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OBSERVER LIFE - SECTION C



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Parents ask: Where did hoop money go?

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Did the former longtime president of the Plymouth Canton Junior Basketball Association run a fast-break last spring with registration fees he had collected for a spring high school league?

That's the \$10,000 question a group of Plymouth and Canton parents would like to ask Al Flower, who oversaw the PCJBA for close to 30 years

However, Flower has been difficult to contact since he collected their \$115 entry fees in February 2005. The league was scheduled to start last April and run through early June. However, no league games were ever played and, according to parents, not one dollar has been refunded.

In an interview with the *Observer* in August, Flower said the league never got off the ground due to a combination of factors, including lack of interest and personal problems he had encountered. Refunds would be

forthcoming, he added.

Six months later, parents say, nothing has changed.

Since August, Flower's phone number has been disconnected, and attempts to reach him have been unsuccessful. At least two parents of players who registered for the league have filed complaints against Flower with the Plymouth Township Police Department.

"My son told me that some of the boys he knows paid the \$115 from their own savings," said Kit

McGugan, a former PCJBA coach. "I also heard that one of the other coaches paid some of the other players back — over \$400 — out of his own pocket."

"Al put his heart and soul into the league for a very long time. Al was the league. He gave so much of his time and energy," McGugan added. "He was essentially at every game, checking on everything. He ran things like a compassionate drill sergeant — he was stern, but fair with the kids and adults."

In the August interview, Flower said approximately 30 kids had signed up for the league, but McGugan estimated the number to be much higher.

"Al told me he had close to a full league a few weeks before everything came crashing down," McGugan said. "Based on how many kids are usually in the league and on the number of people I've talked to who have lost money, I'd say there were 100 kids —"

PLEASE SEE MONEY, A5

'Gun' used in heist turns up

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

Plymouth police believe they have the gun used in the Feb. 4 late-night robbery of the Hungry Howie's Pizza on Main Street.

After putting out flyers asking residents to search their backyards for a possible weapon, a realistic-looking toy gun was found in the backyard of a home in the 600 block of Ross, the same location where a ski mask and hat were found shortly after the robbery.

"The gun was recovered Thursday afternoon," Officer Al Cox said. "It's been in the rain and snow, so it will be difficult to get prints. But we'll give it a shot."

Cox described the gun as an air soft pellet gun, which shoots rubber pellets that are mostly harmless.

"But it looks like and has the mechanical operation like a real handgun," Cox said. "It's designed to look like a real handgun."

Police arrested one man on unrelated charges and consider him a suspect in the robbery in which a ski-masked bandit entered the rear door of the pizza establishment and demanded cash. Police say employees saw the black grip of a handgun sticking out of the bandit's jacket pocket, the same color as the grip of the toy gun that was found.

Anyone with information about the robbery should contact the Plymouth police detective bureau at (734) 453-1234, ext. 208.



Collin Fowler, Colin McNally and Claire Forfinski count some of the \$4,000 worth of quarters Our Lady of Good Counsel students collected in their fund-raising drive to feed the hungry worldwide.

Helping out, a quarter at a time

Students learn big bucks aren't only way to help

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

Sometimes a little effort can lead to big results, and students at Our Lady of Good Counsel school in Plymouth learned that valuable lesson while helping to feed starving children throughout the

world. To get their attention, each student received a tube of M&M candies for their enjoyment. However, instead of throwing away the empty tube, students were asked to fill them with quarters, with the proceeds to be sent to Feed My Starving Children, which pro-

duces ready-to-boil meals for starving children worldwide. "They learned that it doesn't take \$100 bills, but quarters can do something to make a difference," said Colleen Fowler of Plymouth, who organized the fund-raising.



Student Mary Kate McNally goes through the candy containers.

PLEASE SEE STUDENTS, A5

State cops nab township man in child porn sting

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

A 29-year-old Plymouth Township man was lodged in the Wayne County Jail Friday, charged with four counts of possession of child sexually abusive images.

Christopher Twitchell was arrested after an anonymous tip led Michigan State Police to his door, according to Sgt. Michael Shaw of the MSP Metro South Post in Taylor. The tip came in

December. "We made contact with him the first week of January," Shaw said. "He was cooperative, he allowed us to seize his computer."

State police seized four computer discs Shaw said contained more than 1,000 images of child pornography. After Twitchell allowed troopers to search his home, police seized the computers and related materials.

Shaw said that degree of cooperation isn't unusual in cases where police

have been tipped off. "We just knocked on his door and asked if we could see his computer," Shaw said. "Once we find them, most (suspects) are pretty cooperative."

State police turned the case over to Wayne County prosecutors, who arraigned Twitchell in 35th District Court Friday. Bail was set at \$100,000, and Twitchell was taken to Wayne County Jail. His preliminary exam is scheduled for March 3, back in 35th District Court.

Field getting crowded for House seat

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

The 20th State House seat being vacated at the end of the year by term-limited Rep. John Stewart (R-Plymouth Township) is drawing plenty of early interest.

At least four Republican candidates have publicly expressed interest in representing the 20th House District, with one Democrat already filing for the August primary.

Beth Stewart, wife of the current representative, entered the Republican primary by filing the \$100 fee with the Wayne County clerk's office Jan. 13. Republicans who have announced they will take on Stewart include Plymouth Mayor Pro Tem Phil Pursell and Don Schmettler of Plymouth Township. Former Plymouth Township Trustee Abe Munfakh said he's been approached about running, but hasn't made a final decision.

Beth Stewart, director of the Plymouth Historical Museum, said one of her main priorities, if elected, will be education. "We have such great schools in the Plymouth, Northville and Wayne communities and I want to maintain the level of funding," Stewart said. "That directly goes with the cultural opportunities we have in this community, and I want to see increased state support for those things."

Pursell would be following the footsteps of his father, Carl Pursell, who spent time in Lansing as a state senator from 1970-76 before a long and distinguished career as a Michigan congressman.

"I want to make it easier for businesses to operate in this state," said Pursell, who owns Main Street Auto Wash in Plymouth. "I think it's paramount we eliminate the Single Business Tax. I don't think the Legislature will deal with it until an off-election year, and I hope to be there to effect that change."

Schmettler said identity theft and early release of prisoners are top priorities on his list. "Identity theft is an easy thing to do, and there's not much of a penalty for messing up two years of someone's life," Schmettler said. "We're doing early release of prisoners because of lack of jail space, but most people don't care about how many prisoners are in a cell. Because of it, we're having to spend money to build more prisons or expand jails."

On the Democratic ticket, Plymouth-Canton Schools Trustee Joanne Lamar filed Jan. 14, and thus far is running unopposed in the August primary.

Nominating petitions for the 20th House District — which represents Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Northville, Northville Township, a strip of Canton Township along I-275 and Wayne — must be filed by 4 p.m. May 16 at the Wayne County clerk's office in Detroit.

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Coming Thursday in Filter

Oscars: Pick winners and win prizes



Croquet, anyone? AAUW presents 'Alice'

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

"I'm not a witch, I'm a queen," said Sharon Belobradich, tapping the gold crown on her head for emphasis. "That's what the kids called me today."

It's an easy mistake to make, since she has made a name for herself playing the villain - or "a stupid fellow" - in the annual Plymouth-Canton Branch of the American Association of University Women children's play.

This year is no different. She may be decked out as a queen, but she's the Red Queen who is forever yelling "off with their heads" in the group's presentation of *Alice in Wonderland*.

For 47 years, the organization has been presenting children's theater productions, taking classics like *Pinochio*, *Snow White* and *Alice in Wonderland* and crafting hourlong "AAUW versions."

This year's installment will be presented at 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday, March 9-10, and 10 a.m., 1 and 3 p.m. Saturday, March 11, at Garden City High School's O'Leary Auditorium.

"We tried to lengthen and add to Alice, we have additional commentary from the storyteller and added three flowers who sing," said Mickey Edell, who is sharing directing duties with Pam Dean. "We've added more audience participation because the adults as well as the kids enjoy it."

Preparation for this year's production began last summer when the script was updated. Tryouts were held in October. The twice-a-week rehearsals began last month.

"We try to get as many members involved as possible," said Dean. "Some make all the costumes, others take care of the house and provid-

ing lunch. There are some members who don't like to be on stage, but we need them for their expertise."

"We yank in everybody we can to help," added Edell. Belobradich can relate. While keeping her crown in place, she was bending over the piano, coaching Jan Branton with the music. She started out doing that 35 years ago, but five years in found her niche on stage, playing such dastardly roles as Captain Hook in *Peter Pan*, the Queen in *Cinderella* and the Giant in *Jack and the Beanstalk* or as the brainless Scarecrow in *The Wizard of Oz*.

"I couldn't be Alice, I have to be someone who's stupid with no brains or mean," said the retired first-grade teacher. "I don't know how to be nice."

Members all say that it's the camaraderie that makes doing the play so much fun, but it's the reaction of the kids that makes it extra special. Scenes are written to put the characters in the audience, and when the play is over, they're in the lobby to meet and greet the audience.

"We have a lot of members of the audience who come back every year," said Edell. "They'll go through the line and tell you you did this last year, you did this in this play. It's a combination of doing something for the community and celebrating the arts."

The oldest member of the cast is Sylvia Rozian, who is doing a reprise of her very first role. She's the caterpillar Melissa Uhl is the youngest member and has been involved in AAUW plays for 35 years plus.

"I was here in womb," said Uhl, who is following in her mother's footsteps.

Another mother-daughter pairing is stage manager Jan Carney and daughter Trisha, who plays Tweedie Dee.



Becky Copenhaver of Canton will play the White Rabbit in the Plymouth-Canton AAUW's version of 'Alice in Wonderland'

PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



The Mad Hatter is played AAUW member Melissa Uhl of Plymouth

follow, said Edell. "There are only two activities they need to do to complete it."

Tickets are priced at \$6 and are available at The Book Cellar & Cafe, 840 W Ann Arbor Trail in Plymouth, and at Fanatic U at 30409 Ford in Garden City. They're also available at the door.

School ticket sales have ended in the Plymouth-Canton district, however, Garden City students can buy tickets Tuesday, Feb. 21, through Friday, March 10, at their local school.

It's amazing how it comes together, said Edell, watching a rehearsal that was minus an ailing Alice. As a director, you get nervous the week of the play because it's chaotic.

"But after the first performance you say who are these people and where did they come from?" added Dean. "It all comes together perfectly."

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"I'm so glad to see mothers passing the commitment to AAUW on to their daughters," Edell said.

For a second year, the AAUW is offering a program after the 10 a.m. show Saturday with activities to help Girl Scouts and Brownies earn their theater badges. Last year, 45 Scouts turned out to try out makeup and get up on stage.

"We have a whole plan we

Judge gives serial thief 5-15 years in prison

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Serial bank robber Russell A. Rasmussen, accused of robbing a Westland bank, will spend five to 15 years in prison.

Rasmussen, 28, learned his fate just this month after pleading guilty in Wayne County Circuit Court to a bank robbery charge.

Rasmussen was suspected of bank robberies in several communities, including a Nov. 1 incident at the Comerica branch on Wayne Road south of Warren.

He entered the bank and passed a note to a teller indicating a holdup, police Sgt. Chris Benson said. The note warned the employee to hand over money "and no one will get hurt, although Rasmussen didn't actually reveal a gun," Benson said.

Rasmussen previously was imprisoned for such charges as unarmed robbery, fleeing from police and auto theft. He had been paroled last April and had less than a year of freedom before being returned to prison.

Rasmussen was charged in Westland in November, within days of the Comerica robbery. His arrest came after a Plymouth Township woman told authorities that he had borrowed her car and didn't return it.

Dearborn Heights police found the woman's car and turned it over to her. In turn, she found a note that, according to authorities, looked like notes that Rasmussen had used in bank robberies.

He pleaded guilty and received a five to 15 year sentence, meaning that his earliest possible release date will be in February 2011.

If he had decided to proceed with a trial and if he had been convicted, he could have faced penalties ranging up to life in prison. He had been jailed on a \$1 million bond for the Westland robbery, alone.

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OPEN SATURDAYS

STUDENTS

FROM PAGE A1

effort "The candy was the eye-catcher, but they learned to realize the money went to help children their own age"

The idea was for students to perform acts of kindness for donations of quarters to fill the tubes, which — when completely filled — netted \$14 That's enough to feed 93 children around the world One student opened a hot chocolate stand on the sidewalk during the cold weather Others performed easier, but nonetheless equally rewarding, tasks

"I walked the dog for my aunt and uncle and got a handful of quarters," said Bailey Fowler, 10 "I wanted to help people who don't have as much food and I have"

Ten-year-old Cole Forfinski of Plymouth made self-sacrifices in helping hungry children

"I took quarters from what I already had and filled it the first day," said Cole "I was giving my own money for people who don't have as much It's sad to see how people are being mistreated, and have a lot less than we do"

In the end, students collected 16,000 quarters — or \$4,000 — for Feed My Starving Children, resulting in 25,000 individual meals

OLGC Principal Kay Reilly said the concept helped her students learn about Christian service

"It's a fundamental concept in our school mission and philosophy to ingram the kids with the idea of service and caring for our fellow human beings," said Reilly "We have fairly privileged kids around here, and it's really important for them to grow up with a sense they need to give back to the world"

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MONEY

FROM PAGE A1

minimum — who signed up"

"I wrote my check on Feb 12 and it was cashed that day," said Joanne Kind, whose son, Rory, was registered to play in the troubled league "I think people would have felt a lot better about it if he would have just been up front with us"

Several parents of players who had paid and registered to play in the league said Flower never returned phone calls they made to him last spring "A couple of weeks after the league was supposed to start, I called Al because I hadn't heard anything," said Canton resident Bill Blackerby, whose son, Zack, was registered to play in the league "I left at least six to eight messages with Al, but he never returned my calls It's a pretty disappointing situation"

"Al (collected) the money and there was no basketball played," said Plymouth resident Colleen Bouton, whose son was scheduled to participate in the league "Where's the money? Maybe his intentions were good at the beginning, but he's hurt a lot of people"

McGugan has been told by authorities that even filing charges against Flower doesn't guarantee anyone will get their money back

"It's hard to believe that someone could simply walk away with so much money with so little consequence," McGugan said

Individuals who wrote a check for the ill-fated league are encouraged to contact Det Dave Hayes at the Plymouth Township Police Department Hayes can be reached at (734) 354-3244

"One of the things Al always projected to the kids and to the coaches was the importance of honesty and sportsmanship," said Deborah Moilner, the mother of a longtime PCJBA participant "What kind of message is he sending to the kids (now)?"

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Blankets and health aids come to Wayne County

A cozy effort

Linus wouldn't go anywhere without his favorite blanket That's the image behind a donation effort coordinated by sewing machine dealers across the country

Sandy's Sew & Vac, located at 28790 Plymouth Road in Livonia is one business sponsoring Project Linus National Make A Blanket Day

On Saturday, Feb 18, nearly 230 Janome America sewing machine dealers across the country will gather donations

WHAT'S IN STORE

of thousands of new, handmade blankets to share with for those in need of security, warmth and comfort

Project Linus is a non-profit organization that distributes the blankets to children in need throughout the United States

Sandy's Sew & Vac will host blanket-making workshops and serve as a drop-off point for finished blankets

Following the community-wide effort, Project Linus representatives will distribute the blankets to children's hospitals, fire departments and family service organizations

Participants can enter a raffle to win a Janome computerized sewing machine

Naturally speaking

Nature's choice Nutritional Educational Center recently opened its doors in Plymouth More than a health store, the business is run by mother-daughter duo Georgia Schlee and Heidi Place They sell Nature's Sunshine herbal and

homeopathic products, as well as an exclusive skin care line by Elna

The store sells water distillers air purifiers and soon-to-come an assortment of soy candles Shoppers will find an assortment of herbal, caffeine free coffee and teas

What truly sets Nature's Choice apart from other health stores are the services, and soon classes, offered by Schlee She is a natural health professional who searches for the root causes of dysfunction and illness, rather than the symp-

toms, Place said Nature's Choice is open from 10 a.m to 5 p.m Tuesday and Wednesdays, 10 a.m to 8 p.m Thursdays and Fridays, and 10 a.m to 5 p.m Saturdays The business is at 942 Ann Arbor Trail in Plymouth For more information, call (734) 459-7773

Stephanie Angelyn Casola writes about new and changing businesses for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers E mail tips on your new favorite Wayne County shop to scasola@hometownlife.com or call (734) 953 2054

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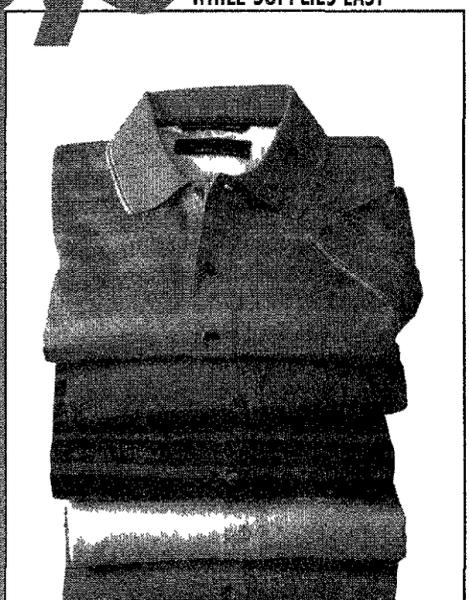
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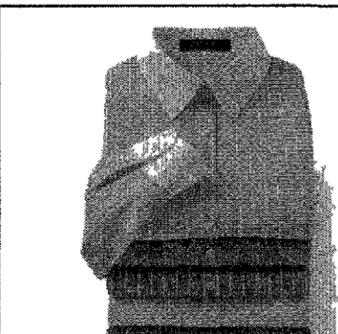
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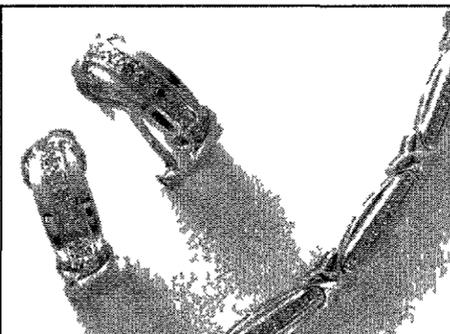
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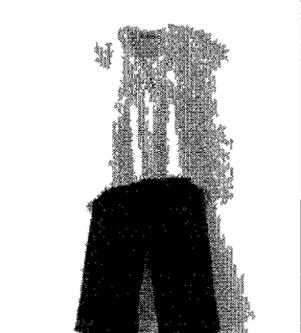
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Bringing Spanish to life

Restaurant allows students to put skills to the test

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

New Morning School Spanish teacher Socorro Truchan believes hands on learning beats memorizing books any day

That's why Truchan's students were in the school's kitchen and cafeteria Tuesday, preparing food and taking orders from customers — all in Spanish

It was part of a Valentine's Day exercise designed to put students in situations that make the language more relevant to every-day life

"We have fun with hands-on experiences," said Truchan, a native of Sonora, Mexico "If you can make a connection that's meaningful to you, it sticks with you for a lifetime In this exercise, they're living it and they'll remember the Spanish that way

Truchan's seventh- and

eighth-grade students each played a different role — *restaurante* manager, host, cashier, waiter, cook and beverage server. Menus were made by the students and written in Spanish. Guests were able to choose from Spanish fare such as chips and salsa, Mexican rice and enchiladas. The restaurant also threw in some American choices.

The students spoke only Spanish, using phrases and narrative they've learned in class

"We learn a lot more this way," said Evan Rager, a 13-year-old eighth-grader. "It's good practice. Actually speaking the Spanish is just great."

Truchan chose to operate the Spanish restaurant — which the kids named Sparky McMcMc's — because it fits New Morning School's philosophy that students learn best by doing. School officials say recent brain research says information is more likely to be stored in long-term memory if there is sense and meaning attached to the new skill.

Earlier in the year, the school operated a Spanish market in which the students had to deal with people actually doing the shopping and make payments, all while speaking only in Spanish," said Elaine Yagiela, the school's director.

Socorro has brought Spanish to life, Yagiela said. And parents have helped a lot. Parents are very important to New Morning School.

Parents, along with other students, teachers and community guests, made up the customer list for Sparky McMcMc's Tuesday. And they loved it.

It's awesome, said Kristi Partain, whose 12-year-old daughter, Samantha, served as the assistant manager. It helps them practice their skills in real-life situations.



New Morning School students Carrie Brunt and Nimi Dayana prepare food for the school's Spanish luncheon Tuesday. Spanish students prepared menus in Spanish, and spoke Spanish while taking orders and serving the food.

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American Dream has bypassed Michigan's working class

There's an old saying that goes you can't pick your family or your neighbors, only your friends. In my case, I dearly love (most of) my family members and I get along well enough with my neighbors.

But from all that I've been reading and listening to recently about the sad state of affairs throughout Michigan, it seems my (extended) family is precisely the type of folks who have no future here.

A little background
My maternal family tree can be traced back to County Monaghan, Ireland, to one Francis McElmeel, who was born in the early 1800s. Like many other people in this area, I still have countless relatives in the mother country, in my case the Emerald Isle.



Bill Emerick

My maternal grandparents emigrated to the U.S. in the 1920s, my grandfather as a young adult on his own, my grandmother as a teenager with her parents. They eventually made their way to the Detroit area, where they met and were married in 1936 at St. Leo's Catholic Church in the city.

Over the years, they moved to Lincoln Park, where they raised 13 children with my grandfather the sole breadwinner of the family, he retired in 1973 after working 43 years for Great Lakes Steel in Ecorse. He kept his grandchildren amazed in his later years by showing off his "souvenir" of working in the steel mills — a right hand missing the ring and pinkie fingers.

The very idea that a family of 13 children could be financed today with one salary is beyond the pale — unless, of course, your income is that of a professional athlete or corporate executive. Yet that's what my grandparents did, even sending most of their children to parochial schools. They were the very embodiment of hard work until the day(s) they died — my grandfather in 1992, my grandmother in 2000.

Their children have grown into adulthood, middle age and now their twilight years, themselves marrying and having children. That next generation, while spread from early childhood to approaching 50, has further multiplied and spread the family genes to succeeding generations. Amazingly enough, virtually every descendent from that union some 70 years ago still lives in the metro area, including myself, my wife and our two children. When you count all the various in-laws added to the brood over the years, the numbers are quite staggering.

Yet to hear Gov. Jennifer Granholm and other elected officials talk, my family has no role to play in the future of Michigan — despite the rather large role we played in its history. Why?

Because we are a family of typical Michigan stock. Many of my uncles served in the U.S. Army (Vietnam era), most didn't attend college. In fact, although the numbers have increased with each generation, only a handful of my relatives have any post-secondary schooling.

Instead, the vast majority found honest work in the automobile industry — more than I can count. Those that didn't labored elsewhere, in construction work, as county or city employees, as service workers and many other essential jobs that have provided them a good, solid living — the very essence of our state's middle class.

We gather often as a group, to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, weddings and, regrettably, funerals. We go to Red Wings games, to Tigers games, to concerts at Cobo Arena and Pine Knob (take that, DTE). We head outdoors to places like Hines Park and Erie Metropark. Some of us own boats or snowmobiles that get dragged up North whenever the opportunity arises.

Truth be told, as a group we probably drink too much, smoke too much and (on occasion) eat too much. I have no doubt that we've contributed our fair share to Michigan's ongoing obesity problem.

In short, ours is a story that could be retold by any one of thousands of Michigan families, people who came to this state in search of a better life than they left behind. For the most part, we found it and have been able to give the next generation a better foundation in the process.

But is this where it stops? Have we reached the point where Michigan offers no promise to those willing to work hard and sacrifice to earn a living? Let's face it — we aren't all going to be engineers or biomedical technicians or life sciences specialists, just as most of our ancestors weren't those things.

I fear for my children's future in this area, where we've been told that it will be impossible to earn an honest day's pay for an honest day's work. Those days are gone forever, and they're not coming back. What about all the people who have in the past and continue to engage in the hum-drum of blue-collar work?

Sure, I want my children to go to college. In fact, they're probably sick of listening to me recite the same mantra every day — your education is your ticket in life. But, just as with any big game or red-hot concert, not everyone is going to be able to acquire a ticket.

I've been fortunate enough to have witnessed and partaken in the classic American dream. Some might tell me it's time to wake up. That's fine — because I'm afraid the nightmare is just around the corner.

Bill Emerick is a copy editor for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. He welcomes comments at bemerick@hometownlife.com.

Patterson's proposal could spur needed tax reform

If there's one person in Michigan politics who can be depended on to raise a rumpus, often at just the right time, it's Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson. He did it again — big time — last week in his State of the County speech.

He announced he'd lead a statewide drive to repeal the Single Business Tax, and he's planning to raise \$800,000 in pledges from businesses and individuals to fund a petition drive to put the issue on this November's ballot.

Michigan's main business tax, the SBT, is essentially a tax on payroll. But it is complex, difficult to administer and stands out like a sore thumb in comparison with business taxes in other states. According to state government revenue forecasts for 2006, the SBT yields \$1.8 billion in revenue for the state, representing nearly one-quarter of the state's total \$8.2 billion general fund.

Flourishing his reliably flamboyant rhetoric, Patterson called the SBT "damnable," a "job killer" and a "business killer."

"More than the global economy, the Single Business Tax is killing this state because it is killing jobs in Michigan," he said. He assailed "our friends in Lansing" for pussy-footing around the fundamental problem of Michigan's arcane tax structure. "They've introduced legislation, which quite frankly nibbles around the edges of meaningful business tax reform. We've been arguing about the impact of the Single Business Tax in this state for more than 15 years. The endless debates on this subject have produced more flatulence than a Super Bowl party at an MSU frat house."

Whew! But regardless of the rhetoric, Patterson's move does two things, both very good. First, by threatening to put a radical — and likely popular — tax cut on the ballot, he is forcing both the Legislature and Gov. Jennifer Granholm to get serious about a problem that they've been ducking for years.

Second, it puts front and center just what \$1.8 billion from the SBT buys. It's almost exactly the same amount the state spends in total for either all our colleges and universities or the entire corrections system. So if you eliminate the SBT and don't make up the revenue it produces, you have no higher education system or no jails and prisons.

Patterson's speech also sets up a magnificent sensible scenario for a way out of this morass. He hints at a way in which Michigan can simultaneously reform its out-of-date tax system and begin to resolve the chronic billion-dollar-plus structural state budget deficit.

At the same time, we could undo the damage to our economic future that's been caused by \$300 million in cuts to our universities over the past five years.

Here's how it could work.

Most importantly, anybody who knows anything about economic development would love it, as it is plain that our economic future absolutely depends on the ability of our higher education system to help us toward a knowledge-based economy.

The Legislature passes a bill repealing the SBT, which is signed by the governor. Contained in the bill is a requirement that the \$1.8 billion in lost revenue be replaced either by an increase in the state income tax or a reduction in the rate of the state sales tax, which would then be expanded to apply to both goods and services.

Voters statewide will be presented with a choice between these two on the November ballot. And the legislation contains an earmark allocating a specified percentage of the new revenue stream to our state's colleges and universities.

Business would love it. Politicians who want to be anti-tax would love it, especially since selecting which device to make up the lost revenue would be put in the hands of the people. Colleges and universities (and their students and their families, who have been forced to make up for legislative cuts in state support by increased tuition payments) would be thrilled.

Most importantly, anybody who knows anything about economic development would love it, as it is plain that our economic future absolutely depends on the ability of our higher education system to help us toward a knowledge-based economy.

I asked Tom Clay, the respected research director of the Michigan Citizen's Research Council, how the numbers worked. He estimates a 5-percent sales tax (down from the present 6-percent rate) levied on most services — excepting health care — would come close to making up the loss in income from the SBT.

When I presented this scenario to Patterson, he jumped at the idea.

"To get the Legislature and the governor to act saves me a long season of hard slogging," he told me.

"Broadening the sales tax while reducing the rate seems fair. And earmarking part of the revenue stream for higher education strengthens just the things in Michigan that will drive our future economic growth."

OK, Gov. Granholm. OK, legislators Brooks Patterson. Has hee tee up for you. Do you have the guts to do the right thing at the right time? Or will you whiff and fail us, yet again? It's your choice.

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

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DeVos: This year's governor's race is all about jobs

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

Dick DeVos said it's no surprise from talking with people he's met across the state — including those with whom he spoke to Friday in Livonia, Plymouth and Canton — there's one campaign issue the people of Michigan want the next governor to tackle the most.

"It's all about jobs, and how are we going to get Michigan back to work," said DeVos. "Seems to make sense to me that if the issues are business related, maybe it's time for somebody with a business background."

DeVos, who made his fortune heading the Amway Corp. in Grand Rapids and is the Republican candidate for governor, said in order to get Michigan back to work, the state's Single Business Tax needs to be repealed.

"It's a tax that punishes employers," said DeVos. "If employers add health care for their employees, they get

taxed on it. It's a disincentive to do what we want to do in this state and have jobs.



DeVos

"I would ask for a repeal as soon as possible, and we would work — in the meantime — to resolve how to take care of any deficit as a result," said DeVos. "We need to take that kind of bold step forward in this state. This governor said in the campaign she was going to get rid of the Small Business Tax, and it hasn't been done."

DeVos has been criticized by Granholm for failing to outline details of his economic recovery program. DeVos said not to worry, it's only February, and he's not tipping his hand early in the campaign.

"The current governor didn't issue any plans (in her last campaign) until September, that's the histo-

DeVos, who made his fortune heading the Amway Corp. in Grand Rapids and is the Republican candidate for governor, said in order to get Michigan back to work, the state's Single Business Tax needs to be repealed.

ry," said DeVos. "We'll have proposals in place well before a full and lively debate."

DeVos is also quick to fight back against accusations by Democrats that his corporation cut Michigan jobs and invested in China.

"They're lying," DeVos said straight-faced. "I had to restructure a company during a time when we also knew we had to grow the business, and entered the China market. Not one job

left the United States to go to China, not one product manufactured at our plant in China left China to come to the United States."

"The Democrats are saying one plus one equals 11," he said. "Maybe in the new math, but not in the real world."

When it comes to new math, DeVos isn't too sympathetic about the dilemma faced by many school districts throughout the state which are dipping into cash reserves that are rapidly disappearing, resulting in program cuts.

"We're 48th in the country in the amount of money that gets stuck in administration versus going into classroom delivery," said DeVos. "It's a matter of management, priority and accountability, that's why charters are such an important part of the mix. They provide a real challenge for every school to be focused on what it delivers to its students and the parents who send them there."

"A lot of them (public schools) have apparently made the decision to go into deficit spending but have they really done what they need to do to adjust their expenses to suit the reality," questioned DeVos.

Last summer, more than 10,000 supporters of education rallied at the state capitol, urging legislators to change Proposal A and its funding mechanism for local school districts. DeVos said if he's elected, the tweaking of Proposal A will not be a priority.

"I don't foresee a change in Proposal A it's working quite well, considering the circumstances," he said. "If you're going to cut back and continue to do everything you used to do to be everything to everybody, at the end of the day you're going to be nothing to nobody."

"This governor flatlined funding for education per student for the first few years," he said. "Gov. (John) Engler, a Republican gover-

nor, had 12 years of consistent increases for education. He realized it was a priority, and put his money where his mouth is."

Despite the adversities of Michigan's automotive industry, DeVos said it's up to the carmakers and suppliers to deal with the realities, not the state.

"No governor can solve the problems of the auto industry," said DeVos. "The leaders of the unions, the leaders of the companies, have got to work together to resolve those issues and make those hard choices to get those companies back on their feet."

"You're not going to diversify the economy without helping small- and medium-size business to grow," he said. "They're going to be the engines for jobs of the future."

taking up the slack and offering opportunities for those workers to get back to work."

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Schoolcraft marks Women's History Month

Schoolcraft College will mark the first day of Women's History Month with a talk by Suzanne Mallare Acton, artistic and musical director for Rackham Symphony Chorus, on Wednesday, March 1.

Acton will speak on Voices of Light. Looking at History through a Modern Multi-Media Lens. Voices of Light is a contemporary oratorio, written to accompany the 1928 silent film

masterpiece *La Passion de Jeanne d'Arc* (The Passion of Joan of Arc). She will accompany her remarks with scenes from the film.

The piece is a celebration of female spirituality and heroism, bringing to life the trial and end of life of St. Joan by giving her a voice. The text is built around a series of writings by women writers of the Middle Ages.

The talk begins at 11 a.m. in the Forum Building, room 310, from 11am-12pm. A question and answer period will follow.

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For arthritis, back pain, muscle aches and neck stiffness, use heat. Heat opens up blood vessels and augments local blood supply. The flow of blood through an inflamed area carries away chemicals irritating the area and brings in nutrients that hasten healing. Thus, heat helps.

In the same situations, there is a role for cold. What cold does is to create numbness around the irritated areas, replacing the sensation of pain with the more acceptable sense of tingling. You feel better but the underlying impairment remains unchanged. Thus, cold comforts.

In the way of applying heat, physicians are leery of electric heating pads. The heat keeps flowing and can cause a burn at the site of application. Hot water bottles and hydrocollator packs start hot and cool down, resulting in little chance of heat injury.

When applying heat or cold, 10-15 minutes at a time suffices. More does not open blood vessels further or increase the relief numbness brings.

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ATHLETES AND ASTHMA

It takes their breath away

Asthma doesn't stop P-CEP athletes from competing in the sports they love

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Plymouth's Taylor Fox was a highly skilled, physically imposing 215-pound force when he stepped onto the wrestling mat for his opening-round match in last weekend's Western Lakes Activities Association tournament

But less than 10 minutes later, his physical state had deteriorated so much that the wobbly-legged Fox had to be assisted by two teammates — one arm around each of their shoulders — to a nearby chair

As in several of Fox's matches this season, the senior had been literally floored by asthma, a relentless opponent that gains strength as the intensity of the competition deepens

"I was ahead 7-2 after the second period, but I took a nosedive in the third," remembered Fox, who was initially diagnosed last fall "By the time overtime started, I couldn't even move, and I ended up getting pinned The asthma causes a combination of things, including muscle fatigue, a tightness in my chest and it just saps all my energy

"It's been like this all year I know if I can pin my opponent in the first two periods, I'm all right But if it goes to the third period or into overtime, that's when it hits me the hardest It's frustrating because I was really looking forward to my senior year and now that it's here, I can't do anything"

HE'S NOT ALONE

Fox is one of several asthmatic student-athletes at the



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth-Canton-Salem hockey player Annie McTurner doesn't let asthma slow her down on the ice The first-year player has one goal and five assists for the high-flying Penguins this season

Plymouth-Canton Educational Park who participate in sports in spite of the energy-sapping, breath-stealing disease According to the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology, exercise-induced asthma affects up to 20 percent of highly competitive athletes

For many of these athletes, like Canton wrestler Joe Wilson, the effects of asthma don't peak until the exercise has subsided

"In most cases, I don't notice anything physically wrong until the very end of my matches," said Wilson, who has been a

PLEASE SEE ASTHMA, B3

ALL ABOUT ASTHMA

Asthma is a disease of the lungs in which the airways become blocked or narrowed, causing breathing difficulty

A chronic disease, asthma affects nearly 20 million Americans

Exercise-induced asthma can be effectively treated by doing the following:

- 1 Use a fast-acting inhaler 15 minutes prior to exercising;
- 2 Warm up for 6-10 minutes before beginning a full exercise program;
- 3 Drink plenty of fluids;
- 4 Stop exercising if symptoms arise; and
- 5 Cool down at the end of the exercise.

Several well-known athletes have asthma, including recently retired NFL running back Jerome Bettis, former NBA star Dennis Rodman, Olympic gold medalist Jackie Joyner Kersee and retired NBA great Hakeem Olajuwon.

Source: The Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America (www.aafa.org)

Sidelines

Hoop events

Canton Leisure Services will be offering a 3-on-3 basketball tournament and hoop shoot competition Saturday, Feb 25, in the Summit on the Park gymnasium Registration for the hoop shoot begins at 9 30 a m The 3-on-3 teams must be registered before 11 a m

Kids between the ages of 8 and 15 years old are eligible to compete in the hoop shoot contest, which gives competitors 60 seconds to score points from various locations of the court The Canton winners will advance to a regional competition.

The entry fee for the 3-on-3 tournament is \$45 per team Pre-registration prior to the day of the event can be completed at the Summit The tournament, which is for boys and girls who are in grades third through eighth, will begin at noon Teams are guaranteed two games and division winners will receive awards.

For more information, contact the Canton Sports Center at (734) 483-5600

Football meeting

The next meeting of the Plymouth Wildcats Football Booster Club will be held at 7 p m Tuesday, March 7, in Room 401 of Plymouth High School All parents of current and future Wildcat football players are encouraged to attend the meeting The club meets on the first Tuesday of each month.

Ice Sharks win

The Plymouth Ice Sharks Squirt B youth hockey team recently finished first in the inaugural West Michigan Cup Tournament held in Battle Creek The Ice Sharks compiled a 4-0-1 record and defeated Grosse Ile, 4-0, in the title game The Ice Sharks advanced to the final game by edging Jackson, 5-4, on William Kawsky's overtime goal.

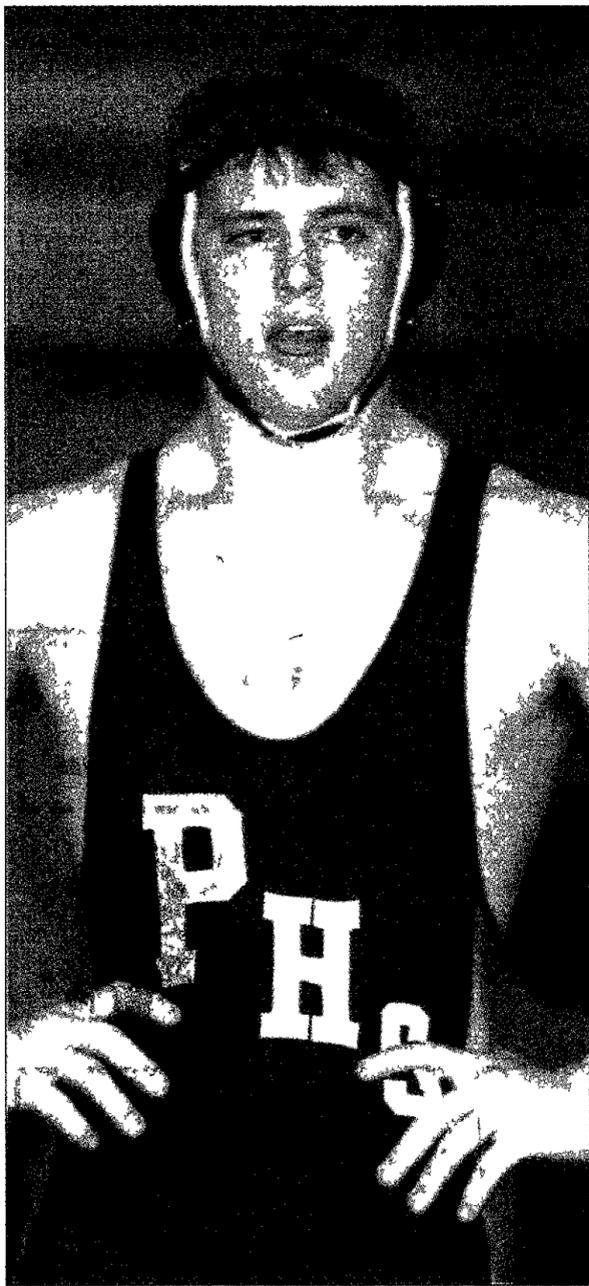
Goalie Peter Contos notched two shutouts. The team consists of Ryan Bamford, Jack Collop, Contos, Daniel Countegan, Steven Dunn, Bobby Fletcher, Justice Graves, Evan Hicks, Steven Homrich, Kawsky, Brendan McCann, Hunter Schlampp, Anthony Sloan, Ray Williams and Brandon Zack The Ice Sharks are coached by Tim Gilbert, George Dunn, Bob Fletcher and Tom Homrich The team is managed by Holly Dunn and Gina Sloan

Let us know

Have you or someone you know accomplished an athletic feat recently that is noteworthy? Or do you have an interesting sports-related hobby or job?

If so, contact Observer Sports Editor Ed Wright so he can lead the community know about it in a feature article

Contact Wright, call him at (734) 953-2108 or e-mail him at ewright@hometownlife.com.



ANDREW RUBENSTEIN

Plymouth senior wrestler Taylor Fox had to battle opponents and asthma this season The lung disease which was diagnosed last year, saps his energy during matches

Re-energized Wildcats upend Chiefs in 4

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

PREP VOLLEYBALL

Playing at full strength for the first time in over a month, Plymouth's volleyball team never looked stronger in its four-game victory over cross-campus rival Canton Wednesday night

The Wildcats, who have been plagued by injuries since the beginning of January, won 25-11, 25-17, 20-25 and 25-15, in a match played in the Chiefs' gymnasium The victory improved Plymouth's record to 29-9 overall, 6-4 in the Western Lakes Activities Association and 4-1 in the WLAA's Western Division "It was so refreshing to see the whole team work together to get the victory," said Plymouth coach Kelly McCausland "The girls seemed relaxed and energized to give it their all

"We came out strong in the first game, both offensively and defensively The third game was a little bit of a let-down as we had difficulty passing the ball Canton gained the momentum and we had a difficult time gaining it back to win the third game Before the beginning of the fourth game the girls knew what they had given up during the last game and they were determined to come back to win the fourth"

It was "Senior Night" for Canton, which honored six players who were playing their final home match Kelsey Bailey, Rachael Beaudoin, Krista Holcomb, Lisa Western, Sarah Alexander and Izabela Paszkowska

"The team played hard again, we just came up a little short," said Canton coach Kristi Drinkhahn "It was 'Senior Night,' so everybody came out ready to play, especially our back-row senior players Krista and Sarah"

Several Wildcats turned in stellar performances Brittany Hengesh (12 kills, six solo blocks and three block assists), Jeanne Moise (13 kills), Janet Hanchett (seven kills), Jackie Dorre (nine kills), Sarah Haskins (39 set assists, five block assists), Lindsay Vogelsberg (19-for-19 serve receptions and 17 digs) and Brandi Swyhart (14 digs)

Brittany was a solid force at the net for us," McCausland said "Jeanne (who was returning from a knee injury) was still not at her best, but I am looking forward to her stepping it up for the final weeks of play"

Paszowska paced the Chiefs with five kills, one solo block and three block assists Junior Emily Hoerschemeyer also played well, registering four kills

SALEM 3, NORTHVILLE 0: The Rocks clinched the WLAA Lakes Division title with a convincing 25-19, 25-17 and 25-17 sweep of the Mustangs With the win, Salem improved its record to 38-7-1 overall and 10-0 in the WLAA The Mustangs fell to 6-4 in the league

Leading the Rocks were Teresa Coppellie (12 kills and eight digs), Lauren Price (16 kills, five aces and 12 digs), Lauren Kurtz (eight kills and five block assists), and Jordan Falcuson (26 assists, eight digs and three aces)

Salem returns to action Monday when it hosts Plymouth in a WLAA cross-over match The opening serve is set for 7 p m

Chiefs win on pick-and-roll

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Whoever designed the very first pick-and-roll play decades ago would have high-fived Canton's Andre Bridges and Ryan Waidmann had he or she been at Friday's "Senior Night" game against Walled Lake Northern

With seven seconds left and the Chiefs trailing, 51-50, Bridges secured an in-bounds pass near midcourt, drove his defender toward Waidmann's pick at the free-throw line, then threaded a pass to a cutting Waidmann, who laid the ball in with 0 03 left for the winning points in Canton's 52-51 victory

A desperation three-point shot by the Knights' Alex Ropek fell two feet short and into the waiting hands of Canton's Andy Larsen as the buzzer sounded

"Coach (Jason) Waidmann deserves the credit

PLEASE SEE CHIEFS, B2



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Andre Bridges goes in for a layup during Friday night's win over Walled Lake Northern

Northville is team to beat in WLAA

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Northville will take an unbeaten record — and a huge target on its back — into next week's Western Lakes Activities Association basketball tournament

The 17-0 Mustangs, who earned the No 1 seed in the tourney thanks to their spotless 11-0 conference mark, will host eighth-seeded Walled Lake Western in Tuesday night's opener The winner of that game will take on the winner of Tuesday's Livonia Stevenson (6-5) at Livonia Franklin (6-5) game in Friday's second round Lakes Division teams host games against Western Division teams in the first round The Western Division schools will host the second-round games If both teams are from the same division, the team with the better record is the host

On the other side of the bracket, No 3 seed Canton (9-2) will travel to No 6 seed Walled Lake Northern Tuesday night to take on the Knights, who they

nipped, 52-51, on Friday The winner of that game will play the winner of the Westland John Glenn (5-6) at Walled Lake Central (10-1) match-up on Friday night

All first- and second-round games are scheduled to tip off at 7 p m

The WLAA championship game is set for Wednesday, March 1, at approximately 7 p m at Plymouth High School The third-place game is slated to begin at 5 30 p m on the same night An awards ceremony honoring the division and league champions, and the All-League team will be held between the consolation and championship games

The four teams that did not qualify for the WLAA tournament — Salem, Plymouth, Livonia Churchill and Wayne Memorial — will play each other in a round-robin format beginning Tuesday Churchill will play at Plymouth that night while Salem will travel to Wayne On Friday, Plymouth will play at Wayne and Salem will host Churchill

CHIEFS

FROM PAGE B1

for drawing up the high pick-and-roll play we used," said Canton coach Charlie Paye, moments after his team had improved its record to 13-4 overall and 9-2 in the Western Lakes Activities Association. "It looked like Dre was going to take the ball all the way to the basket, but he showed great vision when he found Ryan cutting. It was a great pass."

In case you missed Friday night's exciting showdown, you can see the same two teams square off again on Tuesday night at Walled Lake Northern in the opening round of the WLAA conference tournament.

Canton earned the third seed while the Knights (8-8 overall and 5-6 in the WLAA) are seeded sixth.

The winner of Tuesday's game will play the winner of Tuesday's Westland John Glenn-Walled Lake Central quarterfinal match-up.

"I've never coached against a team in back-to-back games

like this, so I don't know what to expect," Paye said. "Although I'm sure Northern gained some confidence from tonight's game."

Larsen, who started for the first time in over a month, led the Chiefs with 13 points and nine rebounds. Waidmann finished with 12 points and seven boards, Bridges scored eight and Neal Sharma contributed seven. Steve Paye chipped in with six points and five rebounds for the winners.

Ropek enjoyed a productive night for the Knights, racking up 19 points and six rebounds. Robert Johnson netted 11 points and Ryan Bahnmler twined 10, including a pair of fourth-quarter triples that kept Northern in the game.

The opening 20 minutes of the contest had "blow-out" written all over it.

When Larsen converted a driving lay-up with 3:58 left in the third quarter, Canton led 35-22.

Northern, however, closed the quarter with a 12-4 run and trailed just 39-34 with eight minutes to play.

"We stopped making our shots and started giving up a

lot of offensive rebounds at the other end," said Paye, referring to the Chiefs' second-half collapse. "It seemed like Northern was getting multiple shots every time down the court."

With 2:05 left, Bahnmler swished a 23-footer to knot the score at 48-48. Fifteen seconds later, Waidmann put Canton up 50-48 with a strong inside move.

A single free throw by Ropek with 1:36 to go made it 50-49. The Knights then grabbed their first lead since the opening seconds of the game with 15 seconds to go when Nick Bortz drained an eight-foot baseline jumper. Bortz had misfired on 11 of his first 12 shots.

Canton then called timeout with 10 ticks left to diagram the game-winning pick-and-roll.

The Chiefs outrebounded the Knights, 36-32. Canton hit 21-of-53 shots from the floor (39.6 percent) and 8-of-13 free throws (61.5 percent). Northern connected on 15-of-47 field goals (31.9 percent) and 19-of-28 freebies (67.8 percent).

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Canton Agape victory has special meaning for players

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

PREP BASKETBALL

Canton Agapes basketball team was playing for more than a "W" Friday night in its homecoming game against Sterling Heights Bethesda.

The Wolverines dedicated the game to the memory of the school's founder, Pastor J Earl Moore, who passed away Wednesday at the age of 81.

The inspired Wolves opened Bethesda, 81-47, to improve their record to 10-5 overall and 6-3 in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference's Red Division. The Eagles slipped to 6-9 and 5-5, respectively. Bethesda had defeated Agape a month earlier.

Agape senior forward Derek Leathers, who is the grandson of Moore, netted 20 points and 14 rebounds.

"Derek was very focused, very serious tonight," said Agape coach Keith Anletner. "You could tell he really wanted to win this one for his grandfather."

Also playing well for the winners were Ty Majeski (15 points), Mark Mullett (13 points), Devin Bottiaux (12 points and 10 rebounds) and Jack Anletner (11 points, seven assists and eight rebounds).

Matt Swartz paced the Eagles with 14 points.

"This was our best shooting night of the season so far," said Anletner, whose team connected on 45 percent of their shots. "They came out in a zone and we were hitting our shots."

Agape raced to a 31-18 lead after one quarter and a 50-28 halftime advantage. The Wolves padded their lead to 66-39 with eight minutes to play.

NORTHVILLE 44, PLYMOUTH 37: For a half, it looked as though the Wildcats would be the first team this season to knock off the Mustangs, however, Plymouth was done in by a one-point third quarter.

Led by senior guard D J Coleman, the visiting Wildcats led 22-18 at the intermission. Northville re-established control

in the third when it outscored the Wildcats, 11-1, to secure a 29-23 advantage. Plymouth slipped to 6-11 overall and 4-7 in the Western Lakes Activities Association. Northville improved to 17-0 and 11-0, respectively.

Coleman finished with a team-high 15 points for Plymouth. Senior forward Josh Le Duc didn't score, but he did block four shots and grab a team-high five rebounds.

Alvin Storrs led the winners with 17 points. Storrs drained 11-of-13 free throws. Chris Lorente also had a solid night for Northville, chipping in with 11 points.

Plymouth hit 9-of-17 free throws while the Mustangs connected on 13-of-20 shots from the line.

"The bottom line was we had too many turnovers and not enough assists," said Plymouth coach Tom Van Wagoner. "We had some good shots, but we couldn't knock them down."

The setback knocked the Wildcats out of the WLAA conference tournament. It was erroneously reported in Thursday's Observer that Plymouth had already clinched a spot in the tourney field.

The Wildcats will return to action Tuesday when they host Livonia Churchill. The opening tip is set for 7 p.m.

SOUTHFIELD CHRISTIAN 62, PCA 60 (OT): The Eagles lost a heartbreaker to host Southfield despite 25 points from sophomore guard Trevor Zinn, who canned six three-pointers. Zinn nearly won the game for PCA just before the regulation buzzer, but his driving floater rolled out of the cylinder. He also narrowly missed a baseline jumper at the end of the overtime that would have sent the game into another extra session.

"We executed both plays just like we wanted to," said Doug Taylor. "We got great looks, but the ball wouldn't drop. Trevor's

shot at the end of regulation was half-way down and popped back out."

Complementing Zinn's fine play were Dave Koscielny (10 points), Matt Saagman (three points and eight assists), Justin Govan (seven points and eight rebounds) and Ryan Barber (seven rebounds and five points).

Fred Hill paced the winners with 22 points. Steve Lewis chipped in with 11.

Southfield led 20-13 after one quarter before the visiting Eagles stormed back to grab a 26-25 halftime lead. The game was tied after three quarters, 42-42.

PCA nailed 10-of-17 free throws while SC hit 11-of-19 shots from the stripe.

"We made 10 three-pointers, so we shot well," Taylor said. "It was just a great game."

PCA returns to action Tuesday when it hosts Birmingham Rooper at 7 p.m.

WAYNE 54, SALEM 51: Four Zebras scored in double figures and Wayne picked up its first win since beating Walled Lake Western Jan. 27 in running its record to 3-14 overall, 2-9 in Western Lakes Activities Association play.

Sophomore forward John Hill led the Zebras with 15 points, while sophomore guard Mike Lee added 11 and junior guard Josh Lewis and senior forward Justin Collop each chipped in 10.

Sophomore forward Grant Stone led the Rocks (3-14, 3-8) with 18 points, while Billy Leddy added nine. Ironically, the Rocks also last won on Jan. 27, when they beat John Glenn.

Salem actually led 43-40 after three quarters, but the Zebras used a 14-8 fourth-quarter edge to pull the game out.

"It's been awhile since we won, so it was nice," Wayne coach Wayne Woodard said. "(Salem) took the lead in the third quarter, and with our record we could have folded, but we didn't. It was nice to win it down the stretch."

Perfect Play Inc. to host clinic

Perfect Play Inc., a basketball training company whose staff consists of former NBA, NCAA and European pro players, will be hosting a "March Madness Basketball Blitz" on Saturday, March 4, at Lifetime Fitness in Canton.

The tutors of Perfect Play, including former NBA player Brandon Williams and ex-University of Michigan star Jimmy King, will host three group sessions of workouts

that improve participants' agility, speed and defending and shooting skills. Other tutors include Troy Coleman, Ann Marie Carravallah, Dan Young and Saddy Washington.

Along with the sessions, there will be several skills contests, including "Defender Challenge," "Dribble Relay," "Three-Point Challenge" and a free-throw contest.

The times of the sessions are 8-9 a.m. (ages 10-11), 9-10 a.m. (ages 12-13) and 11 a.m.-noon (ages 14 and up). The cost is \$10 per player and only 20 players per age group will be accepted.

To register, call (734) 769-9839, send an e-mail to info@perfectplayinc.com, or visit the company's Web site at www.perfectplayinc.com.

Registration forms can be dropped off at the "Members Activities" desk at Lifetime Fitness in Canton.

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ASTHMA

FROM PAGE B1

key member of the Chiefs' district-championship squad "Usually, I don't feel it until a few minutes after my matches. That's when my chest will get tight and it will get harder to breathe. My parents hold my inhaler during my matches just in case I need it afterwards."

"If I'm in a close match and it's near the end, I'll notice the asthma a little more. But I don't wrestle any differently than I would if I didn't have it."

INHALER TO THE RESCUE

Plymouth-Canton-Salem hockey player Annie McTurner said her asthma worsens as the intensity of her exercises increases.

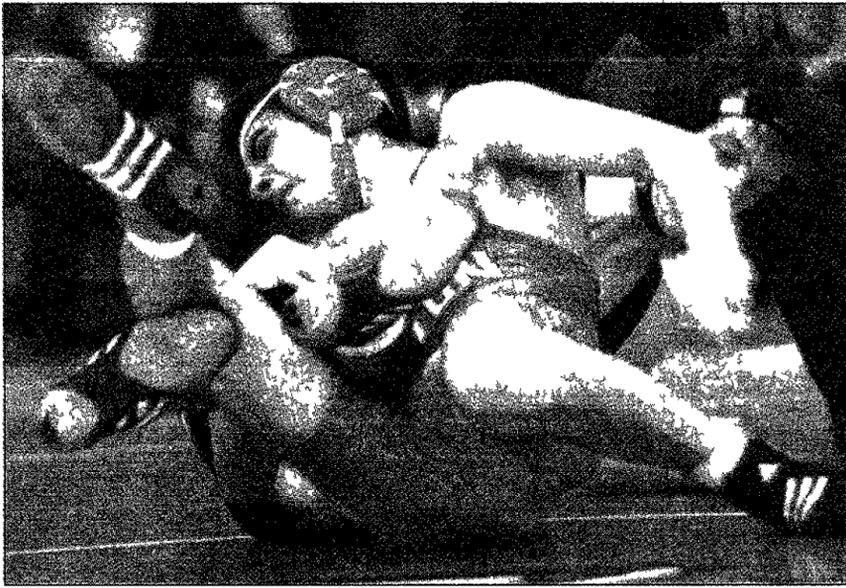
"If I go out really fast, it gets to me more," she said. "There are times I have to go to the bench if it gets too bad, but that doesn't happen very much."

McTurner said her inhaler is never very far away when she's skating for the first-place Penguins.

"I usually keep it in the locker room," said McTurner, who has netted one goal and five assists this season. "When I need it, I take two sprays from the inhaler and that expands the airways and makes it easier to breathe. It only takes about 20 seconds to work."

The toll asthma takes on athletes often varies depending on the sport. Swimming is believed to be the best sport for asthmatics because meets are held in humid arenas. Asthma is especially bothersome in cool, dry conditions.

Fox said he was rarely affect-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Asthma hasn't stopped Canton wrestler Joe Wilson from posting a stellar season. Wilson uses an inhaler after most of his matches.

ed by the disease this past fall when he excelled for the Wildcats football team.

"Football-wise, it didn't affect me at all," said Fox, who is eyeing a collegiate football career. "In football, I get 30 seconds or so in between plays to rest, and I think that makes all the difference in the world. In wrestling, you're going for two minutes straight and then you only get 14 to 20 seconds to recover."

ADVANCES IN TREATMENT

Dr. James Fordyce, who treats several asthmatic athletes out of his Dearborn office, said significant strides have been made over the past two

decades in treating exercise-induced asthma.

"There has been a lot of important research completed on asthma in the past 15 to 20 years," Fordyce said. "We have inhalers now that are effective and safe. People can, for the most part, live normal lives."

"Even though we know a lot more about the disease than we did 20 years ago, the incidence of asthma — and the mortality rate for it — has been going up. No one is really sure why this is so. The number of asthma cases in our office is three-fold compared to what it was 12 years ago."

Fordyce said most athletes use two inhaled medications.

Albuterol and Ipratropium.

"Some athletes do well with just one while others need a combination," Fordyce said. "I have one cross-country runner who I treat that needs three medications before he competes."

Not long after he informs patients that they've been diagnosed with asthma, Fordyce delivers the following inspirational message:

"I tell them all that having asthma should not preclude them from participating in sports — any sports," he said. "I have patients who play soccer and run cross country."

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Franklin ties Canton with last-minute goal

With goaltender Joey Garbutt pulled for an extra skater, Livonia Franklin's Brian Kozlowski scored the game-tying goal at 14:39 to earn the Patriots a 3-3 tie with Canton Friday night.

D.J. Tracy and Steve South each got their second assists of the game on Kozlowski's goal, which capped a furious third-period rally for the Patriots (9-9-4).

The Chiefs scored once in the first and twice in the second to take a 3-0 lead. Pat Gallagher (from Kevin Tollison) scored the first of his two at 3:57 of the first period, then added the second (from Brad Barath and Brad Giacomino) at 6:35 of the second. Justin Ward (from Derek Troser and Rob Dew) capped Canton's scoring at 13:55 of the

PREP HOCKEY

second. Dan Kozlowski (from Anthony Farthing) got Franklin on the board at 1:55 of the third. David Muller (from Tracy and South) scored Franklin's second goal.

STEVENSON 10, SALEM 1: The Spartans (21-1-1 overall, 13-0 Western Lakes, 8-0 Lakes Division) got three goals apiece from Shaun Anderson (three assists) and Ryan Zucal (two assists).

Michael Voran had a pair of goals and an assist, while Corey Matson (two assists) and Marcus Voran had the other goals for Stevenson.

Steve Heilser's second-period goal was the only score for Salem (3-18, 0-11, 0-7).

Attack whitewash Plymouth Whalers

Scott Tregunna netted two goals and two assists to lead the Owen Sound Attack to a 7-0 victory over the Plymouth Whalers in an Ontario Hockey League game played Friday night in Owen Sound.

Tregunna was named the game's first star for his efforts. The Attack's Derek Brochu was designated the game's second star thanks to his pair of lamp-lighters.

Owen Sound's Michael Ouzas stopped all 26 shots he

faced for his second shutout of the season. Marek Bartanus also sparked with two goals and an assist for the winners.

The victory improved the Attack's record to 28-21-3-3 for 62 points.

Justin Garay suffered the loss between the pipes for the Whalers. He faced 28 shots before giving way to Jeremy Smith in the third period.

Owen Sound led 2-0 after one period and 3-0 with 20 minutes to play.

THE WEEK AHEAD

- BOYS BASKETBALL**
Tuesday, Feb 21
Canton at W.L. Northern 7 p.m.
Birmingham Roper at PCA 7 p.m.
Salem at Wayne Memorial 7 p.m.
Livonia Churchill at Plymouth 7 p.m.
Friday, Feb 24
Plymouth at Wayne Memorial 7 p.m.
Livonia Churchill at Salem 7 p.m.
WLANA Conference Tourney
2nd round games (at Western Division sites)
Inter City Baptist at PCA 7:30 p.m.
BOYS SWIMMING
Thursday, Feb 23
WLANA Conference prelims at Salem TBA
Friday, Feb 24
WLANA Conference diving at Salem TBA
Saturday, Feb 25
WLANA Conference finals at Salem TBA
- BOYS WRESTLING**
Wednesday, Feb 22
Canton Livonia Franklin Novi CC and Saline at D1 regional at Plymouth 5 p.m.
Saturday, Feb 25
MHSAA individual regional at Southgate Anderson TBA
GIRLS GYMNASTICS
Monday, Feb 20
Plymouth at Salem
at Plymouth H.S. 7 p.m.
Thursday, Feb 23
Plymouth-Salem and Canton at WLANA tourney at W.L. Central noon
ICE HOCKEY
Monday, Feb 20
Canton at Hartland at Hartland Arena 6 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb 22

- Plymouth at Chelsea at Arctic Coliseum 6:30 p.m.
Salem at West Bloomfield at St. Mary's Ice Arena 7:30 p.m.
Canton at Dexter at Veterans Ice Arena 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Feb 24
WLANA cross over games at Lakes Division sites
Saturday, Feb 25
PCS Penguins at H.W. Regina 8 p.m.
GIRLS VOLLEYBALL
Monday, Feb 20
Plymouth at Salem 7 p.m.
Canton at Livonia Stevenson 7 p.m.
Saturday, Feb 25
Salem Plymouth and Canton at WLANA tourney at Livonia Churchill 8 a.m.
PCA at U.M. Dearborn Tourney 9 a.m.

- MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL**
Tuesday, Feb 21
St. Clair CC at Schoolcraft 7:30 p.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Tuesday, Feb 21
St. Clair CC at Schoolcraft 5:30 p.m.
ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE
Friday, Feb 24
Whalers vs. Erie Otters at Compuware Arena 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Feb 25
Whalers vs. London Knights at Compuware Arena 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, Feb 26
Whalers at Saginaw Spirit 2 p.m.

PREP SWIMMING RESULTS

- SALEM DOUBLE-DUAL**
Feb 9 at Salem
TEAM SCORES Ann Arbor Pioneer 108
Livonia Stevenson 78 Pioneer 139 Salem 44 Stevenson 134 Salem 51
- FINAL RESULTS**
200-yard medley relay: Stevenson (Robert Luke David Gosdzinski Steve Bruestie Matt Massman) 1:39.46 **200 freestyle:** Chris Buck (AAP) 1:47.48 **200 individual medley:** Travis Hatt (LS) 1:57.6 **50 freestyle:** Sho Koba (AAP) 21.85 **1-meter diving:** Kyle Powell (Salem) 159.15 points **100 butterfly:** Jason Hass (AAP) 52.76 **100 freestyle:** Koba (AAP) 46.98 **500 freestyle:** Jeff Pauza (LS) 4:51.17 **200 freestyle relay:** Pioneer (Dustin Hennigar Hass Buck Koba) 1:28.83 **100 backstroke:** Buck (AAP) 55.6 **100 breaststroke:** Gosdzinski (LS) 1:00.83 **400 freestyle relay:** Pioneer (Buck Hass Robert Steele Koba) 3:16.88 **Stevenson 2nds:** Pauza 200 freestyle (1:47.6) Massman 50 freestyle (22.13) Bruestie 100 butterfly (54.27) Hatt 100 freestyle (48.45) Luke 100 backstroke (56.95) 3rds Gosdzinski 50 freestyle (22.58) Steve Smith diving (145.80) **Stevenson's dual meet record:** 8-2 overall 4-0 WLANA Lakes Division

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Schoolcraft fends off Kirtland; Cornerstone spoils MU 'Senior Night'

The beat goes on for the Lady Ocelots Schoolcraft's women's basketball team Wednesday defeated Kirtland College 89-80, sparked by a 26-point night by freshman forward LaShanda Thomas. The victory improved Schoolcraft's record to 24-2 overall, with the Lady Ocelots ranked third in the National Junior College Athletic Association Division II polls. Because Kirtland is on probation, the game does not count in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association-Eastern Conference standings. The Lady Ocelots remain 8-2 in league play, a half game behind Delta and Mott, entering weekend action. Thomas, who just missed a triple-double on Feb. 11 against Henry Ford Community College, connected on four of 11 three-point tries and nailed all 10 fouls shots. Also sparking the Lady Ocelots, who led 44-40 at the intermission, was sophomore forward Charlese Greer (19 points, six rebounds), freshman forward Maricka Seay (18 points, 18 rebounds) and sophomore guard Tomica Hodge (nine points, eight boards). For the Firebirds (11-16), Liz Stempke led the way with 18 points and 10 rebounds. CORNERSTONE 68, MADONNA 55: Errant shooting, both from the floor and charity stripe, cost the Crusaders in this Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference matchup Wednesday night at the



Madonna University freshman forward Christine Carrico (left) battles Cornerstone's Lisa Wightman for a loose ball during Wednesday night's game.

Madonna University activities center MU (12-16 overall, 7-6 in the WHAC), hit just 23 of 78 field-goal attempts (29.5 percent) and only five of 17 free-throw tries. The Golden Eagles (21-8, 8-5), on the other hand, hit nearly 50 percent of their shots from the floor and 21 of 26 from the line. The main thorn in the Madonna side was guard Jenna Plewes, who scored 25 points, including 11 free throws. Adding 12 points was center Katie Anderson.

Fitting for Madonna's "Senior Night" was the play of the team's two seniors. Sarah Thomson and Lydia Prusinowski Thomson, a 5-11 forward, led the Crusaders with 17 points and nine rebounds while 5-8 guard Prusinowski chipped in with 14 points and six boards. Junior guard Stephanie Childs and sophomore forward Caryn Inman tallied eight and seven points, respectively. Sophomore forward Martina Franklin (Redford Union) added seven rebounds

S'craft cages Firebirds; Golden Eagles down MU

Despite its lame-duck status due to probation, the Schoolcraft College men's basketball team isn't playing out the string. The Ocelots led 58-28 at halftime en route to a 111-73 victory Wednesday at home over Kirtland Community College. Wallace Hall scored a game-high 25 points as the Ocelots improved to 23-4 overall. Darryl Garrett added 17, while 7-foot center James Davis finished with 15 points, 16 rebounds, four assists and three blocks. DeMario Curry and Derrick Coleman chipped in with 11 points apiece, while Cedric Sims (Wayne Memorial) and Garrett each dished out six assists. Tony Brown led the Firebirds (12-15), coached by former Schoolcraft coach Glen Donahue, with 23 points. David Allison added 17. CORNERSTONE 102, MADONNA 78. Guard Josh Liggins nailed six 3-pointers Wednesday night, leading

Cornerstone University (19-10, 10-3) to a Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference men's basketball win over visiting Madonna University (10-18, 4-9) at Mol Arena in Grand Rapids. Liggins was 8 of 17 from the floor and 7 of 9 from the foul line en route to a game-high 29 points. He also grabbed 10 rebounds. John Jonker, who had 35 in a previous meeting against MU, added 18 points and 15 rebounds. Kevin Wurn and Jim Cochran added 15 and 14 points, respectively. MU shot only 38.1 percent from the floor (24-of-63), got a team-high 18 points from Charlie Henry (Canton Agape Christian). Henry made 4-of-5 three-point attempts. Jordan Napier (Agape Christian) and Adam Kerfoot added 15 and 12 points, respectively. D.J. Bridges (Canton) added nine points. MU was outrebounded 50-31.

Wayne State men icers battle to 7-7 draw

In a wild finish, the Wayne State men's hockey team (5-17-6, 2-7-5 CHA) rallied from a three-goal deficit on three occasions (3-0, 5-2, 6-3) to earn a hard-fought 7-7 overtime draw at Robert Morris University on Feb. 10. The host Colomials outshot WSU 12-11 in the opening period and held a 3-0 lead, but Wayne State pulled within a goal at 3-2 in the second period, as Derek Bachynski scored a power-play goal at the 5:56 mark and Adam Krug (Livonia, Mich./Sioux City Musketeers) recorded his third career short-handed goal at the 9:02 mark. Two RMU power-play goals put the Colomials ahead, 5-2, but Wayne State would score four of the next five goals over the next 17 minutes to tie the game at six. Another power-play goal for Robert Morris put the Warriors down one before WSU junior Jason Bloomington (Canton, Mich./Texas Tornado) pushed the puck across the goal line with 0:11 seconds remaining in regulation to complete the Warrior comeback. Warriors goaltender Matt Kelly allowed six goals on 21 shots in the first 33:27 before being lifted for junior Will Hooper (13 saves). The squads met again on Feb. 11, with Robert Morris edging

WSU by a score of 5-4. Bloomington scored the second fastest goal to start a game in school history lighting the lamp just 10 seconds into the contest, and John May (Livonia, Mich./Springfield Junior Blues) followed 76 seconds later with his third goal of the season to put WSU in front, 2-0. The Colomials scored the next three goals to take the lead in the second period, and the two teams proceeded to exchange goals until RMU's Aaron Clarke scored the game-winner at 11:33 of the final period. Hooper made 28 saves in the game including double-digit totals in both of the first two periods.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY
A pair of third period goals by Mercyhurst helped put an end to the WSU women's hockey team's four-game winning streak, as the Warriors fell, 4-2, to the sixth-ranked Lakers on "Skate For The Cure" Night at City Sports Center Arena on Feb. 10. The Warriors answered each of the Lakers' first two goals as Sam Poyton became the first women's hockey player in WSU history to score 20 goals in a season, while Mehssa Boal scored her 13th of the year, on a power play to send the teams into the locker room tied at two with the third period remaining. Mercyhurst took a 3-2 lead at the 5:06 mark and added a late goal to

put the game away. Wayne State fared slightly better on Feb. 11 however skating to a 2-2 tie with its conference rival. Poyton tied the game at one with her 21st of the season extending her scoring streak to six games and Boal recorded her second power-play goal of the series in the second period to put WSU ahead, 2-1. The lead held until 17:42 of the third period when MC's Valerie Chouinard tied the game with her 19th of the season. Mercyhurst man aged four shots on goal in overtime compared to two by WSU but neither team could break the deadlock. Mercyhurst outshot the Warriors 35-28 with Valery Turcotte making 33 saves for WSU. After losing the first 24 meetings in the all-time series with the Lakers, Wayne State has recorded two ties against MC this season.

MEN'S BASKETBALL
The Wayne State men's basketball team (10-12, 5-9 GLIAC) split a pair of home conference games last week, beginning with a 62-61 loss to Mercyhurst on Feb. 9. Thirteen first-half points by Kris Krzyminski helped put WSU ahead, 32-24 at halftime, and the Warriors led by as many as 12 early in the second half before the Lakers went on an 14-2 run to tie the game at 41 with 10:53 remaining. Several lead changes ensued and while senior Herb Golidays (Royal Oak Twp.) lay-up with 6.4 seconds left put the Warriors up by one, Mercyhurst's Avi Fogel made two free throws with 2.4 seconds remaining. Krzyminski tied his career high

with 22 points, while Goliday finished with 13 points as both played all 40 minutes. Jacob Black added 11 points, five rebounds, three steals and three assists. On Feb. 11 five players scored in double figures as Wayne State defeated visiting Gannon University, 74-57, as WSU honored the 50th anniversary of its 1955-56 team that advanced to the NCAA Division I Sweet Sixteen. The game was close for much of the first half and into the second with Gannon clinging to a two-point lead with 13:49 to play. Krzyminski drained a three pointer to ignite the offense as the Warriors went on runs of 9-0 and 9-1 and made 19-of-24 (79.2 percent) of their shots in the second half. Wayne State, now in fifth place in the South Division, is still alive for a spot in the GLIAC Tournament.

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Teen Talk

Monica Fulton

Teachers want pupils to succeed

How can I make my Comp 1 teacher like me? Struggling Student Garden City If I knew how to make people do something, I'd be a multimillionaire! It seems that you feel your teacher somehow has it in for you and that not liking you will show in your grade. Having a number of teachers in my family, I can tell you from my experience that teachers actually want all of their students to succeed. Yep, that's right. I know, hard to believe isn't it? Teachers become teachers as a way to help kids like you and maybe even to help our society become stronger. Now, as for your Comp 1 teacher, I suspect that you're experiencing negative consequences in your Comp 1 class. Maybe referrals to your administrator or after school detentions? I encourage you to choose your behavior wisely in order to minimize the negative consequences you're experiencing. If your behavior is disruptive to the class to the point of interfering with the other students' learning, you aren't leaving your teacher much of an option. I bet that if you listened in class, did all of your assignments and kept your disruptions to a minimum, you would experience more positive consequences. And, because you'll be doing assignments and paying attention in class, your grade will see a boost as well!

My friend keeps lying and makes me second choice if there are older people around. I'm starting to get sick of her and I don't think my mom should keep driving her around if she keeps doing this. But she tries to win back my friendship with gifts. Should I forgive her? Confused Garden City It sounds like your friend's actions are hurting your feelings. Have you told your friend how it feels when she dumps you to be around older people? Besides being angry, you're probably feeling abandoned and used. From your letter, it seems that your friend is at least a little bit aware of what she's doing — the gifts might be her way of apologizing to you. You might want to talk to your mom about how you feel because she may not be aware of the way your friend treats you. Talk to your friend about how you feel when she treats you badly. If your friend doesn't change and you decide you've had enough, then tell your mom that you want to stop spending so much time with your friend and that she doesn't need to be your friend's taxi service anymore. About forgiveness, it's never healthy to hang on to negative feelings, but it's not healthy to keep yourself in a situation where you're not being treated right either. If your friend is taking more than she's giving, forgive her and move on. Take care of yourself and find friends that treat you with respect.

Monica Fulton is the supervisor of the Family Resource Center in Garden City working on youth and family problems. She can be reached by e-mail at monicaful ton@sbcglobal.net

Observer LIFE

PSA tests HEALTH C6

The emotional life of boys TEENS IN 2006 C3 Peppers great source of Vitamin C PETER'S PRINCIPLES C6

Brad Kadrich editor (734) 459 2700 Fax (734) 459 4224 bkadrich@hometownlife.com www.hometownlife.com

Midwinter break



Ann Michelle Householder removes son Liam's skates after a fun time on the ice at the Plymouth Cultural Center



There's an early evening crowd at the Plymouth Cultural Center ice rink

Recreation facilities gear up for school vacation

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Skating, bowling, basketball tournaments, field trips, a performing arts camp — thanks to the staffs of local recreation facilities, children have a variety of activities to choose from during midwinter break.

At the Livonia Community Recreation Center, Ann Cox talks about the three point and free-throw shooting contests for ages 10-13 on Monday, Feb. 20. All that's needed is an annual pass, or daily pass which varies in price from \$4 to \$11 depending on age and residency.

A dodge ball showdown follows on Tuesday, Feb. 21, more basketball on Wednesday, Feb. 22, and a hoop shoot on Thursday when game room tournaments also offer an opportunity to play air hockey, pingpong, pool and foosball. For a schedule of activities, visit www.ci.livonia.mi and click on recreation center, or call (734) 466-2900.

'LOTS OF FUN'

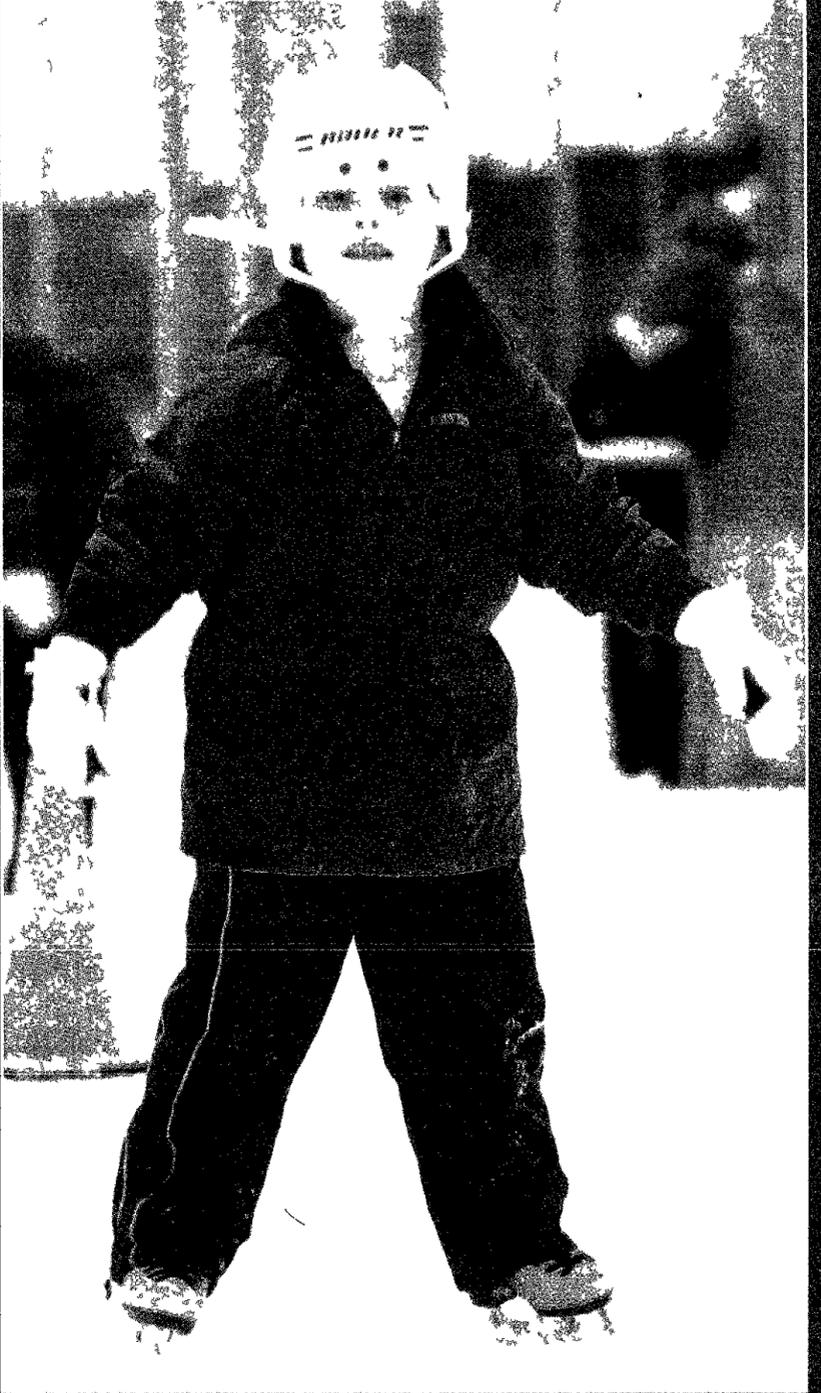
"We have lots of fun stuff for kids, a tree fort for ages 12 and under, a leisure pool with a slide into the lazy river, a water playground with sprays and geysers, and a climbing wall," said Cox, a rec center staffer. "Classes to learn how to climb the wall are noon to 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25, for ages 6-12."

While Michelle Badolato's 2 1/2-year-old son, Christian, is still too young for school, he's able to enjoy swimming at the YMCA in Livonia. Badolato, the Y's membership coordinator, has signed him up for Splash, a series of five 30-minute classes Monday through Friday, Feb. 20-24.

"The class is on learning how to be safe and have fun while swimming," said Badolato. "Every day, Christian wants to go into the pool and come to the YMCA. I've taken parent-child classes with him since he was 18 months."

Swimming is just one of the activities the Y has planned for midwinter break. A camp includes field trips for ages

PLEASE SEE MIDWINTER, C5



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Six-year-old Julia Scannell takes a spin around the Plymouth Cultural Center ice rink

Y Adventure Guides bring parents, kids together

BY NEAL HALDANE CORRESPONDENT

The baby garter snake circled around my daughter's fingers as a group of her friends approached.

"Does he bite?" "What does he feel like?"

After a few moments of hesitancy, the two girls began holding the tiny reptile, letting it wriggle around their hands and feeling its scaly skin.

Weeks later, those same girls dressed in their

best party clothes twirled and danced with their dads. We did the Hokey Pokey because 'that's what it's all about' and cried a few tears when the DJ played Butterfly Kisses.

Similar adventures have occurred with my son. We've hiked behind a waterfall and competed in exhausting capture the flag games. We've won the prestigious water balloon toss at the bike rally, but fell (literally) short in the three-legged race.



Erin Erickson, Amanda Rich and Laura Haldane take turns holding the baby garter snake.

PLEASE SEE GUIDES, C5

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AROUND TOWN

Frog listeners

Friends of the Rouge is seeking volunteers for the ninth annual Rouge River Watershed Frog and Toad Survey... Volunteers need no prior experience but must attend one two hour training workshop and learn 8 breeding calls...

phone and e mail and which workshop you would like to attend Thursday March 2 7 9 p.m. Ypsilanti Civic Center 7200 S Huron River Drive Ypsilanti Saturday March 4 10 a.m. noon Livonia Civic Center Library 32777 Five Mile Livonia Tuesday March 7 7 9 p.m. University of Michigan Dearborn Environmental Interpretive Center 4901 Evergreen Dearborn Thursday March 9 7 9 p.m. Southfield Parks & Recreation 26000 Evergreen Southfield or Saturday March 11 10 a.m. noon Plymouth Board of Trustees meeting room 42350 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth

Curtis The barn which dates to the 1830s is Washtenaw County's oldest For reservations or more information call Jean at (248) 349 2687 or Don at (248) 349 3550
Women's club The monthly meeting of the Suburban Republican Women's Club takes place 11 a.m. Thursday Feb 23 at the Pick A Bone Restaurant 30325 Six Mile in Livonia Speaker will be Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard candidate for the US Senate There is a \$15 charge for the luncheon Visitors and guests always welcome For reservations call (248) 320 5473

Mercy auction An opportunity to have a great evening and support a worthy cause comes when Mercy High School in Farmington hosts its 27th annual auction March 4 The evening includes a strolling buffet dinner and live and silent auctions Entertainment will be provided by the Mercyaireas and the Mercy Mimes The auction is a parent sponsored fund raising event Proceeds will benefit the quality of education for Mercy young women WDIV's Steve Garagiola emcees the evening Joseph DuMouchelle of DuMouchelle International Auctioneers will be the auctioneer For auction reservations or more information call Erin Carlesimo or Diane Ludwinski (248) 476 8020 Ext. 253

Daddy-Daughter Ball Northville Parks and Recreation invites young ladies and their special gentlemen (dad uncle or brother) to the 23rd annual Daddy Daughter Princess Ball Live entertainment dancing crafts games and treats will set the stage for one unforgettable night Prince Charming will be there too and is sure to make it magical! The ball takes place 4 6 p.m. and 7 9 p.m. Saturday Feb 25 at the Recreation Center at Hillside (700 W Baseline Northville) Tickets are \$10 per person per dance and can be purchased at the Recreation Center For more information call (248) 349 0203 Ext. 1411 Tickets are limited and do sell out

Genealogical societies The Livingston County Genealogical Society meets 7 p.m. March 2 for a presentation on Genealogy and Adoption Research presented by guest speakers from the Adoption Identity Movement of Michigan a search and support organization founded in 1972 by people directly

affected by all aspects of adoption The meeting takes place at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints 1041 Grand River in Howell A help session starts at 6 p.m. The public is invited For more information call (810) 227 7745
The Western Wayne County Genealogical Society meets 7 30 p.m. Monday Feb 20 at the Livonia Civic Park Senior Center Building on Farmington Road just south of 5 Mile Guest speaker Chauncy Miller will talk about Elmwood Cemetery giving facts and lore of Detroit's 150 year old cemetery The meeting and classes are open to the public free of charge and guests are welcome For more information call (734) 425 3079

Parenting seminar Jim Fay one of America's most sought after presenters in the areas of parenting and school discipline returns to the Northville area for two Love and Logic parenting seminars March 6 in the auditorium at the new Northville High School on 6 Mile between Sheldon and Beck The first session 4:30 6 p.m. is for parents of preschool and elementary age children the second session 7:30-9 p.m. helps parents learn how to quit arguing with their children ways to handle recovery time and food issues and how to get their children to help around the house For more information call (248) 344 8443

Grace & Glorie Arbor Hospice & Home Care partners with Duo Damas Productions for Grace & Glorie a humorous and heart warming play by renowned playwright Tom Ziegler The opening gala will be held 6 30 p.m. Friday March 24 at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton Set in a tiny cabin in the Blue Ridge Mountains Grace & Glorie is a modern day comedy which features Grace a feisty octogenarian with incurable cancer who has returned to her beloved homestead cottage to die She is cared for by a volunteer hospice worker named Glorie a Harvard MBA graduate and sophisticated urbanite who is a recent transplant to the rural area and is the volunteer hospice worker assigned to assist Grace Acclaimed producers Joanne W Huice and Gloria Logan will be at the helm of the production Gloria Logan will also star as Glorie in the production Donna Adams Schulte will play the character of Grace Proceeds from the production will benefit The Arbor Hospice Foundation which supports the programs and services of Arbor Hospice & Home Care Tickets to the Opening Night Gala on Friday March 24 are \$75 each and include an opening reception with a chance to speak with the cast at 6 30 p.m. and the production beginning at 8 Other show times are 8 p.m. Saturday March 25 and a matinee per

formance 2 p.m. Sunday March 26 Tickets for those productions are \$40 apiece For more information or to purchase tickets contact Glenda Gordon Kime at Arbor Hospice & Home Care at (734) 662 5999 ext 152 specialevents@arborhospice.org or visit Arbor Hospice & Home Care online at www.arborhospice.org

Giristown Foundation Giristown Foundation is looking for foster parents to provide care to males and females from 10 to 17 years of age in need of safe and loving homes. For information call (734) 697 4804

50s-60s party Sterling Heights Dodge is co sponsor for the first annual March of Dimes 50s 60s Party at the Fernhill Golf & Country Club Feb 25 to raise money for the fight against birth defects premature birth and infant mortality The event will include live entertainment by Steve King and the Ditties and a costume contest for those who best represent fun fifties sixties style Besides live entertainment guests will enjoy a buffet dinner and have a chance to participate in a silent auction and raffle with prizes throughout the evening While there are some tickets left for the premiere of this fund raiser space is limited Tickets are \$50 per individual (\$22 tax deductible) and reservations can be made for a table of ten for \$450 Fernhill Golf & Country Club is located at 17600 Clinton River Road in Clinton Township between Garfield and Cass Roads Doors open at 6 p.m. and dinner will start at 7 p.m. For more information call Sharon Gwizdowski at (248) 359 1550

Drawing into painting The exhibition Drawing into Painting runs Feb 24 April 8 at the Ann Arbor Art Center Exhibition Gallery 117 West Liberty Street Ann Arbor Hours are 10 a.m. 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday noon 5 30 p.m. Sunday For more information contact Amanda Krugliak Exhibitions Director at the Ann Arbor Art Center (734) 994 8004 Ext. 110

Literacy Council tutors The Community Literacy Council (CLC) is looking for volunteer tutors in Western Wayne County to help adults improve their reading writing and communication skills The CLC will provide training to interested volunteers Previous experience or a bachelor's degree is not required The council will provide free training and materials and then match you with an adult student in your area Call (734) 416 4906 for more information

Grief support New Hope Center for Grief Support is a Christian based bereavement outreach and resource center located in Northville Age appropriate groups for widows and widowers are provided in

various locations in southeastern Michigan including groups for young widows and widowers and their children between the ages of 4 through the teen years Groups for parents who have lost a child adults who have lost a parent pet loss and other specialized groups are offered at various times of the year All services for adults and children are offered at no cost to the participants If you are grieving or know someone who is please call the office at (248) 348 0115 for further information about services provided by New Hope Center for Grief Support or visit www.newhopecenter.net

CLUBS

Rotary A.M. The Plymouth Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M. meets at 7 a.m. every Tuesday at the Plymouth Cultural Center 525 Farmer New members are always welcome Contact Tim Phillips president Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M. via e-mail at tim@philipshq.com or call (734) 451 8267

MOPS meet MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) meets twice monthly from September May for moms and their children newborn kindergarten at Lakepointe Bible Church in Plymouth For more information call Crystal Johnson (734) 459 1861

MOSAIC is a group where Moms come together to be refreshed and equipped for the important task of mothering It presents speakers on child and family issues has small group discussion time crafts and brunch Child care is provided It meets at Plymouth Baptist Church 42021 Ann Arbor Trail on the first and third Tuesday mornings of each month September to May Contact Resha at (734) 207 0658 or resha@juno.com

Moms Club Moms Club of Livonia S/Plymouth offers a variety of activities For more details call Birthe at (734) 458 8143 or Martina at (734) 464 0481

DAR The Sarah Ann Cochrane Chapter-Daughters of the American Revolution meets the third Monday of each month except January July and August A group with ancestors who fought in American Revolution Members participate in community work involving veterans' hospitals schools and community service Call (734) 420 2775 for further information

German/American Club of Plymouth Meets on the third Thursday of the month at the Knights of Columbus Hall located at 39100 Schoolcraft Road Plymouth Call Mary Ann at (734) 420 0857 for further information

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Encouraging the emotional life of boys

This column draws on *Raising Cain* by Kindlon and Thompson. Here is a simple explanation of "emotional literacy." "If a boy gets to say, 'I'm hurt,' and he gets to say it over and over in an accepting (italics my own) environment, he can then recognize that he is hurt, because he's been validated (given confirmation or approval). If he feels hurt and nobody validates the word, then after a while he doesn't recognize it as hurt." This is basic psychotherapy articulation (saying it), acknowledgment (admitting to its being real), and validation of a life experience.

Below are points that the authors believe have the potential to help protect the emotional life of your son. They say these are foundations of parenting and creating communities that reflect and cultivate the inner life of boys.

1 "Give boys permission to have an internal life, approval for the full range of human emotions and help in developing an emotional vocabulary." The author explains that the informed parent respects the internal life of his or her son, makes reference to it, and shares his or her own internal life. (My five children close each telephone call to me with "I love you," and I return the sentiment.)

2 "Recognize and accept the high activity level of boys and give them places to express it." Parents of boys need no explanation! The authors say "(B)oy need to learn how to manage their physicality to do no harm, but they need not be shamed for exuberance."

3 Talk to boys in their language - in a way that honors their pride and masculinity. Be direct with them, use them as consultants and problem solvers.

The authors conclude that "If you are willing to ask consultive questions, put your emotional cards on the table, you will not be disappointed with brief answers, you can communicate with boys. Above all you have to convey your respect for his psychological defenses, his wish to be strong."

4 "Teach boys that emotional courage is courage and that courage and empathy are sources of real strength."

There aren't many models of important leaders who show emotional courage, state the authors, but parents need to recognize and identify emotional courage in those close to us - to point out models of male heroism "that goes beyond the muscular, the self-absorbed and simply heroic." How to teach emotional courage? Encourage pet ownership, give opportunities for interacting with the very young, the elderly, and the environment. Community service programs are invaluable as a means to developing male empathy.

5 "Use discipline to build character and conscience, not enemies." The authors (and I) believe boys need discipline that is clear, consistent, and not harsh. "The best discipline is built on the child's love for adults and his wish to please. If boys are unduly shamed, harshly punished, or encounter excessive adult anger, they will soon react to authority with resistance rather than with a desire to do better."

6 Model a manhood of emotional attachment. These therapists explain that parents need to encourage and support boy-to-boy friendships. These friendships may not look the way you expect them to look, be

as close as women's, or be different. But they are extremely valuable. My 41-year-old son has two loyal friends he always sees when he visits me. Many a boy has been at our dinner table, and I would have had it no other way. Two sons have middle names to honor friends of my husband.

7 Teach boys there are many ways to be a man. Celebrate the natural creativity, risk-taking, energy and boldness of boys. "We need to celebrate the many ways boys contribute in this life."

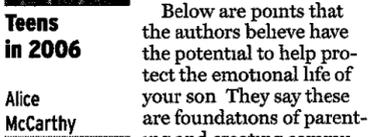
Be sure to review the last chapter of *Raising Cain*. A good summary "The only thing that will make growing up psychologically safe for our sons is for them to know we value them and that we love them and that we have every confidence that they will grow naturally into good men."

If you missed previous columns, you can access them at www.hometownlife.com/Livonia/News.asp. Type "Alice R. McCarthy" under Keyword Search for a list of her most recent columns. Columns, written weekly, remain only a short time on this site. All of her columns for the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* are on www.bridgecomm.com. See the column of Feb. 12 for an extensive list of books related to boys.

Alice R. McCarthy, Ph.D., the mother of five professionals is a national consultant in the areas of parent involvement in schools, curriculum writing in health and health publications. She is the author of a widely used text and parenting book, *Healthy Teens Facing the Challenges of Young Lives*. Write to her in care of the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 or at bridgecomm@aol.com.

LIBRARY PICKS

- Every week, the Plymouth District Library staff provides the Observer with their list of Best Sellers based on the number of requests for titles by library patrons. The books are available by placing a request with the library at (734) 453-0750 or on line at www.plymouthlibrary.org.
- FICTION**
- 1 Cell, Stephen King
 - 2 "Memory in Death," J D Robb
 - 3 "The Hostage," W E B Griffin
 - 4 Last Templar, Ray Khoury
 - 5 'Mary, Mary, James Patterson
- NON-FICTION**
- 1 Marley and Me, John Grogan
 - 2 "For Laci: A Mother's Story," Sharon Rocha
 - 3 "My Friend Leonard," James Frey
 - 4 'The Year of Magical Thinking,' Joan Didion
 - 5 'Night, Elie Wiesel
- PARENTS' CHOICE**
- NEW CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOKS**
- 1 The Have a Good Day Cafe, Frances Park
 - 2 Baby Can't Sleep, Lisa Schroeder
 - 3 How Do I Love You? Leslie Kimmelman
 - 4 "Bess and Belia, Irene Hess
 - 5 'Rosie and the Nightmares, Philip Weechter



Redford dance studio to present master classes

The Jazz & Spirit Dance Theatre of Detroit is hosting An Experience in Dance, a series of master classes with Dorothee Jaxon Alexander for instructors and students at the studio, 23224 Joy, between Telegraph and W Outer Drive, Redford. Classes takes place 5:30-7 p.m. Monday-Friday, Feb. 20-24. Cost is \$75 for 5-day workshop, \$17 individual class, plus \$10 registration fee. For more information, call (313) 534-0301. Alexander performed with the Detroit City Dance Company and currently is artistic director of The Repertory Dance Company of East Harlem. She has choreographed for companies and professional dancers.



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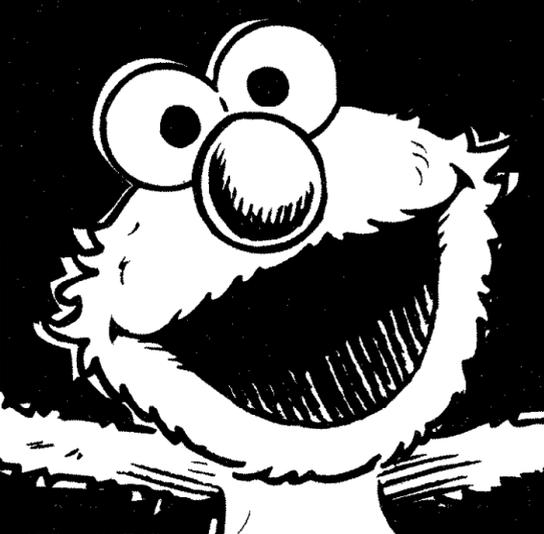
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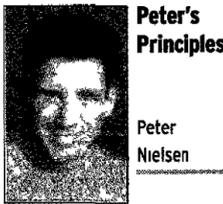
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Peter's Principles

Peter Nielsen

Peppers great for vitamin C

Jill from Lincoln Park is a big fan of getting enough vitamin C. She usually gets it from citrus fruit, but wants a healthy vitamin C ingredient to add to her cooking list.

Jill, you might want to take a walk on the spicy side! Ounce for ounce, green peppers have three times the vitamin C content of oranges and that is just half the equation. Red and yellow peppers pack twice as much vitamin C as green. That's a whopping 170 milligrams in just three tasty ounces. Green peppers also supply large amounts of beta carotene and the amount goes up as they ripen into red or yellow peppers. In fact, a red pepper has nine times the beta carotene of the green variety.

Bob from Redford has been running for years and has never experienced the so called runner's high. He e-mails asking what is missing?

Bob, for many people exercise provides improved mood and an overall feeling of well-being. The feeling of euphoria known as a runner's high became all the buzz way back in the 1970s. Many runners say it really does happen, and yet others never experience it and probably never will. The whole concept led to talk of people actually becoming hooked on exercise. It was originally thought that natural painkillers called endorphins produced in the blood stream helped produce the high, however there is really no solid evidence to support this. Not everybody gets high or even exhilarated from a workout and that is really the wrong reason to head to the gym or the track anyway!

If you have a health or fitness question you would like answered in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers e-mail Peter at www.peternielsen.com

HEALTH

Observer & Eccentric
NEWSPAPERS

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Controversy clears

PSA testing helped save man's life

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Manuel Rosenbaum is happy he's still able to volunteer to read college level texts at Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic in Troy. If the 76 year-old retiree hadn't gone for PSA testing every six months after his brother was diagnosed with an aggressive form of prostate cancer, he might have died as Irving did five years ago.

That's why Rosenbaum is concerned about the controversy over a study published in the *Archives of Internal Medicine* in January. He was diagnosed with prostate cancer in April 2004 after a PSA revealed his numbers had risen to 5.1.

According to estimates from the American Cancer Society, more than 230,000 U.S. men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2006, about 27,000 men will die of the disease.

"Because of my brother, I was getting tested every six months instead of once a year as recommended for men over 50," said Rosenbaum, whose PSA level has dropped to zero since receiving 38 radiation treatments and hormonal therapy. "The study published last month claims to show whether you get a PSA or not, it makes no difference in your ultimate survival. There are many studies that show the opposite, studies that show the sooner you diagnose prostate cancer the more the person will likely survive and be cured eventually."

Views on PSA (prostate specific antigen) blood testing have changed since Rosenbaum began volunteering to speak on prostate cancer for

the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute seven years ago.

"I followed a script and showed slides. Back then the PSA wasn't specifically known for detecting cancer," said Rosenbaum, of Oak Park. "Irving was diagnosed at the end of 1995 and had also been getting PSAs and DREs (digital rectal exam), but was diagnosed with an aggressive form that already spread to his pelvic bone."

Dr. Jeffrey Forman doesn't have a family history of prostate cancer, but thinks it's wise for men over age 50, and African American men 45 and older, to have an annual PSA and DRE. A prostate cancer specialist at Karmanos, Forman is only 49 but has gone through testing for several years. He strongly disagrees with the recent study.

"The PSA and DRE should be done and there is more benefit than harm in doing it," said Forman, medical director of Karmanos affiliates and satellites including the Weisberg Treatment Center in Farmington Hills. Rosenbaum was treated at the Weisberg center by Forman, a West Bloomfield physician who is a professor in the department of radiation oncology at Wayne State University.

"A number of studies have shown a benefit, a previous body of scientific literature. There's no question early detection leads to an improved cure rate. Small cancers have a higher success rate."

Rosenbaum wants to encourage men to take the PSA and the DRE.

"You hear a lot of guys were afraid to take the DRE," Rosenbaum said. "It takes a few seconds and maybe it's



STEVE CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A simple PSA blood test has made it possible for Manuel Rosenbaum to conquer prostate cancer so he can continue to volunteer to read textbooks at Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic in Troy.

annoying or uncomfortable, but (it's) over in a few seconds. There's no good reason for a man to turn away from getting examined, and to talk to their physician about the meaning of their results. Like any test, the PSA isn't perfect. A well-informed physician will know that there may be reasons for a high number that can be identified and ruled out.

Today, Rosenbaum is able to continue volunteering because of the early detection and treatment of his cancer. Once a month he visits the Us Too support group at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak to help newly-diagnosed men who are considering different treatments. He initially received two drugs to suppress testosterone. He still gets hot flashes, one of the side effects, but is eating more soy products to reduce the intensity.

Rosenbaum is just grateful to be alive for his three sons, two grandchildren, one step-grandchild and wife of 50 years, Regine. That's why he gives back to Karmanos and nonprofits such as Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic (www.rfbid.org, click on local link) which was founded nationally in 1949, in Michigan in 1958.

Don Haffner, director of the studio, is as thankful to Rosenbaum for volunteering to read textbooks. He has the expertise needed to pronounce the words he became familiar with while working in research, supervising a microbiology lab, and teaching at Cornell Medical College in New York City. Rosenbaum is one of about 150 volunteers who record texts for levels ranging from kindergarten to graduate school.

"It's especially important because of his background," Haffner said. "When you get to chemistry and microbiology, we only have a handful of readers. We're always training new people and always looking for new people. We have nine sound-proof booths and almost never have them filled."

It's (volunteering) important because we're working with students who have sight problems or reading disability, dyslexia, and are not able to read standard print, but by listening - they can keep up with their classmates and even excel."

For information or to volunteer, call (248) 879-0101.

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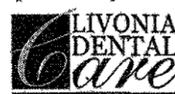
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Cholesterol screening offered at low cost

In honor of National Heart Month, the Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan is teaming up with Kroger to offer cholesterol screenings. Cost is \$10. No fasting required.

According to the American Heart Association, while 200 mg/dL or less is a desirable cholesterol level, nearly 107 million Americans age 20 or older have blood cholesterol levels of 200 mg/dL (considered borderline high) and almost 38 million have levels of 240 mg/dL or above (considered high blood cholesterol).

Cardiovascular diseases rank as America's No. 1 killer, claiming the lives of 38 percent of the more than 2.4 million Americans who die each year. High blood cholesterol levels are a risk factor for cardiovascular disease. For dates, times and locations, see schedule below or visit www.vna.org.
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, Feb. 20, 5990 Sashabaw, Independence Twp, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 21, 3097 Baldwin Road, and 2-6 p.m. Feb. 21, 460 N. Lapeer, Orion Twp, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 22, 19855 12 Mile, Southfield, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, Feb. 27, 10805 Highland at Elizabeth Lake, White Lake, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28, 25780 Middlebelt Road at 11 Mile, Farmington

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T-shirts with tacky messages

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Hate It!

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Kick It!

Classic slip-on Vans



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The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

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Use It..

Wikipedia.com

Drink It!

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pink page

Don't miss the pull-out issue of PINK in your paper next Sunday!

WENDSY WHITE EDITOR (734) 953 2019 WWW.HOMECOMM.NET

Artrageous Fashion

Runway shows set charity gala apart

By Wendy White

When Virginia Sullivan moved back to Michigan after spending 20 years in New York, she didn't want to leave her fashion career behind. She quickly carved a niche for herself in Metro Detroit, reinvigorating the local fashion scene in the process. One of Sullivan's first tasks was to launch the Fanclub Arts Foundation Fashion Awards at last year's Artrageous charity gala. Students from Wayne State University, International Academy of Design & Technology, Cranbrook Arts Academy and College for Creative Studies showed clothing on the catwalk and competed for scholarships. The FAFFAs were such a hit, they'll be staged again this year, along with an added competition for new and emerging designers. PINK tracked down the busy Ms. Sullivan for a chat about Artrageous 2006 fashion.



Virginia Sullivan, right, talks with fellow judge Susan Howes of HOUR Detroit, during last year's FAFFAs at Artrageous

Artrageous 2006

When: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25
Where: American Center Building, 27777 Franklin Road, Southfield
What: This premiere charity gala includes three fashion shows, live entertainment and an Artist Market, along with wines and tastings from more than 25 local eateries.
Why: To benefit Fanclub Arts Foundation, promoting local art programs and education.
Tickets: \$100 in advance, \$125 at the door.
Call: (248) 584-4150 or visit www.fanclubarts.com

PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER A. JABLONSKI

What are the FAFFAs?
 The Fanclub Arts Foundation Fashion Awards. They're the Detroit fashion equivalent of the Emmys or the Oscars. The FAFFAs may sound new to people right now, but in a year or two they will be as well known as the Oscars, Emmys and Golden Globes. I really believe that, isn't that scary?

What are the different categories?
 Students can enter garments in four categories: Artrageous Office, Artrageous Weekend, Artrageous Evening and Artrageous Outrageous.

Students will win FAFFAs in each category and their schools will receive grants?

Why did you start the FAFFAs?
 The whole thing — which is orchestrated through me by Fashion Detroit — the whole goal is to create awareness of fashion in Metro Detroit, and of

course Fanclub's goal is to promote arts education in fashion.

Tell us more about the emerging designer's fashion show ..
 Our "New and Emerging Fashion Designers" category will be a separate fashion show. This is where we're really going to be able to make a difference in designers' lives. 'New and Emerging' does not mean in terms of age, it doesn't mean they're right out of school necessarily. The vision is much larger.

Who is overseeing this category?
 This is going to be orchestrated by the Detroit Design Lab through Sarah Lurtz. Sarah will be working with the designers she already represents, as well as looking for new talent to represent at the Design Lab.

How many new and emerging designers do you expect?
 We will probably have eight designers showing a small collection of their clothing, between 6-8 designs, so we the judges will get a feeling of what their concepts are. We will give a grant to the Design Lab in the winner's name.

What should the audience expect?
 They can see the pulse of

fashion in Detroit — what's new, what's hot, a lot of Spring 2006. They'll get ideas, they'll be energized. But what I really want them to see is that they do not have to leave Detroit to be in fashion — Detroit is alive and well and fashionable. It offers its residents fashion schools to get an education, designers who are very talented, fashion boutiques, fashion retailers, so many things. Also, garments will be available for sale.

How did you get involved with the Fanclub Arts Foundation?
 In New York I was a professor at FIT and had my own fashion and image consulting company for 20-plus years. I also had a mentorship program with a lot of students who were interested in getting into fashion, so I was very aware of how important the fashion arts were for students. I came to Detroit to take care of ailing parents, and happened to meet (Fanclub President) John Bloom. The best thing about John is that he is very open to ideas and very committed to providing arts education in the Metro Detroit community.

So you proposed the FAFFAs?
 There were no grant recipients in the fashion-related arts at all. I suggested the fashion show right at the gala because it would differentiate Artrageous from every other gala out there. These students need scholarships to pursue their dreams. Also, the FAFFAs show our benefactors where their money is going, plus they can see these designers grow.

ents in the fashion-related arts at all. I suggested the fashion show right at the gala because it would differentiate Artrageous from every other gala out there. These students need scholarships to pursue their dreams. Also, the FAFFAs show our benefactors where their money is going, plus they can see these designers grow.

pink list

Parisian Celebrates Education
 Don't miss this opportunity to shop at your favorite store and know everything you buy funds a good cause! Parisian will host its Celebrate Education Spring Fund Raiser 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Feb. 25 at Laurel Park Place and the Village of Rochester Hills. Your \$5 ticket will help local schools and education-related charities fund arts, athletics, computers, music and more. Plus, it will get you discounts on merchandise all day! For more information, call Laurel Park Place, (734) 553-7800; or Village of Rochester Hills, (248) 276-6705.

Bridal Trunk Show
 Marshall Field's will host a Reem Acra couture bridal trunk show, Feb. 24-26 in its Bridal Salon at the Somerset Collection in Troy. The elegant and sophisticated style of designer Reem Acra has made her one of the leading names in the luxury bridal market. The Reem Acra look is a combination of Old World tradition and modern sensibility. Try on these exquisite dresses during the show, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, and 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday. Book your appointment at (248) 816-4270.

Lynn Portnoy Pre-Redecorating Sale
 Lynn Portnoy will be closed Feb. 23-26 for redecorating. Until 6 p.m., Feb. 21, purchase \$100 or more and receive a gift certificate valued at 10 percent of your purchase. Lynn Portnoy is located at 29260 Franklin Rd., Southfield. Call (248) 353-2900.

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Rx for success: a pharmacy career

(NewsUSA) — What would happen if no pharmacists were available to fill your prescription at the local drugstore, or to recognize medication errors in the emergency room?

That could be reality if America doesn't train another 150,000 pharmacists by 2020.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, 7,000 to 10,000 pharmacist positions are left unfilled every year.

Pharmacy graduates can expect a variety of possible career directions as well as four or five job offers. Besides earning a mean annual wage of \$77,050, pharmacists can choose from a wide variety of employment settings, from research laboratories to poison control centers to veterinary clinics.

To help teachers encourage students to pursue a career in pharmacy, health and science, the pharmaceutical company Roche created a free teacher's guide in collaboration with the Parenteral Drug Association Foundation for Pharmaceutical Sciences Inc. and WLIW New York public television.

"Encouraging students who already have an interest in health and science may be key to closing the potential shortage gap of pharmacists," said Vivian L. Beetle, director of corporate relations and contributions for Roche. "Roche believes that teachers play a positive and vital role in directing students into a career path."

The guide is designed to help teachers identify students with an interest in science and show them how to engage students in dialogue about career opportunities in pharmacy. It includes profiles of students who have pursued a career in pharmacy, a list of colleges and professional organizations and a student self-



Pharmacy graduates can expect a variety of possible career directions as well as four or five job offers.

assessment tool.

Would your children or students succeed in a pharmacy career? They should consider the following:

- Are they good at math?
- Are they interested in science, especially biology and chemistry?
- Are they detail-oriented and focused?
- Do they care about others and want

to make a positive contribution to society?

■ Would they be interested in a career that offers the opportunity to work anywhere in the country?

Roche is working with others to distribute the guide, titled *Pharmacists: Unsung Heroes*, among educators. It also can be downloaded at www.wliw.org/pharmacists

Experts say allied health work force in jeopardy

(NewsUSA) — From rising health care costs to an increase in the number of Americans who lack health insurance coverage, there are many health care issues that are attracting considerable attention in Congress.

However, some say there's one key dimension that fails to receive sufficient notice: the adequacy of the allied health care work force. Apart from doctors, nurses and pharmacists, these professionals are the personnel engaged in patient care in hospitals. They also work in a wide range of other health care settings.

An increase in demand, retirements, technology advances and other opportunities for allied health graduates have placed a strain on the educational pipeline. According to the Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions, an organization representing allied health education in the U.S., a vivid illustration of this disturbing trend may be found among the allied health professions.

Currently, many sectors within the allied health professions are vulnerable. For example, although a high proportion of all treatment furnished in a hospital is accompanied by medical laboratory tests, the medical technologists who perform these procedures are experiencing a personnel shortage that is just as severe — if not worse — than that which afflicts the national nurse shortage.

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Owens Community College has a new online application system and will no longer be accepting paper applications. To complete an Owens Community College application go to <https://jobs.owens.edu>. Candidates who do not have access to a computer with internet connection are welcome to visit our Resource Center in the Human Resources department during lobby hours from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Monday through Friday. Appointments are encouraged but not necessary. To set up an appointment, please call 567-661-7292.

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RAINBOW REHABILITATION CENTERS
32715 Grand River Ave.
Farmington, MI 48336

(between Farmington & Orchard Lake Rds.)
It is unavailable for immediate interview. Submit an application 9am-5pm, Monday-Friday at the same location.
Call for directions (734) 482-1512 ext. *500
Drug free workplace. BOE.

MECHANIC

Competitive benefit and compensation packet.

Sherwood Food Distributors has an opening for a Powered Industrial Equipment Mechanic. Experience with electrical & gas industrial equipment, welding, cutting, minor electrical/plumbing and building maintenance.

Sherwood Food Distributors
18615 Sherwood
Detroit, MI 48234
Attn: HR
Fax: (313) 366-0236
Email: jobs@sherwoodfoods.com
EOE M/F/V/D

QUALITY CONTROL

Plymouth, MI Beverage Company is seeking a full time Quality Control Technician. Responsibilities include water analysis, cleaning and sanitizing tanks and filters and filling of tanks. Qualified candidates will have 2 years of college biology or chemistry or 1 year experience in Quality Control in the food/beverage industry or allied field. This position is for the night shift. Additional weekend overtime will be required to support the needs of the business.

Please send resume to
Attn: QC Tech • P.O. Box
701248 Plymouth, MI 48170
Or fax resume to
(734) 416-3810
E-Mail
hr_manufacturing@hotmail.com

EOE M/F/V/D

Maintenance and Production Technicians

Production Technician positions available for experienced individuals with one or more years experience with high speed automated filling and packaging equipment.

Maintenance Technician positions for 2nd and 3rd Shift. Ideal candidates will have 2+ years experience repairing and maintaining high speed filling and packaging equipment. Strong mechanical and electrical troubleshooting skills required. Allen Bradley PLC experience a plus. Technical certification or degree preferred.

Benefit package includes: Competitive Wage • Medical/Dental/Life Insurance • 401K/Profit Sharing • Paid vacations/holidays/birthdays
Send letter of introduction along with a work history to:
Attn: #14 Manufacturing Positions
P.O. BOX 701248
PLYMOUTH, MI 48170
Or Fax: 734-416-3810
Or E-mail hr_manufacturing@hotmail.com
EOE

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\$58,990

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MICHIGAN**

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Homesite) From
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- Great Lake & Freeway Access

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- Blacktop Country Roads
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- Natural Gas
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NORTHVILLE**Steeplechase of Northville**

- 2,900-4,200 sq ft homes with 1/2+ acre home sites in rolling wooded setting
 - On site pools, clubhouse and fitness facility
- From the low \$500s**
(248) 924-2601
North of Six Mile Rd between Ridge and Napier Rds

Northville Hills Golf Club

Country club lifestyle on an Arnold Palmer Signature Golf Course! Resort class amenities minutes from downtown Northville

SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES**Prestwick Estates at****Northville Hills Golf Club**

Visit our New Decorated Model in this private enclave of breathtaking ravine home sites

From the mid-\$500s
(734) 416-9220

Estate Collection

- Three new home designs now available!
- From the \$500s**
(734) 254-9100

ATTACHED CONDOMINIUMS**Villa Condominium Collection**

- Elegant 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath homes
- From the \$370s**
(734) 667-9400
Between Five and Six Mile and Sheldon and Beck Rds

Grand Opening Today!**MILFORD****The Preserve at Maple Lake***Open House Today! 2-5 PM*

- Picturesque lakefront setting with 1+ acre home sites
 - 3,400 to 5,000+ sq ft of living space
 - Adjacent to Kensington Metro Park
- From the mid-\$600s**
(248) 676-9100
On Milford Rd 1 mi north of I 96

The Reserve at Lakes of Milford*Only 3 waterfront home sites remain! Model home for sale!*

- Sparkling lakes, waterfront parks, and walking paths
- From the upper \$300s**
(248) 685-2717
On Honeywell Lake Rd just east of Hickory Ridge Rd

The Bluffs at Lakes of Milford*Act now to lock in pre construction pricing! Visit our model at the Reserve at Lakes of Milford!*

- Waterfront 1+ acre home sites on a 43 acre all sport lake
 - 3,200 to 3,800 sq ft home designs
- From the low \$400s**
(248) 685-2717
Located on Stoneridge Road just north of Commerce Rd 1/4 mi east of Hickory Ridge Rd

Grand Opening!**NOVI****Island Lake of Novi***Spectacular lakefront community surrounding 170 acre private lake with Clubhouse, pool, walking trails, beaches***SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES****Signature Collection**

- Spacious 1+ acre walkout home sites on the lake
- From the \$900s**
(248) 735-9600

Estate Collection

- Stunning 3,300-4,000 sq ft homes
- From the upper \$500s**
(248) 735-6500

Executive Collection

- 2,400-3,200 sq ft homes, walkout lower levels available
- From the upper \$400s**
(248) 735-2200

ATTACHED CONDOMINIUMS**Waterfront Villa Condominium Collection***Final Opportunity!*

- Waterfront home sites feature walkout finished basements and private dock
- From the low \$500s**
(248) 735-9877
On Wixom Rd between Ten Mile Rd and Grand River Ave

ANN ARBOR AREA**Saline Estates***Professionally Decorated Model Now Open!*

- Single-family homes on 3/4 to 1 1/2 acre home sites
 - Highly-acclaimed Saline area school district
- From the upper \$400s**
(734) 944-5252
Off Moon Rd 3/4 mi south of Michigan Ave (US 12)

Walnut Ridge

- Generous 1/2+ acre home sites in highly-rated Ann Arbor School District
- Three car side entry garage and 9 basements included

From the low \$600s

(734) 769-6900

Off Maple Rd 1/4 mi north of M 14

Arbor Hills*Act now to lock in pre construction pricing!*

- 1- to 2 acre home sites
- Acclaimed Ann Arbor schools
- Low Superior Township taxes

From the upper \$500s

(734) 332-1234

From M 14 take Exit 10 (Ford Rd) Travel east past Plymouth Rd approx 1 mi to Ford Rd (west bound) and turn right The entrance is 1/4 mi on the right

Grand Opening!**OAKLAND TOWNSHIP****Century Oaks***Professionally Decorated Model Now Open!*

- Elegant estate homes on expansive 1/2+ acre home sites
- Top rated Rochester Schools Surrounded by Bald Mountain State Park

From the upper \$500s

(248) 814-8455

On the north side of Gunn Rd 1 mi west of Adams Rd
Sales center at third entrance on right**Wynstone***Professionally Decorated Model Now Open!*

- Single family homes with 200 acres preserved open space
- Swim club and park with outdoor pool, tennis and sand volleyball courts, tot lot

The Glens, from the \$300s**The Meadows, from the \$400s**

(586) 336-9725

1/2 mile north of Predmore Rd on Rochester Rd

Oakland Hunt*Professionally Decorated Model Now Open!*

- Private enclave of exquisite single-family homes
- Clubhouse with fitness center, outdoor heated pool
- Tennis courts, soccer field, children's play park

From the upper \$400s

(248) 601-0896

1/2 mile west of Rochester Rd on Buell Rd

tollbrothers.com

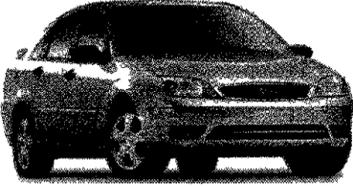
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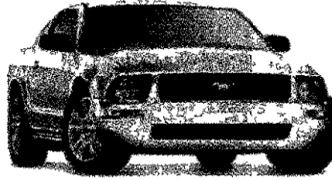


\$172*

Equipped with Auto air power windows locks speed control heated seats safety package anti-lock brakes side impact air bags

BUY FOR \$12,424+ 1 at this price 14 available

2006 MUSTANG/PONY PKG.

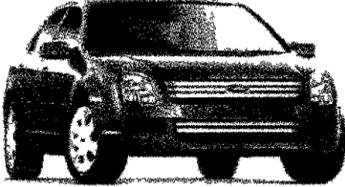


\$262*

GT like wheels auto leather ABS 6-CD MP3 air power windows locks seat speed control

BUY FOR \$20,784+ 4 at this price 12 available

2006 FUSION SE SPORT

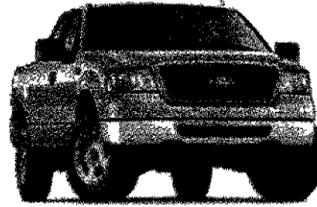


\$206*

Equipped with Sport package auto air premium CDX6/MP3 16 aluminum wheels power windows seat locks speed control

BUY FOR \$16,123+ 10 at this price 115 available

2006 F150 XLT 4X4 SUPERCAB



\$169*

Tow & go 5 48V auto air power windows locks speed control AM/FM/CD sliding rear window

BUY FOR \$23,365+ 5 at this price 289 available

2006 FREESTYLE SEL



\$261*

Equipped with Leather power windows seats locks, speed control CDX6/MP3 traction control

BUY FOR \$21,890+ 5 at this price 124 available

Your Choice...4x4 or AWD Same Payment!

2006 ESCAPE XLT With Sun. & Sound

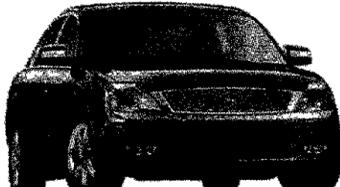


\$253*

Equipped with Air power windows locks speed control power moonroof cargo cover audiophile/6-CD in dash/sat cap

BUY FOR \$19,548+ 3 at this price 100 available

2006 FIVE HUNDRED SEL



\$257*

Equipped with Leather Audiophile sound system heated seats power windows seats locks speed control traction control

BUY FOR \$19,333+ 3 at this price 112 available

2006 EXPLORER XLT 4X4



\$226*

Equipped with Leather adjustable pedals power windows locks speed control with tilt wheel AM/FM/CD

BUY FOR \$24,566+ 3 at this price 225 available

FINAL CLEARANCE SALE!

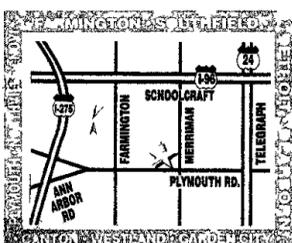
2005 FIVE HUNDRED AWD LTD	WAS \$23,755	KISS \$21,965
2005 FREESTYLE	WAS \$32,190	KISS \$23,003
2005 RANGER 4X4	WAS \$23,575	KISS \$17,280
2005 MUSTANG	WAS \$23,355	KISS \$19,988

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