

SBF 56 mother enjoys dining in/out swimming horseback riding camping picnics Seeking sociable honest fun employed man N/S to share happiness friendship and possible LTR ☎780769

WHERE ARE YOU?

Attractive SBF 32 loves comedy clubs movies concerts fishing bowling rollerblading and amusement parks ISO SM 32-39 race open for LTR Serious replies only ☎695115

CAN U MAKE ME LAUGH?

Spontaneous SWF 61 54 average build happy independent humorous enjoys boating cards music dining walks travel golf Seeking good humored SM w/similar interests for companionship ☎962703

THICK AND HEALTHY

SBF 30 55" 240lbs N/S N/D no kids employed Seeking nice looking SM 20 35 w/no kids, N/S for friendship possibly more ☎534802

HOMEBODY

SBF 63 5'8", 155lbs retired (but does work part-time) very honest and caring Scorpio N/S seeks BM 58-65, honest and caring ☎553674

LISTEN WITH MY HEART

Attractive DWF, late 40s Cancer N/S seeks special no games WM 45+ N/S for caring quality committed relationship Lets create sparks and watch them fly ☎639272

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

A GENTLEMAN
SWM, 39, N/S works in the construction business interested in sports art likes to have a lot of laughs seeks SWF 27-37 ☎808365

LOOKING FOR YOU

SBM 45, seeks attractive reliable affectionate SBF not into games who knows how to enjoy life and have fun ☎866435

MUSCULAR GUY

SWM 46 62 209lbs brown/blue college grad enjoys working reading travel dancing sports Seeking outgoing SF with similar interests for friendship and more ☎431926

LOOKING FOR ME?

Adventurous SWM 44, brown/blue handsome humorous fit with eclectic interests Looking for attractive sexy some what normal female 30-50 for partnership ☎863740

NICE GUY

SWM 66 56 150lbs manufacturer representative Libra N/S works out enjoys movies restaurants and summer festivals Seeking SWF 50 65 N/S ☎708126

A SPECIAL GUY

DWM 56 510 handsome and secure seeks honest S/DWF w/sense of humor who enjoys travel candlelight dinners plays dancing concerts boating and movies Friendship possible LTR ☎269646

LONELY & READY

SWM 49 Italian heart of gold Virgo N/S seeks WF 45-55 with a nice build ready for LTR Serious replies only ☎860305

KIND, HANDSOME TEACHER

SWPM 53 6 220lbs light smoker social drinker looking for one good woman Please call Troy area ☎864792

WELL, HELLO

SM very young-looking 50 57 180lbs medium build employed self reliant D/D free easygoing and easy to get along with enjoys biking and cooking Seeking S/DWF 40 55 200-350lbs ☎597126

HOPE SHE'S OUT THERE

Loving respectful SM 31 59 brown complexion hazel brown eyes well-built nice smile affectionate employed seeks a good hearted attractive fun woman intelligent and compassionate to share the good times with ☎866168

HOPELESS ROMANTIC

DWM would like to meet a single lady 50 60 who likes affectionate and romance to share the rest of my life with ☎857839

GENTLE AND CUTE

Active and attractive SWM 58 good natured friendly gent enjoys outdoors dancing casinos estate sales etc Seeking sincere romantic friendly lady ☎341899

HAPPY DAD

Single father of three 37 loves family outdoors biking barbecues cooking and more Looking for a lovely WF 30 45 to share happiness and life with ☎715711

ADVENTUROUS

SWM 41 seek SF to become friends maybe more She must be smart have SOH I love friends family music life If you want to share these please call ☎595394

COULD IT BE YOU?

SWM 40s 6 175lbs N/S home owner auto worker easygoing honest and secure enjoys hunting Harley and the outdoors Seeking attractive slim/fit woman 30 50 N/S D/D-free comfortable in high heels tennis shoes ☎798519

MAN WITH PIZZAZZ

Sincere affectionate SWM 40s clear mind fit body enjoys artsy cultural events outdoor activities seeking witty pretty SWF 35-55 for friendship and possible relationship ☎517123

ROMANTIC BUT REALISTIC

Youthful easygoing SWM 46 likes movies concerts boating Seeking attractive SWF 40s 50s with a lively spirit good sense of humor friendly positive outlook ☎642092

LOOKING FOR SOMEONE

WM 62 220lbs loves working out dining out sports more Looking for an attractive WF 33 45 for dating possibly leading to more ☎853146

ARE YOU OUT THERE?

College educated SBM 42 Virgo N/S N/D very outgoing no children likes movies and golfing Seeking WF 25-44 N/S for dating ☎858557

I'M A GOOD GUY WHO,

likes to have fun SBM 46 54 200lbs Taurus smoker loves playing pool and gambling Seeking WF 30 35 smoker who likes to have fun too ☎858825

ARE YOU ATHLETIC?

WM 30 6 210lbs blond/green athletic build plays sports professional likes snowmobiling relaxing at home going out occasionally more Seeking easygoing WF 23 37 to spend time with ☎861290

PAL, CHUM, COMPANION

Looking for someone to hang with I am bright masculine well put together sane curious 62 5 8 150lbs like exercise movies good food travel If youre SM 45 65 masculine call me ☎863544

HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU

Independent self sufficient DWM 45 sturdy build carpenter sociable affectionate likes boating walks drives cycling cooking Seeking a special lady to share the good things in life ☎855207

OPEN TO ALMOST ANYTHING

Optimistic outgoing SWM 46 enjoys most activities yet open to new ideas and adventures seeks spirited spontaneous SWF, age open ☎547524

GENTLE AND SENTIMENTAL

Easygoing agreeable cute SWM 40s eager to please willing to try new things seeks fairly attractive and friendly SWF for dating and relating ☎210772

SEEKS BROWN-EYED GIRL

Good-looking friendly SWM 41 511 180lbs no children N/S easy going enjoys movies music travel dining Seeking very attractive pretty SH/AWF 28 39 friendship possible relationship ☎760359

LET'S TRY IT OUT

Just call this friendly social easy going SWM 40s humorous optimistic seeks kind sociable lady for casual dating Age open ☎513284

ROMANCE AND YOU

over due? If you are a SWF 40 55 decent looking and somewhat romantic then we might connect This gentle optimistic SWM could make you really happy ☎799032

LETS TRY THIS OUT

Nice SWM 40s energetic accommodating easy to talk to seeks a great lady for friendship and love ☎258398

HAPPY GO LUCKY

Dance flirt and have fun with me! SWM 40s seeks friendship with a good natured fun-to-be-with SWF 35 50 ☎283848

SEEKS SPECIAL LADY

SWPM 49 tall dark/dark, N/Drugs N/S seeks attractive sensitive kind hearted good natured SF 42 52 N/S N/Drugs who enjoys home cooked meals nights on the town or home for dating possible LTR ☎765893

LET S TALK!

SM 47 employed secure easygoing fun loving homeowner enjoys sorts weightlifting fishing boating keeping active Seeking health-conscious energetic with similar qualities and interests ☎818838

MUSCULAR AND ATHLETIC

SWM 46 62 209lbs brown/blue degreed outgoing personality enjoys outdoors workout new activities seeks friendly SF age/location open ☎531306

SERIOUS WOMAN WANTED

SBM 46 looking for that special person for LTR someone who enjoys walks movies sporting events cuddling at home Please be shapely independent and know what you want in life ☎692418

STRAIGHT UP, LOW-KEY

Easygoing cute SWM 40s not into loud noise and big crowds enjoys art wine tastings charity seeks similar minded lady for friendship maybe more ☎548455

GREET AND MEET

SWM 50 looks young fit active enjoys fishing picnics water sports Seeking easygoing friendly light hearted SWF age open ☎241526

WEST SIDE GUY

Easygoing SWPM 46 brown/brown tall slim enjoys arts muse ums outdoors more Seeking slim WF 35 47 for summertime fun and LTR ☎749445

SENSE OF HUMOR!

Attractive SBM 6 220lbs N/S occasional drinker 40 ish very laid back and family oriented likes dinner movies and going to Canada Seeking SF 20-45 race open H/W proportionate for friendship possible LTR ☎622912

LET'S MEET

SBM 22 57 170lbs dark brown eyes looking for a female who enjoys the finer things in life Race open ☎852488

WHAT'S UP, LADIES?

SBM 26 510 180lbs athletic Libra N/S independent training to be a truck driver seeks woman 22-34 Coffee? ☎853741

LOOK ME UP

SM 23 likes music reading writing quiet walks relaxing at home ISO nice creative cute affectionate girl to share good times dates talks and fun Possible LTR ☎854991

SHARE THE FUN

SM 34 driver enjoys family time

Household Goods (7160)

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WHIRLPOOL WASHER & ELECTRIC DRYER Washer heavy duty super capacity + Dryer heavy duty XL capacity \$400/both 248 890 3453

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SUPER CHEXX Coin operated bubble hockey game for sale Brand new in 2005 Great Christmas gift Use in bar or restaurant Asking \$2900/best Cash or money orders only Contact Liz at 248 506 5623

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SHIH TZU PUPS AKC Shots dewes wormed home raised Will hold for Christmas 248 529 6884 248 343 2068

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Imports Challenge The Big Three in 2006

Advertising Feature

Thursday DriveTime



BY DALE BUSS

As if our traditional Big Three auto makers didn't have enough reason to be in bad cheer this holiday season, another couple of indicators lately have come along to underscore the dire straits that the vehicle brands fielded by General Motors, Ford Motor and, to a lesser extent, DaimlerChrysler find themselves in as 2006 nears.

The first development is that, according to a new survey by a reputable concern, U.S. new-vehicle buyers are increasingly accepting of import brands, and those who purchase domestic vehicles are less likely to cite an aversion to imports as a reason for buying a domestic brand.

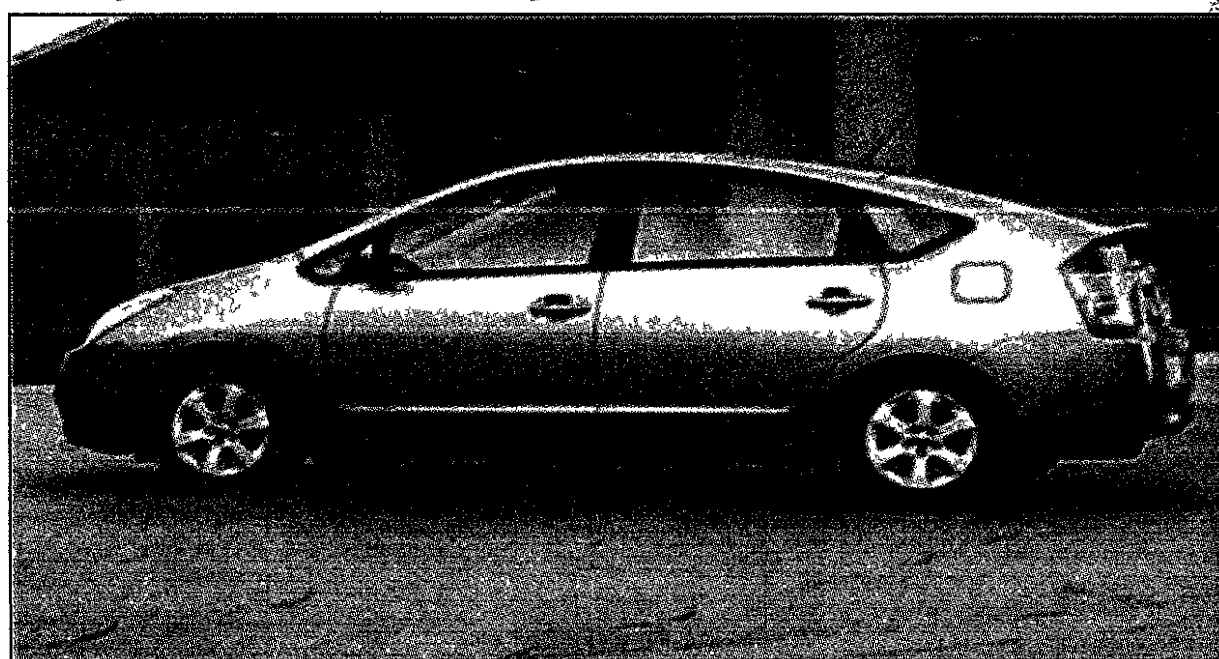
The second development is that the Toyota juggernaut seems to have acquired such momentum that the company and its brands can just barrel through sticky situations like the one that has developed recently in which Consumer Reports found, in a widely publicized report, that Toyota's Hybrid Synergy Drive technology achieved considerably less mileage in Prius and other Toyota vehicles than the sticker rating implies.

J.D. Power & Associates' 2005 Avoinder Study found that fewer new-vehicle buyers feel the need to "buy American." The study, which examines the reasons consumers fail to consider particular models when shopping for a new vehicle, found that only 34% of domestic-vehicle buyers in the South said they specifically didn't want a foreign or imported vehicle, down from 40% in the 2004 study. Avoidance of Korean-made vehicles, for example, has declined considerably in the South, from 41% of domestic-vehicle buyers in 2004 to 31% in 2005.

These are the most significant findings in the survey, given that the "red state" conservatism of the South rivals the conservative purchasing mentality of those of us in the Midwest. Kia, in particular, has publicized goals of focusing more marketing efforts on the central region of the country, and they are right in doing so, particularly in the South, says Dennis Galbraith, senior director of digital marketing solutions at J.D. Power.

"Although Kia does not build any vehicles in the United States, many vehicles from import brands are now built in the South, and attitudes there are changing rapidly."

The study also found that while full-size pickup



The Toyota Prius gas savings will average only \$580 this year, while the sticker price commands much more.

trucks remain a vital profit center for the Big Three, domestic trucks more frequently are being purchased because of incentive programs rather than perceptions of the reliability of the hard-working sheetmetal produced by Dodge, GMC, Chevrolet and Ford — and rather than any buyer aversion to Japanese-made trucks as somehow not up to domestic standards.

Domestic trucks often have a negative reputation for reliability among truck buyers, even those who buy domestic trucks, says Galbraith. "The domestic truck market is especially vulnerable to imports. The most common reason domestic truck buyers have for avoiding imports is that they don't want to buy an import, but many buyers are beginning to abandon that reasoning."

The study found that few domestic truck buyers question the quality or reliability of imports anymore. For example, the Honda Ridgeline, a mid-size truck from a company new to the American truck market, benefits from the Honda brand's reputation for reliability, which is reinforced by the company's small engines for lawn mowers and snowblowers as well as by Honda vehicles.

Despite the Ridgeline's innovative styling, in fact, 49% of owners cite either reliability or workmanship as the most influential reason for their purchase of a Ridgeline, while only eight percent say that vehicle styling was the most influential reason.

At the same time, an even more troubling sign for the Big Three might come from the aftermath of the

Consumer Reports story about Toyota's hybrid-powertrain technology. Certainly this development at least has got to be of substantial interest to GM, Ford and Chrysler as they scramble to turn out many thousands more hybrid-powered vehicles over the next few years in order to catch up with the perceived advantage enjoyed by Toyota and, to a lesser extent, Honda in the U.S. market for hybrid vehicles.

It seems that, while Toyota is able to command \$9,500 over the price of any comparable vehicle for the hybrid-powered Prius car, gasoline savings for the owner of a typical Prius will approximate only \$580 this year. And meanwhile, like its rivals, Toyota seems to be using hybrid powertrains as much these days for adding power to its vehicles as for saving gasoline. For example, the new Lexus RX400h hybrid-powered SUV produces 38 more horsepower but gets the same mileage as the conventional RX.

Meanwhile, Toyota is touting its hybrid expertise under the advertising slogan, "Commute with Nature." It intends to double its hybrid output to about a half-million vehicles next year and will be lobbying, along with the rest of the auto industry, for tax breaks and emission regulation privileges for its hybrids.

The biggest question is: Could any GM or Ford brand these days remain so apparently unaffected in the realm of consumer perceptions, if they replaced Toyota in the story about questions concerning the effectiveness of their hybrid technology? I think you know the answer.

OE0699674

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Thursday December 8, 2005

fillstar



Sweet
stuff

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Pop art

Page 5

Boston's bad boys are back

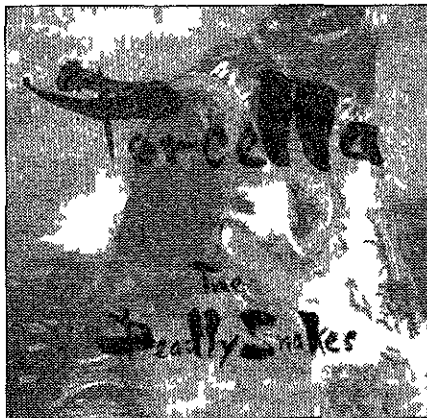
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CD review

Press releases always tend to come up with the most eye catching, 'jazzy' ways to describe a band's latest release. When I read up on The Deadly Snakes' latest *Porcella*, I was skeptical.

The new album released on In The Red Records, was described as having tones of The Kinks, The Zombies and some others of the 1960s greatest pop tunesters. How could this be? I thought to myself as the Snakes are known for their practicing-in the garage sound sometimes extremely precise sometimes extremely raw. After one listen to *Porcella*, I couldn't agree more with their publicist.

Gone are the fast paced songs that keep you dancing as if you were in the club listening to the band live, stopping only to put your drink down. Instead, songs on *Porcella* are rich with organs, deeper melodies and choruses you might have heard on *American Bandstand* in 1966. The songs seem to have been arranged with such careful scrutiny it makes you wonder if Phil Spector got his hands on it. Needless to say, it's a change for the Snakes that isn't necessarily bad.



The stand-out on *Porcella* has to be *Gore Veil*, which sounds like it could have been included on the Zombies' *Odyssey and Oracle* without anyone

noticing. Flutes and happy tambourines keep the beat with horn sections rounding out the sound without an electric guitar to be found. Also of note is *Sissy Blues*, a faster, Sonics-esque track that also features the prevalent horn section the album relies so heavily on.

The boys visited the Magic Stick last month and played to a very enthusiastic crowd and are currently finishing up remaining tour dates. For more information, visit www.intheredrecords.com.

My suggestion: Pick up a few Snakes albums (*I'm Not Your Soldier Anymore* and *Ode to Joy*), give them a listen and note the differences between their earlier works and *Porcella*. I think you'll enjoy the differences while still enjoying the sound they're known for.



Concert

If you saw Zach Braff's *Garden State* last year, then you're familiar with the equally-as popular soundtrack to the film and one of its standout tracks *Such Great Heights*, brought to you by Iron and Wine. Not only was the original version featured in the movie but the Postal Service's cover as well, making it one top song.

I mention all of this because it seemed

like all of my friends were talking about Iron and Wine the one-man band of Sam Beam, after *Garden State* Beam released *In the Remains* a collaboration with fellow musicians Calexico, in September and is touring with his collaborators to promote. The kids will be at the Majestic Theater (4120 Woodward Detroit) on Saturday, Dec. 10. Tickets are still available for the half-a-tank-of-gas price of \$20. Doors are 8 p.m. and a "special" opener has yet to be announced.

Check out www.majesticdetroit.com for more details.

Alicia Dorset could really go for a viewing of *Garden State* right about now. Send her the title of your favorite movie at adorset@hometownlife.com.

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ON THE COVER



Aerosmith hits the stage of The Palace on Dec 15

Editorial office (248) 901 2587 / Advertising (734) 953 2153



Hot Ticket

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE HENRY FORD

"Holiday Nights" culminates in a fireworks presentation

Christmas Past

Actors dress the part at Greenfield Village's Holiday Nights

BY NICOLE STAFFORD
STAFF WRITER

The 12 days of Christmas take a step back in time at Greenfield Village

The Henry Ford's annual Holiday Nights celebration continues Dec 9-10 and 16-23. With a blend of exhibit, show and hands-on activity, the program gives visitors an opportunity to experience Christmas as it was celebrated in the past.

To make the experience seem real, about 150 actors and musicians "perform" in dress traditional for the time period. Most of the performers are simply carrying out the day-to-day activities that would have been occurring in preparation for Christmas.

"They're in character the whole evening," said Christian Overland, director of Greenfield Village and Henry Ford Museum. They're carrying packages and walking down the street, actually bringing packages to the post office.

The actors will tell you about their clothing and other topics of historical

CHRISTMAS PAST

What: Holiday Nights a seasonal celebration that takes visitors back in time to Christmas past

When: Dec 9-10 and 16-23

Where: Greenfield Village at The Henry Ford 20900 Oakwood Boulevard west of the Southfield Freeway and south of Michigan Avenue Dearborn

Tickets: Adults \$15 children \$10 kids under age 2 free call (313) 982 6100 or visit www.hfmqv.org

The capes, the muffs, the coats - it was all very elaborate. Back then, it was about putting on your best for Christmas," explained Overland.

This year's program has four dis-

interest, but always in character.

This year, the actors will be donning traditional outdoor garments from the past newly designed by the costume designer who created all the looks for the movie *Hook*.

"The hats are absolutely stunning

tinct areas. There's outdoor ice-skating, bonfires and the craft of making glass candy canes in "Winter Wonderland."

"Busy Sidewalks" is where visitors can see period fashion, encounter on-street Christmas carolers, visit indoor shops and taste freshly-cooked Christmas treats.

"Right Down Santa Claus Lane" brings Santa Claus from the early 19th-century complete with live reindeer to the present day. Another area is devoted to pure holiday performance.

"This year, we have tons of music. We have carolers, we have three quintets, and we have four main stages."

Of course all this is culminated in three Holiday Nights traditions - the *Carol of the Bells*, a capella song by performers carrying lanterns, a sing-along and Christmas fireworks.

All you need do is dress warm, said Overland. "Then walk around, and you'll get the sights, sounds and smells of Christmas."

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Straight Scrooge

MeadowBrook's 'A Christmas Carol' closely renders the Dickens tale

BY NICOLE STAFFORD
STAFF WRITER

Tradition, tradition and more tradition – that's what MeadowBrook Theatre's production of the holiday classic *A Christmas Carol* embraces

And in more ways than one The play, which continues through Dec 24 at Oakland University in Rochester Hills, is the very same show seen by local audiences last year, the year before and many years before that even

The local professional theater company, which is in its 25th season of producing *A Christmas Carol*, also stays true to the Charles Dickens classic story

The reason for such consistency Audiences demand, expect and anticipate it as part of their

On stage

own holiday season celebration

'The couple of years that we did a different script, the productions were fine, but it wasn't what the audience wanted," said Terry Carpenter, associate director of MeadowBrook Theatre Carpenter also is directing this year's production of *A Christmas Carol*

"We have become one of their family traditions," he said of the theater's loyal audience. "They go and have cider at their aunt's house, they meet at grandma's house for turkey dinner, and they come to MeadowBrook to see *A Christmas Carol* Without any one of those things, the Christmas season doesn't seem complete'

MeadowBrook's version, a two-act show lasting approximately

CLASSIC VERSION

What: MeadowBrook Theatre's 25th season of *A Christmas Carol*

When: Through Dec 24 Shows at 8 p.m. Friday 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Saturday Sunday and 8 p.m. Wednesday with some additional performances

Where: MeadowBrook Theatre 207 Wilson Hall on the campus of Oakland University Rochester Hills

Tickets: \$25-\$38 call MeadowBrook Theatre Box Office at (248) 377-3300 or visit www.mbttheatre.com

two hours with one intermission, integrates a handful of Christmas carols, tells the story in a straightforward manner and unfolds it on multiple levels

"We have the basic story that the kids can understand, but we also have the undertones of the psychology of Scrooge and how he became the person he is," said Carpenter "So it's not just for kids Adults can look back at



PHOTO COURTESY OF MEADOWBROOK THEATRE

MeadowBrook Theatre presents its 25th season of the holiday classic *A Christmas Carol*

PLEASE SEE **DICKENS, D12**

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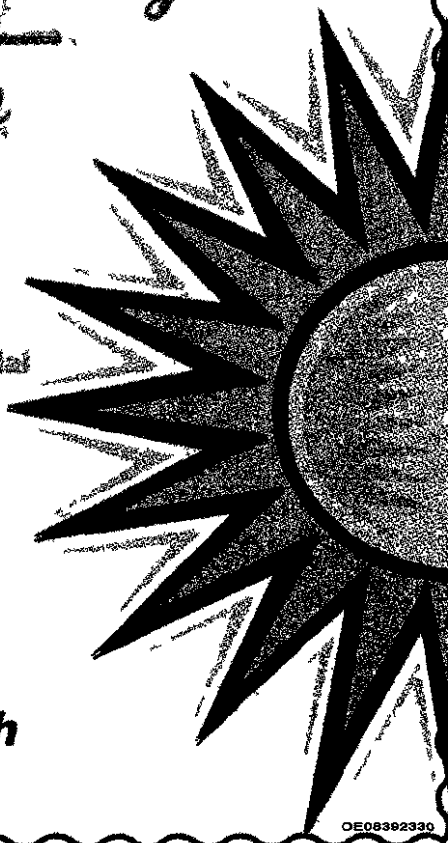
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Pop artists turns clients' faces into art

BY LANA MINI
STAFF WRITER

Through the years, pop artist Tom Maniaci has been commissioned to draw portraits of celebrities in Warhol style

His favorite is Sparky Anderson. He's also created Joe Louis, Ben Wallace, Gordie Howe and many, many others

He's worked on Cindy Crawford, Pam Anderson and Clint Eastwood — those works can be found in his calendar by Frame Your Face Studios. His work has been in many galleries including Print Gallery in Southfield

Maniaci, of Bloomfield Hills, also creates retro, contemporary, pop personalized portraits — husbands, wives, kids and pets

Unlike many pop artists who create portraits via computer manipulation, Maniaci's works are organic. He sketches portraits with pencil and ink, then uses

electronic elements to add the fun

"First the portraits are drawn by hand, it's an interpretation of the face through the eyes of my eyes and hands,"

Maniaci said "Once that's complete, we let technology help us out."

He then adds thought bubbles over the heads of featured faces

His most popular piece is Albert Einstein with the witty saying "I guess I'm relatively happy"

Bill Clinton's thought bubble reads "Never trust people who buy ink by the barrel"

As in true pop art style, Maniaci uses primary colors — blue, red, black, white, flesh and yellow. The colors are bold, the faces are big. As Andy Warhol did Marilyn and Jackie O

Unframed commissioned pieces of hand-painted acrylic on canvas start at \$650. The works by Maniaci, through his company Frame Your Face, are currently on display. To contact Frame Your Face, call 1 (877) 98-FACES

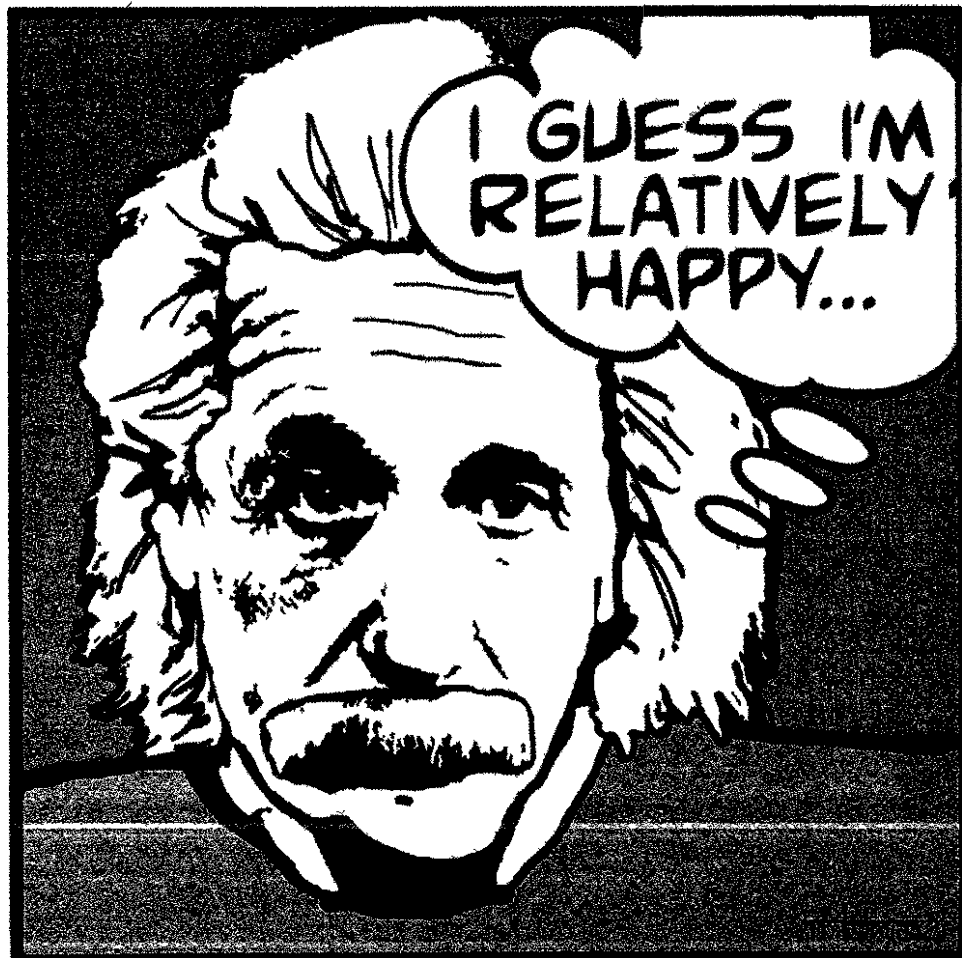


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The Einstein is one of Tom Maniaci's most popular pieces. He also creates commissioned personalized Warhol-esque style portraits

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RIDIN' HIGH

AEROSMITH: BACK IN DETROIT'S SADDLE AGAIN

BY JIM TOTH
STAFF WRITER

America just can't get enough of Aerosmith, and Aerosmith just can't get enough of — Detroit

Those legendary Bad Boys from Boston return to their 'home away from home' for another night of in-your-face rock 'n' roll Thursday, Dec 15, at The Palace

With more than 30 years of thrilling audiences all over the world, it's not always easy to come up with fresh ideas, but this latest visit by America's Greatest Rock 'N' Roll Band promises

just that as they journey through their six-month *Rockin' the Joint* tour, which kicked off in late October

Bandmates Steven Tyler (lead vocals), Joe Perry (guitarist), Tom Hamilton (bassist), Brad Whitford (guitarist) and Joey Kramer (drummer) have made the Detroit area a required stop on nearly every tour and with good reason, too

Detroit was the first city outside of Boston where we became as big as we are,' Hamilton said 'That's the same feeling we sustain today

'Detroit audiences are uninhibited and like to rock out. The rock tradition comes

and goes, but not in Detroit They rock!'

A huge part of the band's success, spanning four decades, has been their ability to adapt and maintain a strong relationship with rock fans, and according to Hamilton, what better way to do that than in person?

These days, people are most interested in tours,' said Hamilton, who learned to play guitar at age 12 'I run into people all the time and they're not asking when the next album is coming out, but 'when's the tour?'

Well, there's good news on both parts as this present tour coincides with the release *Rockin' the Joint* — an

Aerosmith fans dream dual CD/DVD that contains live performances from the Hard Rock Hotel in Las Vegas Underlining Aerosmith's position as rock's quintessential live band, the CD contains 11 tracks, while the DVD features the band performing favorites *Dream On* and *Sweet Emotion*

Hamilton, who grew up idolizing the sounds of The Beatles, Led Zeppelin and The Who, says 30 years of touring certainly takes its toll, but the band has no intention of slowing down anytime soon

PLEASE SEE AEROSMITH, D7



For years Aerosmith has called the Detroit area one of its favorite cities with the purest rock audiences. Get ready to rock at The Palace.

AEROSMITH

FROM PAGE D6

"Twenty-five years ago, we stayed at Holiday Inns and hopped on commercial flights, but we didn't care because we were drunk," he said. "We went through a lot, but our willingness to fight through it and make personal sacrifices is what has kept us together."

A lot of bands today can't say that, because by the second or third album, corruption often hits. It was an education for us.

Sharing the stage with Aerosmith will be the robust and highly driven sounds of Lenny Kravitz, a four-time Grammy award winner who recently released his seventh studio album, *Baptism*. Combining funk and rock 'n' roll, Kravitz will be backed by a 10-piece band during a high-octane set highlighting 15 years of his extraordinary sounds.

"We toured with Lenny Kravitz a few years ago and have been big fans ever since," Hamilton said.

SEE THEM AROUND

When Aerosmith comes to

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Where: The Palace

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Detroit, band members usually spend some time here. And they've literally cleaned up their act since their raucous days of the 1970s and 1980s.

They stay at different hotels and visit different metro Detroit cities. Over the last few years, here's where we've spotted the band:

- Joe Perry and wife at the Birmingham Theatre

- Steven Tyler rollerblading down Maple in downtown Birmingham, waving and chatting with passers-by

- The entire band and family members shopping at It's the Ritz

- Steven Tyler strolling through Birmingham and Bloomfield neighborhoods

- The band and friends in Greektown

Monkeying around with King Kong and pals

The new remake of *King Kong* looks promising, but it shouldn't overshadow the myriad other monkey movies that are lurking on the video store shelves.

Big apes, in fact, have been a favorite of filmmakers ever since Fay Wray bellowed from the top of the Empire State Building. Indeed, just after *King Kong* came out, it was followed by a sequel, *Son of Kong*, which sank into oblivion just about as fast as Skull Island did at the end of the picture.



**Beyond
Bad**

Greg
Kowalski

has her arm devoured by a man, er, woman-eating plant lovingly grown by Michael Gough. That was long before the days as Batman's butler, Alfred.

Speaking of men in monkey suits, one of the most dreadful movies ever made is an obscure 1976 Korean production entitled *A*P*E*. Suffice it to say that it is about a guy in a gorilla suit who steps on Seoul. One reviewer says that if you look closely enough you can see the Tonka

name on some of the toy trucks he tosses around. I admit I didn't watch it that closely.

Also, don't forget to check out *Godzilla vs King Kong*, starring the ever-popular Big G. But it's pretty much standard fare. There are a few other ever more obscure big ape films, but lest we drift too far into the realm of films you probably won't locate anyway, we must devote attention to that other *King Kong* remake.

I want to tell you a story about this movie. When it came out in 1976, I went to see it with my brother and his two young children. One had just eaten a large garlic pickle. That was the first mistake.

We went to see the film at the old theater that used to be at Universal Mall in Warren. About 20 minutes into the film, the projector broke and we had to all move to the adjoining theater.

That was the second mistake.

So we had watch part of one of the all-time worst movies twice.

That was the third mistake. We watched the film all the way through. That was the fourth, and final, mistake.

King Kong was produced by Dino De Laurentis, who was thereafter known as Dino De Horrendous (I'm not kidding). This movie had a huge budget and major cast including Jeff Bridges and Jessica Lange, before she learned to act. It also had a lousy script and special effects that made *Godzilla* look glorious.

PLEASE SEE KONG, D12

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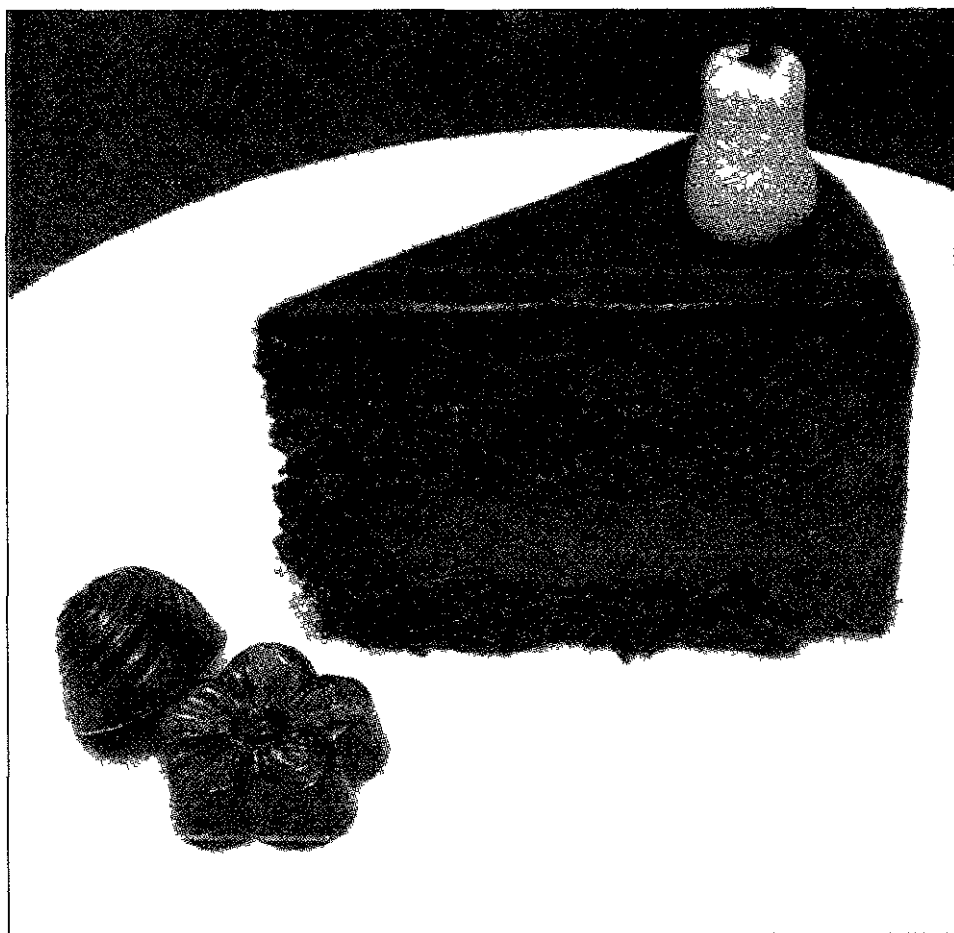
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LAWRENCE MCKEE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Poached Pear Gateau is fresh poached pear folded into a dark chocolate ganache layered between chocolate sponge and then coated with chocolate

Chocolat

Sweet, light and more

BY ELEANOR HEALD
CORRESPONDENT

CHOCOLATES

Once a regional manager for a large tech corporation, Eric Conrad, now in his late 30s, decided to follow his artistic bent

Conrad enrolled and graduated from the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, N.Y., in 2003, then perfected his chocolate and pastry-making skills in France and Scotland under legendary chocolatiers

Earlier this year, he opened the 30-seat Chocolat in Birmingham, using his own design, color and fabric selections and contracting very little. Sunflower yellow walls with reproductions of French classic posters, parquet floor, round glass-top tables, and a comfort zone with upholstered chairs are reminiscent of a small Parisian patisserie and chocolate shop. WiFi is free

The French name Conrad chose for his shop indicates his first love – dark chocolates. “They’re complex, like fine wine,”

Conrad said. “At any time out of my repertoire of 50, I have 10 to 25 different choices in the case.”

To craft chocolates, Conrad uses raw materials imported from Belgium and France. “There are many sources, including South America,” he added. “But the Europeans have been making chocolates a long time.”

If you can’t decide, here are my favorites: Caramel and raspberry filled or tropical green tea is deliciously unique and marries Chocolat’s private-label tea concept to chocolate artistry. Plain bars or those with almonds and walnuts are chocolate-lovers’ delights. Chocolates filled with a pepper melange are most unusual



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ART EXHIBITS

Detroit Institute of Arts

Camille Claudel and Rodin: Fateful Encounter through Feb 5 2006 5200 Woodward Ave Detroit. Timed tickets include general museum admission and exhibit audio tour \$8-\$14 (877) 342 8494 or visit www.dia.org

University of Michigan Museum of Art

Betye Saar: Extending the Frozen Moment an exhibition of more than 60 works by artist Betye Saar through Jan 8 525 South State University of Michigan campus Ann Arbor suggested donation is \$5 call (734) 763 UMMMA or visit www.umma.umich.edu

Screenprints

The Art of Screenprint at the Detroit Institute of Arts 5200 Woodward Detroit \$3-\$6 (313) 833 7900 or visit www.dia.org

ART GALLERIES

Cass Cafe

3 The Hard Way a mixed media exhibition by Taurus Burns John Harkins and Harlan Lovestone Dec 10 March 4 opening reception 7:10 p.m. Saturday Dec 10 4620 Cass Avenue Detroit (313) 831 1400

Lemberg Gallery

Recent Works on Paper Judy Pfaff opening reception 5:15 p.m. Saturday Dec 10 exhibit runs until Jan 21 at 23241 Woodward Ferndale artist's lecture 8:15 p.m. Thursday Dec 15 at The Detroit Institute of Arts Auditorium (248) 591 6623 or www.lemberggallery.com

Susanne Hilberry Gallery

Paintings by Holly Coulis David Deutsch Ryan McLaughlin and Ellen Phelan through Jan 14 at 700 Livernois Ferndale (248) 541 4700

Elaine Jacob Gallery

Susan Unterberg: A Retrospective exhibit runs through Dec 16 located at 480 W Hancock in Detroit at Wayne State University (313) 993 7813 www.art.wayne.edu

Ann Arbor Art Center

Out of the Gates a photography exhibit documenting the installation of Christo's famous

DETROIT CASINOS

Casinos are open 24 hours daily

Greektown

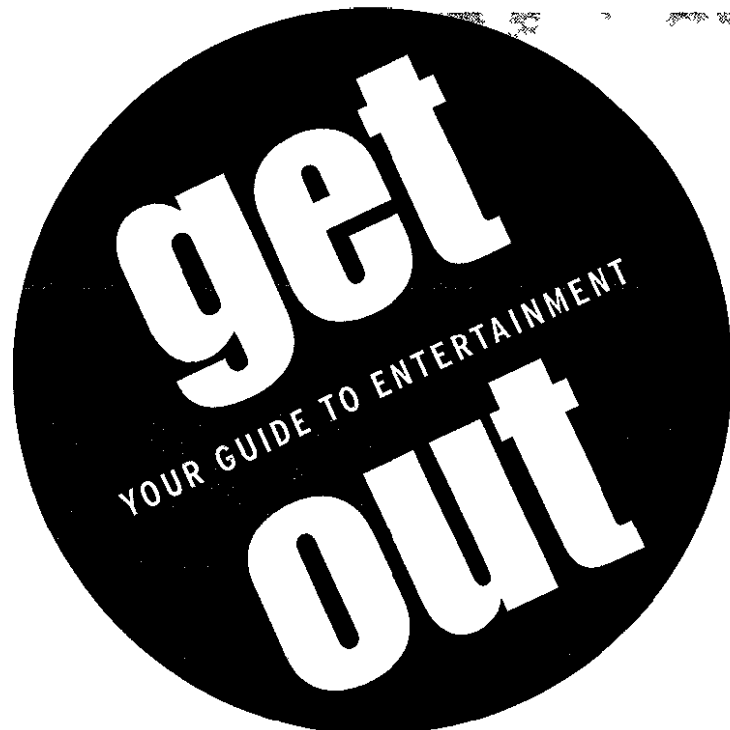
555 E. Lafayette Detroit (888) 771 4386 www.greektowncasino.net More than 2,500 slot machines poker room 86 gaming tables blackjack Spanish 21 craps roulette baccarat mini baccarat four card poker Caribbean stud Let it Ride pai gow poker

MGM Grand

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MotorCity

2901 Grand River (at Lodge Freeway) (313) 237 7711 www.motorcitycasino.com More than 2,500 slots 83 tables blackjack double exposure blackjack Wheel of Madness baccarat mini baccarat three card poker craps Caribbean stud Let it Ride pai gow poker Casino War



gates project in Central Park through Dec 23 117 West Liberty Ann Arbor call (734) 994 8004 or visit www.annarborartcenter.org

Oakland Community College

Student Art Show Paintings ceramic works and arts and crafts items by students of the Highland Lakes Campus At the campus at Woodland Hall Library 7300 Cooley Lake Road Waterford 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday

Photo exhibit

Group Photo an exhibit of works by five photographers through Dec 30 Paint Creek Center for the Arts 407 Pine St. Rochester call (248) 651 4110 or visit www.pccart.org

Sherry Washington Gallery

David Fludd's *The Grids of Life* exhibit on view until Jan 14 Located at L.B. King Building 1274 Library Detroit www.sherrywashingtongallery.com (313) 961 4500

Hill Gallery

Mark di Suvero's art through Jan 31 located at 407 W Brown St. Birmingham (248) 540 9288

ART ETC.

Ann Arbor Art Center's Gallery Shop

Holiday gifts sold through Dec 31 featuring ceramics glass fiber hand made wood furniture and musical instruments Art Center members receive 20 percent discount For information call (734) 994 8004 Ext 118 Located at 117 West Liberty in downtown Ann Arbor

Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center

Special shopping event open until Dec 17 Event features 150 artists from eight states with fibers glass ceramics wood photography and more (248) 644 0866 or visit BBAC 1516 S. Cranbrook Road Birmingham for information visit www.bbartcenter.org

BALLET

Lake Orion High School

The Michigan Ballet Theatre performs *The Nutcracker* at 2 and 7 p.m. Saturday Dec 10 and 1 and 6 p.m. Sunday Dec 11 Lake Orion High School (248) 652 3117

The Michigan Classic Ballet Company

Performs *The Nutcracker* 11 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Dec 10 and 3 p.m. Dec 11 Mercy High School Farmington Hills (248) 334 6964

More Nutcracker

Rose Marie Floyd Contemporary Civic Ballet Company of Royal Oak 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Dec 17 Clawson High School Clawson (248) 641 9063

Avondale performance

The Nutcracker performed by Michigan Ballet Theatre 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Dec 21 22 Avondale Performing Arts Center Avondale High School Auburn Hills (248) 652 3117

CLUBS

220 Merrill Street & Edison Lounge

220 E. Merrill Birmingham (248) 645 2150 Extensive drink menu live music dancing Eclectic and American Nouveau cuisine

Belmont Bar

10215 Joseph Campau Hamtramck (313) 871 1966 Mademoiselle Mondays \$10 for martini and manicure Therapeutic massage \$1 minute Punk nights Tuesdays Live rock Wednesdays DJs and local bands on week ends Call as schedule changes

Blind Pig

Long time hip music spot 208 S. First St. Ann Arbor (734) 996 8555 www.blindpigmusic.com

Blue Martini

Live music 8-11 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays and Saturdays and Sundays 201 Hamilton between Woodward and Old Woodward one block north of Maple (248) 258 3005

Bosco

Enjoy noWax nights at 7 p.m. every Wednesday at the Bosco 22930 Woodward Ave. Ferndale Download music into your MP3 Player take a number and wait your turn to be DJ and spin three songs. No cover For more information visit www.bosco.com or call (248) 541 8818 21 and over only

Club Bart

22726 Woodward Ferndale (248) 548 8746 21 & over only

Club 2000

Fat Twosdays with DJ Carl the Invisible Man 9 p.m. Tuesdays Hip hop 18 & over 299 E. Woodbridge Detroit (313) 235 2233

Crazy Moe's Cafe

2 N. Saginaw St. Pontiac (248) 322 5550 Food

dancing music

Danny's Irish Pub

Laid back small friendly 2824 Woodward Ave. Ferndale (248) 546 8331

Dino's Lounge

Live bands on weekends football specials on Sundays Hip laid back friendly Woodward Avenue just south of Nine Mile Road in Ferndale (248) 591 DINO

Elysium

Lounge dance and happy hour 3-9 p.m. Tuesdays Fridays Nightclub hours Fridays and Saturdays 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. (313) 962 2244 625 Shelby Detroit www.elysiumlounge.com

Emerald Theatre

Concert House dancing 32 North Walnut Mount Clemens (586) 913 1920

Jam at The Gem

The series returns to the Gem Theatre patio Every Thursday 5-8 p.m. Guests can enjoy summer drink specials appetizers and entrees from the Century Grille For more information call (313) 963 980 or visit online at www.gemtheatre.com

John Cowley & Sons Irish Tavern

33338 Grand River Ave. Farmington (248) 474 5941 Food drinks and friendly pub atmosphere

Leland City Club

Avant garde Located in the Ramada Hotel building 400 Bagley Street in downtown Detroit Open til 4 a.m. Access through unmarked door on the First Street side of the Ramada www.lelandcityclub.com

Rainbow Room

6640 E. Eight Mile Road Detroit Gay friendly Laid back atmosphere Dancing (313) 891 1020

X/S

High energy dance club 1500 Woodward northeast corner at John R. Detroit

Sky Club

Tango salsa and Latin dancing every Wednesday beginning at 8 p.m. Located above Sangria's Restaurant 401 S. Lafayette Royal Oak (248) 543 1964

COMEDY

Wise Guys

Lowell Sanders (Joe Somebody) with Connie Ettinger and Michael Orenstein Dec 8-10 shows are 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 and 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday (8 p.m. Saturday show is non smoking) at 40380 Grand River Novi Call (248) 919 3216

Second City

Mainstage show is *In iPod We Trust* running Wednesday Sunday and children's theater production *After the Beanstalk* a limited engagement on Saturday mornings through Dec 17 42705 Grand River Ave. Novi (248) 348 4448

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle

Stand up 269 East Fourth Royal Oak (248) 542 9900 www.comedycastle.com

Joey's Comedy Club

Stand up at two locations 36071 Plymouth Road Livonia (734) 261 0555 and 5070 Schaefer Dearborn (313) 584 8885 www.joeycomedy.com

Comedian

Tracy Morgan from *Saturday Night Live* two nights two shows per night 7 and 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday Dec 9 and 10 at the Magic Bag \$25 Tickets for all shows are on sale now at the Magic Bag box office and at all Ticketmaster locations 22920 Woodward Avenue Ferndale (248) 544 1991

WHAT ARE YOU DOIN'?

NEW YEAR'S EVE?

Here's a list of ideas to help you ring in 2006

Burton Manor

Buffet dinner dance tunes champagne toast featuring Cassens Murphy Band 7:30 p.m. 2 a.m. at Burton Manor Banquet and Conference Center 27777 Schoolcraft Livonia Tickets are \$160 a couple Call (734) 427 9110 or visit www.burtonmanor.net

Hellenic Cultural Center

Buffet dinner dance tunes champagne toast featuring Persuasion 7:30 p.m. 2 a.m. at Hellenic Cultural Center 36375 Joy Road Westland Tickets are \$125 a couple Call (734) 427 9110 or visit www.burtonmanor.net

Roma Banquets

Buffet dinner dance tunes champagne toast featuring Channel 6 7:30 p.m. 2 a.m. Roma Banquets 32550 Cherry Hill Garden City Tickets are \$75 a couple Call (734) 427 9110 or visit www.burtonmanor.net

Paisano's

Bill Hilderbrandt 7:30 (\$25) and 10:30 p.m. (\$30 including champagne toast and party favors) Joey's Comedy Club 5070 Schaefer Dearborn (313) 584 8885

FAMILY

Detroit Science Center

Exhibits include *A Journey to Our Future* is now open to accompany center's new permanent Space Laboratory exhibit 5020 John R. Detroit \$6.7 call (313) 577 8400 or visit www.detroitsciencecenter.org

The Second City

Debuts its first children's theater production *After the Beanstalk* suitable for ages 5-10 performances run every Saturday at 11 a.m. through Dec 17 \$10 (248) 348 4448 new Second City Theatre 42705 Grand River Ave. Novi

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Spotlight Players

It's a Wonderful Life performed Dec 9-11 and 16-17 at Cherry Hill Village Theater 50400 Cherry Hill Road Canton tickets \$18 show times 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays 2 p.m. on Sundays call (734) 394 5460

General Motors Employees' Choir

Sacred and secular music to celebrate the season at the following locations 7:30 p.m. Dec 9 Pilgrim Congregational Church 3061 N. Adams Bloomfield Hills

Northville

A Holly Jolly Christmas Revue performances at 7:30 p.m. Dec 9-10-16-17 at historic Marquis Theatre 135 E. Main \$10-12 (248) 349 8110

Detroit Concert Choir

Music for Christmas concert 7:30 p.m. Saturday Dec 10 St. Hugo of the Hills 2215 Opdyke Bloomfield Hills 3 p.m. Sunday Dec 11 Old St. Mary's in Greektown 646 Monroe and 4 p.m. Sunday Dec 18 St. Martin de Porres 31555 Hoover (north of 13 Mile) Warren tickets \$20 and \$18 for seniors and students \$10 for young adults (through 21 years old) (313) 882 0118

Detroit World Outreach

Christmas with the Family 2005 features music drama skits dance numbers and desserts at the end of every performance 7

p.m. Dec. 8, 9 and 10 tickets \$10 available at church 23800 West Chicago Redford (313) 255 2222 Ext. 236

Troy High School Orchestra and Choir
Ring in the holiday season at Troy High School 7 p.m. Thursday Dec. 8. Free concert features music from the Mamma Mia Rumanian folk dances and seasonally appropriate selections. The Freshman concert and symphony orchestras Country Fiddlers concert choir and Stardust Vocal Ensemble perform. For more information call (248) 823 2700 or visit www.troyhighorchestra.org

Kwanzaa

The Storytellers (Robert and Audrey Allison) appear 2-4 p.m. Sunday Dec. 10 at Art Van Furniture 22555 Greenfield in Southfield. The duo will visit with guests to share stories about African American heritage and the celebration of Kwanzaa and demonstrate ethnic musical instruments. The Storytellers encourage children participation. For information call (248) 569 3770.

Scrooge's Last Christmas

Flint Youth Theatre presents *The Last Christmas of Ebenezer Scrooge* 6 p.m. Sunday Dec. 11 at the Elgood Theater 1220 East Kearsley \$5 (810) 237 1530

Sleigh rides

John McGuire of the Guernsey Farms Dairy donated a one horse open sleigh to the Northville Community Foundation for use at Maybury Farm to kick off Hayrides and Sleigh Rides at the Maybury Farm on Eight Mile Road just west of Beck Road in Northville. The farm's winter hours are noon until 5 p.m. Wednesday thru Sunday hayrides and sleigh rides (weather depending) will be scheduled at 1 p.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sundays. For group rates call (248) 374 0200.

Meadow Brook Hall

Annual holiday walk through Dec. 18 featuring *It's a Wonderful Life at the Grand Manor* 7-11 p.m. Thursday Dec. 15 with evening of candlelight tours, live music, strolling dinner, jitterbug lessons and Martini's Bar and *It's a Wonderful Life* movie shown in Ballroom. Reservations required \$65 (248) 364 6206.

Oakland Theatre Guild

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever through Dec. 21 shows at 7:30 p.m. Friday and 4:30 and 7:30 p.m. Saturdays and 2 and 4:30 p.m. Sunday. Tickets \$10-\$14 (248) 335 1788 or www.starlighttheater.net

Redford Theatre

The Magical Music of Christmas 8 p.m. Saturday Dec. 10. Featuring beloved Christmas favorites played by Tony O'Brien at the Barton Theatre Pipe Organ. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children (12 years and younger). Located at 17360 Lahser Road just north of Grand River. For more information (313) 537 2560 or visit www.redfordtheatre.com

The Farmington Community Chorus

A Happy Holiday Season 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday Dec. 16 and 17 at Mercy High School Auditorium located at the corner of 11 Mile and Middlebelt in Farmington Hills. The 85 voice mixed chorus includes singers from throughout the metro Detroit area. Tickets are \$12 in advance and can be purchased at the Costco Center registration desk (28600 W. 11 Mile Rd. Farmington Hills) or (810) 632 4067. Tickets at the door for \$15. Visit www.farmingtonchorus.com

JAZZ

Windsor Detroit Jazz Club

Ongoing gigs in Oakland County. Presenting Chuck Moss and the Paint Creek Jazz Society Band 1-4 p.m. first and third Saturday of



MUSIC

2006 Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee Lynyrd Skynyrd with special guest 38 Special perform at The Palace on Friday Dec. 30. The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame induction happens March 13 in New York City and will be broadcast on VH1. Lynyrd Skynyrd began its recording career in 1973 and has sold more than 25 million albums. For ticket information call (248) 645-6666.

every month. Shield's Pizza 25101 Telegraph (northwest corner of 10 Mile and Telegraph) Southfield \$8 cover. Call (248) 478 0172.

Harmonie Park

Kathy Kosins performs at 9 p.m. Saturday Dec. 10 at Loia's 1427 Randolph Detroit (313) 952 0483.

Jazz at Wharton Center

The MSU Professors of Jazz features Kevin Mahogany 8:30 p.m. Thursday Feb. 23 at Pasant Theatre and Ingrid Jensen Wednesday March 22 at Stoddard Grand Tier Lounge (517) 432 2000 or 1 800 WHARTON or visit www.whartoncenter.com

MORE MUSIC

Coffee Beanery Cafe

Larry Arbour 7:30 p.m. Saturday Dec. 10 located at 28557 Woodward Berkley (248) 336 9930.

Magic Bag

22920 Woodward Ferndale (248) 544 3030.

Open Mike

Musicians perform on open mike night every Thursday 8-11 p.m. at The Bubble Bliss 125 S. Main Street. Come and watch or bring an instrument to perform.

KerryTown

415 North Fourth Ave. Ann Arbor. Reservations recommended (734) 769 2999. www.kerrytownconcerthouse.com

Live @ 744

At the Joanne Winkelman Hulce Center for the Arts on Friday evenings throughout the fall with Back Forty funk and grass roots performs at 7 p.m. 74 N. Sheldon Road Plymouth (734) 416 4278.

Station 885

885 Starkweather Plymouth. Tony Ruda and Pat Smith play jazz every Thursday 7-10 p.m. (bass and piano).

Trinity House Theatre

Dick Siegel in concert at 8 p.m. on Saturday

Dec. 10. Tickets are \$12. Call (734) 464 6302. For more information www.trinityhouse.org

At home On-line

www.RadioIndiePop.com features a different indie band each month. This month it's Animal Collective. Listening to the music is free and there's no advertising.

MUSEUMS

Henry Ford Museum

Current exhibits include *Behind the Scenes 50 Years of Disneyland* 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily \$10-14. 20900 Oakwood Boulevard west of the Southfield Freeway and south of Michigan Avenue Dearborn. Additional charges and varying hours for entry to Greenfield Village, Ford Rouge Factory Tour and IMAX Theatre. For more information call (313) 982 6001 or visit www.hfmvgv.org

Cranbrook Science Museum

Featured exhibit: It's a Nano World. Permanent exhibits include planetarium, nature center and Bat Zone Conservatory. 39221 Woodward Bloomfield Hills. General admission is \$5-7. Planetarium \$1-3 (248) 645 3200 or www.cranbrook.edu

Charles H. Wright Museum of African-American History

Gridiron to Greatness: African Americans in Professional Football through March 26. 315 East Warren Avenue Detroit \$5-\$8. Members and children under 3 free (313) 494 5800 or www.maah.detroit.org

Detroit Science Center

Premiere of Magnificent Desolation: Walking on the Moon narrated by Tom Hanks and new planetarium show *Journey to the Edge of Space and Time* \$6. Shows run indefinitely. 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 5020 John R. Detroit \$6-\$7 (313) 577 8400 or www.detroitssciencecenter.org

Detroit Historical Museum

Reflections: The Mary Wilson Supreme Legacy Collection an exhibit of Supremes costumes through Feb. 12. 5401 Woodward Detroit admission is \$3-\$5 (313) 833 1805 or www.detroithistorical.org

SOMETHING DIFFERENT

Automotive and ad art

Automotive Exhibit: Drawing Power: Motor City Ad Art in the Age of Muscle and Chrome through March 2006. Detroit Public Library Skillman Branch Library 121 Gratiot Avenue free (313) 628 2750.

Benefit Hurricane Katrina

Eminem and 50 Cent items are available on eBay to benefit victims of Hurricane Katrina. Visit eBay's Collectibles for a Cause.

Toy & Hobby Expo

Toys, trains, dolls and hobby items from the 1950s through today's hottest collectibles. Dec. 30-31 and Jan. 2 at Rock Financial Showplace 46100 Grand River Novi (734) 455 2210.

THEATER - COLLEGE

Tennessee Williams

The Hilberry Theatre presents *Sweet Bird of Youth* runs through Jan. 28. \$15-28. 4743 Cass at Hancock (313) 577 2972 or www.hilberry.com

Pinocchio

Eastern Michigan University Theatre presents contemporary adaptation of *Pinocchio* 7 p.m. Dec. 9 and 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Dec. 10. \$15 (734) 487 1221.

THEATER - COMMUNITY

Clarkston

Professional puppeteer Nancy Penrose presents *Little Red* based on the traditional tale of *Little Red Riding Hood* 2 and 4 p.m. Saturday Dec. 10 at The Depot Theater 4861 White Lake Rd. Clarkston \$6. Visit www.clarkstonvillageplayers.org

Farmington

The Farmington Players Community Theater presents *Comic Potential* a futuristic comedy about a screenwriter who gets more than he bargains for when he falls in love with his robotic leading lady. Shows are at 8 p.m. Dec. 8-9, 10. Tickets \$13. Call (248) 553 2955 or visit www.farmingtonplayers.org for more information. Located at 32332 W. 12 Mile Rd. Farmington Hills.

Northville

Pinocchio performances at 2:30 p.m. Dec. 11, 17, 18, 26, 31 and Jan. 7, 8, 14, 15, 21 and 22 at historic Marquis Theatre 135 E. Main \$7-\$50 (248) 349 8110.

THEATER - PROFESSIONAL

Purple Rose Theatre

Tennessee Williams *The Glass Menagerie* through Dec. 18. 137 Park Chelsea \$25-\$35. Call (734) 433 7673 or visit www.purpleosetheatre.org

City Theatre

Altar Boyz award winning musical comedy through Dec. 18. 8 p.m. Tuesday Saturday 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday 7:30 p.m. Sunday 1 p.m. Thursday 2301 Woodward Detroit \$22-\$50-\$45 (248) 645 6666 or visit www.ticketmaster.com

Menopause the Musical

Celebrate the longest running professional production in Detroit history at the Gem Theatre. Show times are 8 p.m. Tuesday

Saturday and also 4 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets (\$39-\$50) can be bought through the Gem Theatre box office by calling (313) 963 9800. Ticketmaster charge by phone (248) 645-6666 and online at www.ticketmaster.com

Detroit Puppet Theater

A Banana for Turtle based on several children's stories 2 p.m. Dec. 10 and 17 and Jan. 14, 21 and 28. Located at 25 E. Grand River (313) 961 7777. \$5 for children \$7 adults. puppetry workshops after each performance. \$8 per puppet brunch for grandparents 11 a.m. Dec. 11. \$10 adults \$7 children (313) 961 7777 or visit www.puppetart.org

TICKETS ON SALE

Kid Rock

8 p.m. Friday and Saturday Feb. 3 and 4 at the Joe Louis Arena. Tickets are \$39 at all Ticketmaster outlets. Call (248) 645 6666.

Lynyrd Skynyrd

Tickets on sale for Dec. 30 show at The Palace with special guests 38 Special \$37.50 reserved and \$10 general admission. Call (248) 645 6666 or visit www.Palacetickets.com. Tickets also available at The Palace Box Office and all Ticketmaster outlets.

Sister's Christmas Catechism

Coming to the Century Theatre and playing through Dec. 31. Tickets on sale now \$17-\$25-\$39-\$50 (313) 963 9800.

Rock & Roll Christmas Spectacular

WOMC's Rock & Roll Christmas Spectacular III features The Miracles, The Vogues, The Shangri-Las, The Reflections, Frankie Ford, Bette Midler Tribute from the Las Vegas Show and Charlie Thomas 8 p.m. Friday Dec. 30 at the Ford Community Performing Arts Center 15801 Michigan Ave. Dearborn. Tickets \$25-\$55. Free hors d'oeuvres and cash bar. Call (313) 943 2354 for information.

University Musical Society

127th season. Michigan League Ticket Office 911 North University Ave. Ann Arbor (800) 221 1229. All venues in Ann Arbor.

Performance Network Theatre

2005-2006 season ticket packages available now \$85-\$102. Five and six show packages. Season started in September 120 East Huron Ann Arbor (734) 663 0681 or www.performance-network.org

Meadow Brook Theatre

Single tickets now on sale for all 2005-2006 performances. Upcoming shows include *No Way to Treat a Lady*, *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* and *A Christmas Carol* (248) 377 3300 or www.mbttheatre.com

Michigan Opera Theatre

35th anniversary opera season *Desperate Divas* and DaimlerChrysler Dance Series \$23-\$113 at box office 1526 Broadway Detroit or (313) 237 7464 or www.MichiganOpera.org

Cirque du Soleil

Delirium: the first ever live arena event is Feb. 23 and 24 at the Joe Louis Arena. Tickets are \$69-\$110 and can be purchased at all Ticketmaster outlets or by calling (248) 645 6666 or by visiting www.cellardoor.com or www.olympiaentertainment.com

Sesame Street Live, Eimo's Coloring Book

Coming Feb. 9-26 at the Fox Theatre. Tickets are \$12-\$22 and can be purchased at all Ticketmaster outlets or by calling (248) 645 6666 or visit www.ticketmaster.com

Sex and The Second City

Wild spoof of dating and relationships in 21st Century coming May 16 to Meadow Brook Theatre \$26-\$36 (248) 377 3300 or visit www.mbttheatre.com

Sister, sister

'Christmas Catechism' is tongue-in-cheek show

BY NICOLE STAFFORD
STAFF WRITER

There's a nun teaching a catechism class, then suddenly a living nativity scene, and then, a mystery to solve

Sister's Christmas Catechism, which continues through Dec 31 at the Century Theatre in downtown Detroit, is like a tiny gift box artfully wrapped and full of big surprises

And everybody knows a good laugh and a few moments of stress-free joy can come as a surprise during the hectic holiday season

"It's good to go let off some steam for a couple hours. I think the holidays have become very stressful for people," said Tracy Ferrari, who plays "Sister" in the one-woman, two-act show. "And there's still enough reverence for the holidays, so it's a great way to get away and just laugh."

SISTER'S CHRISTMAS



What: *Sister's Christmas Catechism* the latest installment from the *Late Nite Catechism* stage series

When: Through Dec 31 shows at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday-Friday 2:30 p.m. Thursday 4:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday

Where: Century Theatre in the historic Gem Theatre 333 Madison Detroit

Tickets: \$34 50 39 50 call (313) 963 9800 TicketMaster at (248) 645 6666 or visit www.gemtheatre.com

The show is another installment in a series of "Catechism" productions penned by Maripat Donovan, creator of *Late Nite*

Catechism

"It's along the same lines as *Late Nite Catechism*, an adult catechism, but for Christmas," said Ferrari, who was drawn to the role because of the challenge of sustaining a one-woman show. "We're brought to the idea right away that this a Christmas-time class. I say, 'I know it's Christmas time, and we're all excited the big Christmas party is going to happen, but we have to have class before we get to the party.'"

Sounds like going back to fourth grade. But that's the idea. Before the audience knows it, they're as silly as the Sister herself and ready to partake in the story.

Like *Late Nite*, *Sister's Christmas Catechism* is audience-interactive.

"What keeps it fresh and different every night is the interaction," said Ferrari. "I have no idea what's going to happen, what people are going to say to me."

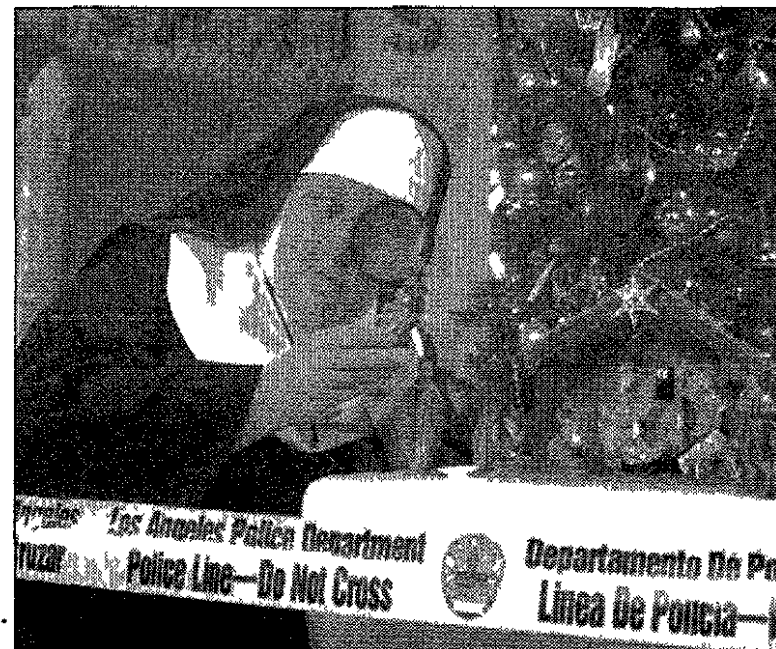


PHOTO COURTESY OF ENTERTAINMENT EVENTS

In the latest show from the *Late Nite Catechism* series, *Sister's Christmas Catechism*, Sister uses her forensic skills to determine the whereabouts of the Magi's Gold.

That's the fun part of the show for me and for the audience."

And, yes, there's a holiday sing-along, if you care to join in. Of course there are a few lighthearted theology lessons from Sister, loads of holiday decorations and a telling of the story of

Mary and Joseph

"We try not to be too heavy-handed," said Ferrari. "So much of it is improvised."

Who knows what you might learn from Sister.

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DICKENS

FROM PAGE D4

their Christmases past."

It's Ebenezer Scrooge's struggle with his own memories that troubles him during the holidays and sets the story in motion.

"People often think of Scrooge as a miser. That it's all about money. Scrooge has money, but there are a lot of things lacking in his life," explained Carpenter. "Scrooge has these recollections. Christmas brings those memories back every year and he tries to remove himself from that."

Having done so many productions of *A Christmas Carol*, Meadowbrook has developed many of its own on-stage traditions for the show, too.

"There are hundreds of them," Carpenter said, adding one of his favorites is how Scrooge counts his money

in front of the audience. As the tradition goes, Scrooge must lick his fingers and then quickly rifle through a hefty stack of dollar bills.

The theater group even has backstage traditions. For instance, when Scrooge has at last joined in the holiday celebration and is shouting "Merry Christmas" out of a window overlooking an imaginary city of London, the cast and crew gather behind the scenes and wave back to the actor.

A favorite tradition with audiences — pre-show Christmas carolers who open the play by joining the on-stage village scene from the auditorium — continues this year.

Of course, no show is exactly the same, and actors and directors can't resist conjuring up new on-stage traditions, said Carpenter, adding, "There's always a new little surprise somewhere."

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KONG

FROM PAGE D7

Kong literally was a guy in a gorilla suit who stomped among toy palm trees.

On a genuinely tragic note, the climax of the film was shifted from the Empire State Building to the then-new World Trade Center.

As if the movie didn't stink badly enough on its own, De Laurentis didn't help matters by proclaiming it was so moving that "you gonna cry when the big monkey die."

I must admit, when we did see it we did feel like crying. But it might have been the garlic pickle.

Greg Kowalski does not eat garlic pickles. He can be reached at (248) 901 2570 or by e-mail at gkowalski@hometownlife.com

Fund-raiser helps homeless dogs

BY LANA MINI
STAFF WRITER

In New Orleans they needed loving hands to rescue them from intense heat, dirty waters and lack of food

In Michigan, they need loving hands to give them homes — and to build a shelter for these dogs rescued from Hurricane Katrina to protect them from the cold while they wait

The Studio 4 Club in Ann Arbor will host a dinner benefit Monday, Dec 12, for rescued dogs who are now living at Sasha Farm — the largest farm animal sanctuary in the Midwest

Vegetarian cuisine will be provided by Shalimar Restaurant. Sasha Farm needs to build a bigger barn that will cost an estimated \$10,000 to shelter dogs from the cold. Other dogs need help, too. One needs hip surgery, 21 puppies and several adult



KATRINA ANIMALS IN MICHIGAN

What: A benefit to build a shelter for warmth at Ann Arbor's Sasha Farm to house dogs rescued from Hurricane Katrina

Event: Dinner and dancing party with vegetarian cooking by Chef Jeet Reen of Shalimar Restaurant DJ and dancing throughout the night

Where: Studio 4 Club 314 S Fourth Avenue Ann Arbor

When: 7 p.m. Monday Dec 12

Cost: \$100 per person (or \$20 after 10 p.m.)

Other ways to help: Foster homes are needed

Reservations and information: (734) 428 9617 or www.sashafarm.org e-mail benefit@sashafarm.org

dogs need a warm place to sleep. Sasha Farm primarily houses rescued cows, pigs, burros, horses, geese, goats and sheep, but owner Dorothy Davies and volunteers decided to offer a hand

to many homeless dogs from Katrina. She and a volunteer drove to Louisiana and Mississippi twice to rescue dozens of purebreds and mixed breeds.

One dog, who was stuck on a roof with another, was so happy to see rescuers that he jumped into their arms — breaking his leg during the fall.

Then he refused to move until the second dog was retrieved from the roof.

At Sasha Farm the dogs received medical care after they spent months wandering through hurricane debris and contaminated waters in search of food and shelter. The animals are safer now, but things are getting hard at Sasha Farm.

"It's a beautiful snowy winter day," Davies said.

"The pigs are rooting around in the snow, the horses have a coat of white, but the dogs seem upset. Not all the dogs, just those from Louisiana and Mississippi. This cold and snow business is very new to them and I don't

think they like it." While weather was still warm Davies first made the trip to New Orleans, during the height of breaking news of Katrina. She knew the desperate situation of the animals. Help was needed immediately.

Back in Michigan many said they would foster or adopt. Some did. But unfortunately, perhaps because of holiday distractions, not as many fosters or new homes have been found.

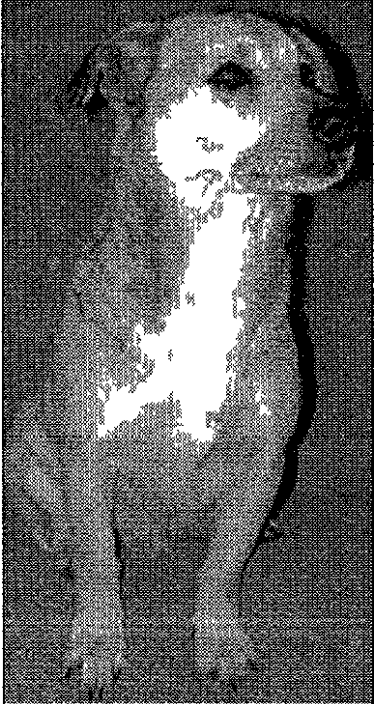
Three of the dogs were reunited with their original owners in October.

And 26 are in foster or adopted. But still many more at Sasha Farm need warmth.

"It's getting cold and we need to provide housing for these dogs," Davies said.

It is hoped the animals will be adopted, but first they need to be safe from freezing temperatures.

If you can't attend the dinner event, you can help this holiday by adopting a dog left homeless by Katrina.



Sasha Farm needs foster homes for rescued Hurricane Katrina dogs. The group is hosting a dinner benefit to raise money to build a housing unit to keep the animals warm this winter.

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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday December 8 2005 • (***) D13

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Call your local theatre for showings for this week. Check listings below for phone numbers and websites

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Aeon Flux (PG-13)

2:05 pm | 01:20 pm | 02:30 pm | 03:45 pm | 04:50 pm | 06:05 pm | 07:15 pm | 08:25 pm | 09:35 pm

Bee Season (PG-13)

2:30 pm | 06:25 pm
Capote (R)
03:35 pm | 09:20 pm

Chicken Little (G)

1:40 am | 0:50 pm | 04:00 pm | 06:30 pm | 08:40 pm

Chicken Little in Disney Digital 3-D (G)

12:35 pm | 02:55 pm | 05:10 pm | 07:30 pm | 09:40 pm

Derailed (R)

11:25 am | 02:00 pm | 04:45 pm | 07:40 pm | 10:15 pm

Get Rich or Die Tryin' (R)

01:35 pm | 04:20 pm | 07:05 pm | 09:50 pm

Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13)

1:30 am | 2:00 pm | 12:45 pm | 01:30 pm | 02:10 pm | 02:50 pm | 03:30 pm | 04:15 pm | 05:00 pm | 05:40 pm | 07:00 pm | 07:45 pm | 08:30 pm | 09:10 pm | 10:30 pm

In the Mix (PG-13)

11:55 am | 02:25 pm | 04:55 pm | 06:20 pm | 07:25 pm | 08:50 pm | 10:00 pm

Jarhead (R)

2:40 pm | 03:40 pm | 06:45 pm | 09:45 pm

Just Friends (PG-13)

2:20 pm | 03:05 pm | 05:30 pm | 07:50 pm | 09:10 pm

Pride and Prejudice (PG)

12:55 pm | 03:55 pm | 06:55 pm | 09:55 pm

Rent (PG-13)

1:30 am | 01:00 pm | 02:40 pm | 04:05 pm | 06:00 pm | 07:20 pm | 09:00 pm | 10:35 pm

Saw II (R)

01:05 pm | 03:25 pm | 05:45 pm | 08:20 pm | 04:40 pm

The Ice Harvest (R)

2:50 pm | 03:20 pm | 05:50 pm | 08:10 pm | 10:25 pm

Walk the Line (PG-13)

12:10 pm | 01:10 pm | 03:00 pm | 04:30 pm | 06:50 pm | 07:35 pm | 09:15 pm | 04:45 pm

Yours Mine and Ours (PG)

1:50 am | 12:30 pm | 02:20 pm | 03:00 pm | 04:40 pm | 05:20 pm | 07:10 pm | 08:00 pm | 09:30 pm | 10:20 pm

Zathura (PG)

01:40 pm | 04:10 pm | 06:40 pm | 09:05 pm

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Aeon Flux (PG-13)

1:50 am | 02:00 pm | 04:35 pm | 07:30 pm | 09:50 pm

Chicken Little (G)

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Derailed (R)

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Get Rich or Die Tryin' (R)

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Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13)

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Just Friends (PG-13)

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Pride and Prejudice (PG)

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Rent (PG-13)

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Saw II (R)

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The Ice Harvest (R)

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Walk the Line (PG-13)

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Yours Mine and Ours (PG)

01:40 pm | 04:20 pm | 06:50 pm | 09:20 pm

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Chicken Little (G)

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Derailed (R)

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Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13)

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Just Friends (PG-13)

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Pride and Prejudice (PG)

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Rent (PG-13)

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Walk the Line (PG-13)

1:55 am | 03:00 pm | 06:00 pm | 09:05 pm

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12:00 pm | 01:10 pm | 02:30 pm | 03:30 pm | 04:50 pm | 06:10 pm | 07:10 pm | 08:30 pm | 09:30 pm

Chicken Little (G)

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Derailed (R)

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Get Rich or Die Tryin' (R)

12:40 pm | 03:50 pm | 06:00 pm | 07:03 pm | 08:50 pm | 09:50 pm

Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13)

2:00 pm | 01:00 pm | 02:00 pm | 02:40 pm | 03:20 pm | 04:20 pm | 05:20 pm | 06:40 pm | 07:40 pm | 08:40 pm | 10:00 pm

In the Mix (PG-13)

02:10 pm | 04:30 pm | 06:50 pm | 07:50 pm | 09:10 pm | 10:15 pm

Jarhead (R)

06:50 pm | 09:40 pm

Just Friends (PG-13)

01:45 pm | 04:15 pm | 06:45 pm | 09:50 pm

Rent (PG-13)

12:05 pm | 2:50 pm | 03:10 pm | 04:00 pm | 06:20 pm | 07:20 pm | 09:20 pm | 10:10 pm

Saw II (R)

03:00 pm | 05:30 pm | 08:00 pm | 10:25 pm

The Ice Harvest (R)

02:20 pm | 05:40 pm | 08:10 pm | 10:30 pm

Walk the Line (PG-13)

12:30 pm | 03:25 pm | 06:25 pm | 09:25 pm

Yours Mine and Ours (PG)

12:20 pm | 0:20 pm | 02:50 pm | 03:40 pm | 05:10 pm | 06:05 pm | 07:30 pm | 08:20 pm | 09:45 pm

Zathura (PG)

01:30 pm | 04:00 pm

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12 08 05

Aeon Flux (PG-13)

10 am | 2:20 pm | 0:40 pm | 02:55 pm | 04:10 pm | 05:25 pm | 06:40 pm | 07:55 pm | 09:10 pm | 10:25 pm

Chicken Little (G)

2:00 pm | 0:20 pm | 02:30 pm | 03:40 pm | 04:50 pm | 06:00 pm | 08:10 pm | 10:50 pm

Derailed (R)

2:50 pm | 02:50 pm | 05:30 pm | 08:05 pm | 1:00 pm

Get Rich or Die Tryin' (R)

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Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13)

11:55 am | 12:40 pm | 0:30 pm | 02:05 pm | 02:40 pm | 03:35 pm | 04:20 pm | 05:10 pm | 06:10 pm | 07:20 pm | 08:00 pm | 08:50 pm | 09:40 pm | 10:55 pm

In the Mix (PG-13)

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Jarhead (R)

01:00 pm | 04:05 pm | 07:00 pm | 10:00 pm

Just Friends (PG-13)

2:50 am | 01:45 pm | 04:50 pm | 06:55 pm | 09:20 pm

Rent (PG-13)

2:30 pm | 03:50 pm | 06:20 pm | 07:30 pm | 09:30 pm | 10:50 pm

Saw II (R)

01:10 pm | 03:30 pm | 05:40 pm | 07:50 pm | 10:05 pm

The Ice Harvest (R)

1:50 am | 02:05 pm | 04:35 pm | 07:00 pm | 09:25 pm

The Legend of Zorro (PG)

07:40 pm | 0:35 pm

Walk the Line (PG-13)

11:40 am | 03:05 pm | 06:30 pm | 09:35 pm

Yours Mine and Ours (PG)

2:00 pm | 02:20 pm | 04:30 pm | 06:50 pm | 09:00 pm

Zathura (PG)

11:35 am | 02:25 pm | 05:00 pm

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Motown-inspired concert heads to Motor City

Celebrate the music of 1960s Detroit courtesy of Opus 21

MOTOWN REVISED

Music

What: Opus 21 an ensemble of jazz and classical musicians performs newly commissioned works inspired by Motown
When: 8 p.m. Friday Dec 9
Where: Max M Fisher Music Center 3711 Woodward Detroit (in the Music Box)
Tickets: \$25 and for students with ID \$5 call (313) 576 5111 or visit www.detroitssymphony.com

The unique ensemble of jazz and classical musicians is bringing its New York show of Motown inspired works to the Motor City

Opus 21 takes the stage Dec



PHOTO COURTESY OF OPUS 21

Opus 21 is an eight member ensemble of classical and jazz musicians that seeks to combine musical genres and backgrounds

and a performance by Motown legend and original Funk Brothers member Joe Hunter

Opus 21 has eight members and seeks to combine musical genres and backgrounds

For each Motown-inspired work the commissioned composers wrote an instrumental concert piece in his or her own style keeping the influence of Motown and decade in mind

Works by Scott McAllister and Frank Zappa are also slated for performance at the concert which will be followed by a discussion with the commissioned composers and musicians

Nicole Stafford

9 at the Max M Music Center in downtown Detroit
 The performance features seven newly commissioned works inspired by Motown

Local songwriter is 'all about the melody'

BY STEPHANIE TARDY
 STAFF WRITER

SUNIL SAWANI
 Tenille

If we learned anything this year from Clap Your Hands Say Yeah, I mean besides that long band names are hard to remember it's that self-recorded and distributed records can still take you a long way Enter Troy resident Sunil Sawani, self-described as 'all about the melody,' and his self-released five song EP Recorded with members of the now-defunct Tenille, *Tenille* (get it?) is filled with quirky indie pop cleverness and, well, melody The lyrical sense/no sense metaphors will remind

Review

you of Stephen Malkmus

In fact the most (un)specific way to describe this music is that it sort of fits in that Pavement/Mountain Goats/Guv'nor bedroom pop category

The verdict on the tracks While everyone enjoys the bouncy wordplay of *Big Arm* there is something about *Fragments* that I think makes it the album's strongest track Maybe it's because he sings about folding laundry but most likely it's the melody Which Sunil is all about

You can purchase the album and follow Sunil's musical adventures* at www.sunilsawani.com

Sunil Sawani plays Wednesday Dec 14 at Club Bart with Great Lakes Myth Society

*Hear songs from Sawani's 2005 Song of the Month project as well show recordings and other goodies

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