

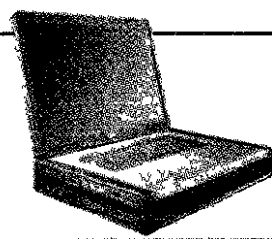


Can travel and fashion really go hand-in-hand?

pink PAGE D8

Garage band spotlight burns bright on Web

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April 20, 2006

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Ballots late for school election

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

Municipal clerks administering ballots for the May 2 Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education election, which also includes a two-question \$120 million bond proposal, said absentee ballots should be delivered to registered voters by the end of this week.

Clerks in Plymouth, Plymouth Township and Canton Township said they didn't receive the ballots until Monday, which is almost a week later than the earlier-promised April 12 delivery date.

"We worked overtime stuffing like mad," Canton Township Clerk Terry Bennett said Tuesday afternoon of the 3,500-plus absentee ballots that were expected to be in the mail by Wednesday. "It certainly compressed the time we need to get them sent out, and put us in a pressure circumstance to get them turned around quickly."

Plymouth Township Clerk Marilyn Massengill said she doesn't expect to run into any problems in administering the Plymouth-Canton election, despite the delay in receiving the ballots.

"If it was one of the big elections, and we had to send ballots overseas, that would have been bad," Massengill said. "Luckily, we had only four or five going out of state."

Massengill said she had 2,300 applications for absentee ballots as of Tuesday, and expects there to be more prior to the election. That's up from the 2,000 she sent out for last year's school board election, which didn't have a bond proposal.

"Even though the school district was good about letting people know about the election, they didn't send the absentee ballot application to people 60 years and older on a permanent list, like we do," Massengill said.

Bennett also expects to see more voters at the polls this year.

"In comparison to the kind of voter turnout in other school elections, the interest is up there," Bennett said. "I think there certainly is an increased interest in the people running for the school board, as well as the bond election."

Plymouth Clerk Linda Langnesser, who also didn't receive ballots until Monday, said she had 612 absentee ballots to send out as of Tuesday, which is up from the 569 from last year's school district election. With the increased number of candidates and the bond proposal, Langnesser was prepared for bigger numbers.

"You would think that with the money issues on the ballot, people would be concerned enough to get out and vote," she said.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Gene Dickirson's dream is in his garage - the GDT Speedster he's building with his nine-member team

Speedster the stuff of dreams Car far more than a hobby for engineer

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

As a small child, Gene Dickirson remembers having a big-time dream.

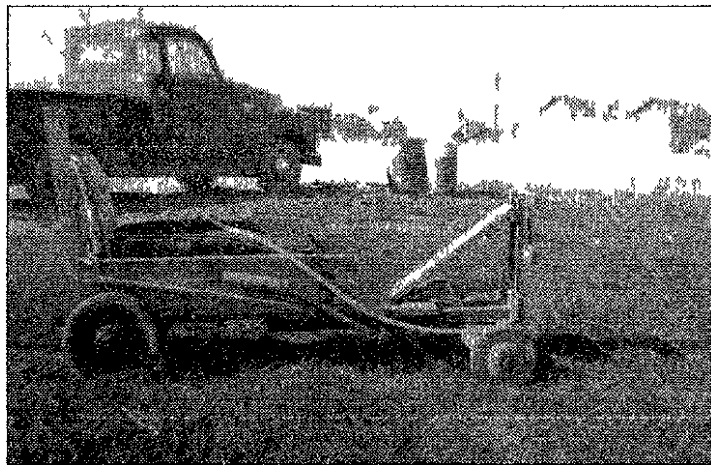
"Ever since I was 5 years old, I wanted to build a complete car," said Dickirson, who is now 63.

At age 8, while others were playing baseball and back yard games, Dickirson and a friend were building push cars from wood and old tires, propelling each other around their suburban Las Vegas neighborhood.

With his interest in the auto industry, Dickirson eventually became an engineering manager at Ford Motor Co., spending much of his 35-year career designing heaters, radiators and air conditioners.

However, when Ford offered enough incentive to retire in 1988, Dickirson didn't see idle time and vacations on the horizon. Instead, he saw an opportunity to fulfill his life-long dream.

It began Feb. 6, 2000, at Dickirson's Plymouth Township home, when he assembled a nine-member



Gene Dickirson's GDT Speedster is a long way from one of his earlier efforts

team and began the process of designing, developing and building the one-of-a-kind GDT (Gene Dickirson Team) Speedster in his basement design studio.

Nearly six years later, Dickirson's boyhood dream came to fruition with a uniquely designed, two-seat red sports car assembled in his garage.

"We designed and built about 2,000 components," said Dickirson. "This car is my Ph.D. thesis in engineering. For the purchased goods

and services, it cost a little less than \$100,000," added Dickirson. "However, that doesn't include the 13,000 hours of time team members have invested in the car. At the Ford rate, of about \$100 an hour, that would come close to \$1.3 million."

Most of the time belongs to Dickirson, whose retirement really resulted in another full-time job - without pay.

"Six hours a day, six days a week for almost six years," said

PLEASE SEE SPEEDSTER, A6

Township hikes water, sewer rates

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

Plymouth Township officials are turning to their residents in an effort to keep up with water rate increases being passed on by the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department, and to be able to make bond payments on the expansion at the Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority plant.

Township board members voted to hike the fees residents pay for water/sewer some 12 percent, to \$5.42 per

1,000 gallons. The new rates go into effect July 1.

Township Treasurer Ron Edwards said the hike was brought before the board to help cover a 6-percent rate hike from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department and to cover the cost of paying for the expansion at YCUA.

In a report to the board, township planner Plante & Moran pointed out the township was projected to lose about 2 percent of its water sales. The Plante & Moran forecast suggested an 18-percent increase,

but board members settled for raising rates 12 percent. That's why township Clerk Marilyn Massengill voted no.

"I voted no simply because if Detroit is sending the cost to us, we need to be sending it on to residents," Massengill said. "Do I want my bills to go up? No, I sure don't. (But) if Detroit is going to continue to do this every year, we need to pass it on so we're not using taxpayer money to make up the difference."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (734) 459-2700

Cuts could force senior bus fees

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

Reductions in federal block grant money could mean Plymouth-area seniors will soon be required to pay a ridership fee to help fund the senior transportation program.

According to Plymouth Finance Director Mark Christiansen, federal subsidies for the senior bus program have gone from \$91,000 three years ago to just \$58,000 this year.

"In our four-year budget projection, we show a continued decline (of funding)," Christiansen said. "My concern is the rug will get pulled from underneath us, which means it will be pulled from under those who use the service."

The cost for the senior transportation program is split between the city and Plymouth Township, based on percentage of riders. City residents traditionally make up about 60 percent of the runs, while township residents ride about 40 percent of the time.

Christiansen said last year the senior transportation program cost the communities \$139,700. However, because of the cut in federal funding, the 2006-07 projected budget indicates a total cost of \$111,700.

This used to be a carte-blanc program, whereby seniors would call whenever they wanted service," Christiansen said. "We can't afford to do that anymore." Currently, seniors don't pay to ride within Plymouth boundaries, although they are asked for voluntary donations. Rides to Canton are \$6 round trip, while trips to Ann Arbor cost \$10.

The Plymouth Area Council on Aging has recommended several changes in order to keep the two buses on the road. One calls for a mandatory \$1 fare per ride, or \$2 round trip, which would generate about \$15,000 a year. And reducing the bus schedule by one hour at the end of the day - until 3:30 p.m. - would save an estimated \$30,000.

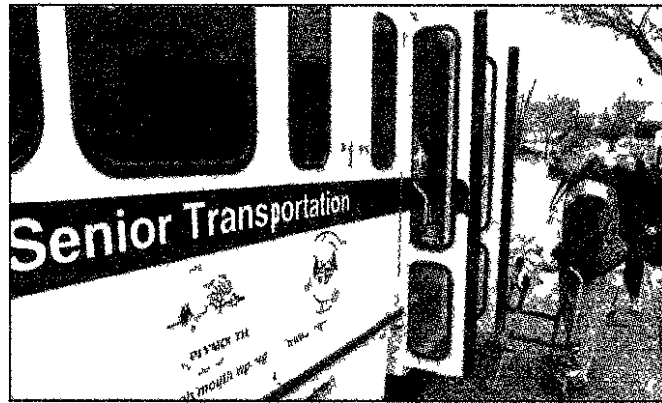
Russ Ash of Plymouth, a member of the Council on Aging board, said the changes are necessary to ensure seniors continue to have transportation.

"Because the funding we got for the program has been dwindling, this is a reasonable way of making up the difference," Ash said. "We're going to do everything we can to maintain the service. The Council on Aging feels it's a necessary operation."

Evelyn LeFever, 93, of Plymouth Township, is not only on Social Security, but is legally blind and physically handicapped because of arthritis. She said neither of the recommendations are optimum, but they are better than having no bus service at all.

"If I have to pay, then I'll just have to cut something else, because I have no other means of getting around," LeFever said. "And, if they shorten the time - it's hard now - then you'll have to confine all your activities."

PLEASE SEE BUS FEES, A5



Riders like Dave Rath and Jacqueline Fink could find themselves paying to ride the senior transportation bus after cuts in federal funding for the program.

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Coming Sunday
in Health



'Premie Stars' to help
March of Dimes' quest

Fighting hunger

The Wilcox Foundation Learning Program students, families and coaches join with the Key Clubs at the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools high schools and the Plymouth Krwanis Club for "Kids Against Hunger," in the Canton High School cafeteria 2 30-5 30 p m Thursday, April 27

The goal of the program is to meet or exceed the packaging of one million meals for Katrina victims, Detroit's needy and Tsunami victims

For more information on this joint community service project, e-mail jcp513@ameritech.net or call James Piazza, (734) 996-4408

DAR meets

The Daughters of the American Revolution meet 6 30-8 45 p m Monday, May 15, at the Plymouth District Library for a program on genealogy searches

For more information, call (734) 459-4764

Stamp show

The West Suburban Stamp Club hosts its Plymouth Stamp Show April 29-30 at Central Middle School in downtown Plymouth

The event includes some 2,800 pages of exhibits, 40 dealers from the United States and Canada, U N and Nordica post offices, seminars, society meetings and youth program

This qualifying show for the American Philatelic Society's annual Champion of Champions competition takes place 10 a m -5 30 p m

Saturday, April 29, and 10 a m -4 p m Sunday, April 30 The school is located at the corner of Church and Main, admission and parking are free

For details, go to the Web site at <http://mywebpages.comcast.net/wssc/plymshow.htm> or call (734) 699-1026

Job seekers

Ken Woodside, a consultant and trainer with expertise in change in the workplace, speaks at the Our Lady of Good Counsel career networking group 7 p m Monday, April 24, at OLG, 47650 N Territorial in Plymouth Township

Woodside will speak on, "The Emotional Impact of Losing a Job," focusing on the different emotions individuals go through as they manage their job search

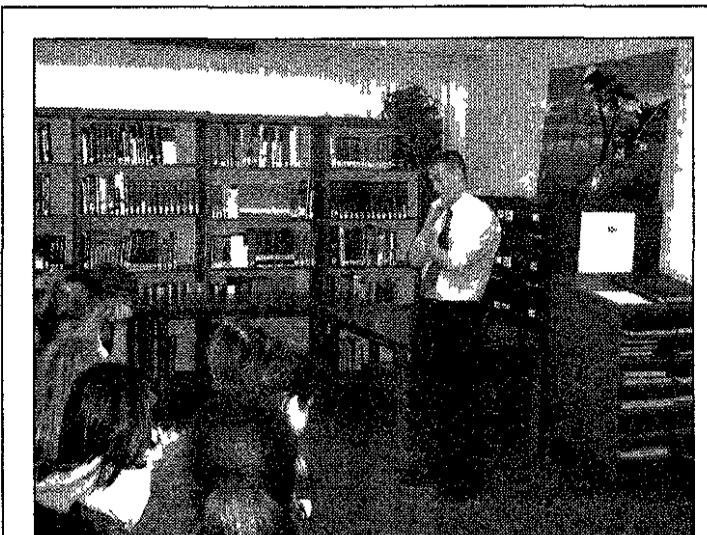
Woodside, founder of and principal consultant for the Leadership Forum, LLC, offers strategies that will help job seekers and their spouses/partners in dealing with the emotional highs and lows during that time

Admission to the presentation is free The public and persons who are out of work, re-energizing a job search, expecting layoffs or are looking for a new opportunity or a first job are invited

For information or directions, call Ed Walton, (734) 634-2245

Prayer breakfast

The Rev Gerard Stockhausen, president of University of Detroit-Mercy, and Dr Peter Mitchell, pres-



A civics lesson

Hillsdale Mayor Michael Sessions visited Salem High School last week, and spoke with students in six classes At 18, Sessions is the youngest elected mayor the United States. He discussed with students his improbable victory last November and what it means to be a public servant

dent of Albion College, are the featured speakers at an Ecumenical Legislator Prayer Breakfast 8 30 a m Saturday, April 22, at the Plymouth Historical Museum

Cost is \$10 per person at the door The museum is located at 155 N Main in downtown Plymouth

For information, call state Rep John Stewart, (517) 373-3816, or museum director Beth Stewart, (734) 455-8940

Dance performance

The local dance company, Dance Ensemble West, presents "Dance Collection 2006" 5 p m Saturday, April 29, at the John Glenn High School Auditorium, 36105 Marquette in Westland

The concert is an annual

performance of ballet, jazz and modern dance works The show features a guest appearance by the Dance Alliance Repertory Company from Saline, Mich Ticket donation of \$10 is available at the door

Dance Ensemble West, comprised of dancers from Plymouth, Canton, Northville, Novi, Livonia and Salem Township, is a performing arts organization that has been providing dance and arts education services in the community for more than 18 years The ensemble, under the direction of Barbara Raschke of Dance Unlimited in Plymouth, includes senior, junior and apprentice divisions with dancers ranging in age from 5-18 This year's performance will include pieces by dancers

in all three divisions

For more information, call (734) 420-4430

Chorus concert

The Plymouth Community Chorus presents its annual spring concert, "Just for Fun," 8 p m Saturday, April 29, and 4 p m Sunday April 30, at Northville High School, 46700 Six Mile in Northville

The chorus has brought back popular and soft rock favorites, sure to get audience members' toes tappin' and hands clapping from famous artists like George Benson, Earth Wind and Fire, Henry Mancini and Manhattan Transfer

Tickets are \$12-\$13 and are available by calling the PCC ticket hotline at (866) 924-4276

Class reunion

Members of the Plymouth High School Class of 1961 gather for their 45th class reunion June 3 at the Holiday Inn in Livonia

Members can contact the reunion committee by e-mail at plymouthhs1961@sbcglobal.net or write PHS Class of 61 45th Reunion, c/o S&W Pro Hardware, 875 W Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170

Showcase Plymouth

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce hosts the 14th-annual Showcase Plymouth 5-7 30 p m Monday, May 1 at the Inn at St John's

Hines Park Lincoln Mercury is the major sponsor of the event, which features products and services from companies from all over the community In conjunction with the mini-business expo, Showcase also features Taste of Plymouth,

which allows patrons to sample cuisine from more than a dozen local eateries

Businesses wishing to participate can rent a six-foot covered table for \$100 for members, \$200 for potential members

To join the expo, or for more information, call the chamber, (734) 453-1540

Stewart on TV

State Rep John Stewart, (R-Plymouth Township) appears on the television program, "Spotlight On The News" 11 30 a m -noon Sunday, April 23 on WXYZ TV-7

Stewart serves as chairman of the Higher Education Subcommittee on Appropriations, charged with negotiating the budget for the state's 15 major universities along with Governor Granholm and the Senate

"Higher education is the essence of our recovery for the state of Michigan," said Stewart "It is a great honor and opportunity to talk with Mr Chuck Stokes especially at this time"

"Spotlight On The News" is Detroit's longest-running weekly news and public affairs show and is hosted by Chuck Stokes, a graduate of the Morehouse and Columbia School of Journalism Stokes has been the editorial/public affairs director since 1987

Purple Heart

The Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH) is presently seeking volunteers for programs at the Ann Arbor VA hospital For details contact Roger L Kehrner at (734) 453-2031

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Hands On Center
Presented by Hands On Center For Physical Therapy

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Although exercise is important what is equally as important is ensuring that you warm up before exercising approaching it correctly Preparation is essential and without it you run the risk of hindering your physical therapy care call the HANDS ON CENTER FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY now at 455 8370 We are located at 650 South Main Street in downtown Plymouth New patients are welcome

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Area braces for company

Officials expect major influx of Ford Road traffic once IKEA opens

BY CAROL MARSHALL
STAFF WRITER

Ask people who live or work in Canton about Ford Road traffic, and most will tell you it's bad.

Township polls regarding the quality of life in Canton back up that assessment, as do traffic studies and intersection crash studies (which point to the intersection of Haggerty and Ford as being the third most dangerous in Wayne County).

But when the numbers are black and white - the hour-by-hour count of traffic on Ford Road - the impact of a spike in traffic volume becomes more clear.

According to a traffic study, produced for IKEA as part of its site plan approval process, 5,314 vehicles pass through the intersection at Ford and Haggerty during weekday peak hours (5-6 p.m.). The signal just to the west of there, in front of the future furniture store, has 3,408 vehicles pass by it during the same time period. During peak weekend hours - 1-2 p.m. Saturday, 5,035 vehicles go through the Ford and Haggerty intersection and 3,232 pass by the store front on Ford Road.

But after the store opens, an additional 380 vehicles will go through the intersection during weekday peaks (195 entering the parking lot and 185 exiting), and 1,400 will pass through during the Saturday peak hour (790 entering and 610 leaving).

Existing levels of service at Ford and Haggerty are at best average. Level of service is measured in terms of seconds of delay per vehicle, and are assigned a rating, with A being the best and F being the worst. What it looks like on paper is a delay ranging from 31.8 seconds per vehicle (a C rating) during the weekday rush to 128.5 seconds per vehicle (an F rating) during the Saturday peak. What it looks like in real life is cars backed up onto exit ramps and stacked up at stop lights. The overall average at the intersection is 60 seconds of delay dur-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Brenda Findsen, who owns Rainbows and Dreams at Ford and Lilley, is unsure of how her business will be affected by IKEA traffic. "I hope that we do get some of the traffic from IKEA, but I'm not counting on it," she said.

ing the week, and 139.9 seconds of delay on Saturday.

However, road improvements are expected to bring those numbers down to 34.6 seconds and 42.7 seconds respectively (a C and D rating). Improvements include adding through lanes and an exclusive right turn lane at east and westbound approaches.

The basic analysis includes information on how the traffic is now and how the new development will impact the existing roadways," said Canton Municipal Services Director Tim Faas. "It looks at whether or not additional signals are required

or more turning lanes, or if the road needs to be widened."

In this case, the answer was affirmative on all three counts, and work has begun - or has been completed - for most of the issues.

"IKEA's is more complicated than the typical study because it's a retail development that has a broad geographical region that it draws from, as opposed to the liquor store on the corner that services the neighborhood," Faas said.

What the study suggested was widening of ramps at Ford and I-275, extra lanes from Ford to the freeway. Also recommended were improve-

ROAD WOES

Traffic crashes at Ford and Haggerty

Year	Crashes
1997	58
1998	56
1999	45
2000	50
2001	41
2002	53
2003	37
2004	62

Total: 402

Total fatalities: 0

Total injuries: 77

Source: SEMCOG

ments to the traffic signals. Soon the new signals will be installed, Faas said. They work on radio frequencies and send information through radio waves from antenna to antenna at each intersection.

"That keeps the lights along the corridor in sync with each other," Faas said.

But for now, the Canton Police is helping change driver behaviors by implementing a traffic safety program, starting this week. Officers will be working in areas of the township where there have been the most traffic crashes. Ford and Haggerty is the first intersection Canton Police's first area of focus.

Signs will be posted at the intersection during the enforcement times, advising the motoring public of the activity. While working the intersections, officers will evaluate the traffic signals and signs in the area, notifying Wayne County Road Commission and the Michigan Department of Transportation of any problems or recommended changes.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Officials expect the opening of the Ikea store will likely increase traffic along Ford Road by as many as 1,400 cars during peak weekend periods.

Businesses, residents hope for best

BY CAROL MARSHALL
STAFF WRITER

Tracey Pawlowski's situation would be considered by most to be ideal. Her home is just a mile away from her Canton business, so her daily commute is by anyone's standards very short. But come June 7, the question that will be on her mind every morning is: How am I going to get to work?

The thing is, Pawlowski's home is off Hanford and Haggerty, north of Ford. Her business, Back Home Bakery is at Ford and Lilley. So Pawlowski has to cross Ford Road, which wouldn't be a big deal except for one new neighbor - IKEA, a furniture store with such a large regional draw that it attracts some 2 million visitors a year at other store locations. When the Canton store opens on June 7, traffic trouble is expected, and no one knows as of yet when it will subside or exactly how it's going to affect Canton's roads.

"As a business owner I'm hopeful that I'm going to get all this spin-off business everyone keeps talking about, but as a homeowner, I'm really concerned," she said. In addition to her concern over traffic, Pawlowski said that her last property tax bill on her home told a story she didn't want to hear, for the first time in eight

years, her home value dropped. Just across Lilley Road, Brenda Findsen's store, Rainbows and Dreams, could use more traffic.

"I hope that we do get some of the traffic from IKEA, but I'm not counting on it," she said.

One of two things will happen, she figures - either she'll get a small amount of IKEA visitors to stop by and the additional traffic out on Ford Road will be great for her gift shop, or Ford Road will be so busy that she actually loses customers who are fed up with the clogged roadway.

"Either way, I have to just wait and see," Findsen said.

Both store owners are hopeful that revisions to Canton's sign ordinance will help. Right now, Rainbows and Dreams has no sign on the post in front of the strip mall where the business is located. Nor does Back Home Bakery, a business that could use a few more impulse shoppers and foot traffic, said Pawlowski.

The ordinance is being revisited later this year - probably by summer, according to Downtown Development Authority Director Kathleen Salla.

The DDA contracted consultants to make recommendations to the township board regarding the ordinance, which limits the size and number of signs in front of businesses.

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\$3.00 2lbs.
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**Fresh
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\$1.99 16 oz. pkg

**Hydroponic
Beefsteak
Tomatoes**
\$3.00 2lbs.
Red &
Ripe

**ARS Vitis
Riesling '03**
\$9.99 750 ml
This wine comes in an
attractive bottle!

**Cambozola
Cheese**
\$11.89 lb.
Soft ripened
cheese a cross
between Brie &
Gorgonzola

**Neige
Ice Cider**
\$30.99 375 ml
This a truly Unique dessert
wine both sweet & acidic!

**Edys
A Family Favorite
Ice Cream**
\$6.00 56 Oz.
All
Natural
Flavors!

**N. Y. Sharp
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Prices Good Thru Sunday, April 23, 2006

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Plymouth Road suffers more retail losses

BY DAN WEST
STAFF WRITER

House of Denmark is closing its Livonia store and two other metro Detroit locations this spring as part of a reorganization of the Michigan-based European furniture chain.

Store closing sale signs were posted on the Livonia store located on Plymouth between Levan and Wayne. The 15,500-square-foot furniture store that has operated at that location for about 25 years is scheduled to close for good at the end of May.

House of Denmark General Manager John Panicia said the region's economic conditions and changes in the industry's market — including the scheduled June opening of the 360,000-square-foot IKEA furniture store in Canton — forced the company's decision.

"We didn't want to leave Livonia, but it makes prudent sense," Panicia said. "IKEA didn't force this decision, but we need to reinvent ourselves and shed some brick and mortar to help us become a stronger company."

The seven-store furniture chain is closing its Livonia, Rochester and Keego Harbor locations. Unsold inventory will be shipped to

the company's Holly-based headquarters, distribution center and 36,000-square-foot store located on a 13-acre parcel along East Holly Road near I-75. House of Denmark, Panicia said, plans to expand its Holly retail center into a facility that could be as large as 300,000 square feet.

"The trend now is that you need mega-centers in our industry," Panicia said. "People want a destination point where they want a broader range of products and prices, and offer all the home furnishings you need in one place."

In addition to the Holly location, House of Denmark will continue to operation stores in Port Huron, Okemos and Traverse City.

House of Denmark is the third large retailer to close a Plymouth Road location in Livonia this year. Media Play, near Middlebelt, closed its doors in January and nearby Sports Authority recently announced it will close soon.

Livonia Chamber of Commerce President Wes Graff said he hopes the pending \$100 million redevelopment of Wonderland Mall will increase traffic along Plymouth Road and make these large vacant sites attractive to new users in the near future.

Plymouth hiker honors mother, young 'hero'

Rick Bowling is currently training to participate in Hike for Discovery, a hike in the Grand Canyon June 3, 2006, to raise funds for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

The Plymouth resident will hike for an "Honored Hero," 6-year-old Shelby Stimpson of Rochester Hills, who has been diagnosed with Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia.

Shelby, who loves the color pink, Care Bears and ballet and looks forward to playing soccer this spring, had her last treatment in March, but to get here, she has endured 20 spinal taps (16 unseeded), six bone marrow aspirations, nine transfusions and more than 3,200 pills.

As a volunteer in the Hike For Discovery (HFD) program, Bowling is committed to raising at least \$5,000 to help The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society in its mission to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma, and improve the quality of life of patients and their families.

Bowling, 53, was inspired to become a HFD volunteer after spending time with patients at the University of Michigan Cancer Center.

"Learning about Hike For Discovery was exciting," said Bowling. "And hiking for my Honored Hero gives real meaning to my training,



Plymouth hiker Rick Bowling hikes the Grand Canyon for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society in honor of "Young Hero" Shelby Stimpson of Rochester Hills.

mother Barbara, who passed from breast cancer.

"I will keep Shelby in mind every step of the way, as well as two family members with cancer, four neighbors and the fond memories of my mother, Barbara, who passed from breast cancer," Bowling wrote.

This is the first year volunteers from the Michigan Chapter of The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society will be participating in Hike For Discovery, according to Tami Duquette, the HFD director.

"Hikers raise funds and in exchange receive a personalized advice and training schedule that will help them successfully complete their hikes in the Grand Canyon," Duquette explained.

For more Hike For Discovery information, or to make a donation, contact The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society at (800) 456-5413 or visit their Web sites at www.HikeForDiscovery.org/ or www.rickbowling.com

fund-raising and this cause. It's a remarkable motivator."

Bowling has been a building inspector with MichiganInspect Com for 15 years and loves to camp and bike with his three grandchildren.

On his Web site, Bowling said his efforts will be, in large measure, a dedication to his mother.

I will keep Shelby in mind every step of the way, as well

as two family members with cancer, four neighbors and the fond memories of my

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Tickets are available at all Busch's stores

@ THE LIBRARY

The Plymouth District Library, located at 223 S. Main in downtown Plymouth, offers the following programs during April.

■ **LIBRARY GARDEN GROUP**, Thursday, April 20, 7 p.m. — Join local gardeners in this informal monthly gathering. This month's discussion will center around spring clean up and early planting. No registration is required.

■ **CREATING A PERSONAL PROGRAM OF DIET, NUTRITION AND EXERCISE**, Thursday, April 20, 7 p.m. — Local dietitian Deborah Silverman, MS, RD, FADA returns to the library after her popular nutrition program in 2005. She will lead a lively discussion on how to sort through the vast amount of available information to create a personal program of diet, nutrition and exercise. This program is made possible with the support of the Friends of the Plymouth District Library. Healthy snacks will be served. Register for this free program by calling (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4.

■ **AUTHOR VISIT**, *The Road You've Traveled*, Monday, April 24, 2 p.m. — Local author Jane Saylor will share the secrets of recording personal history as detailed in her new book, *The Road You've Traveled: How to Journal your Life*. She will provide valuable how-to information to assist attendees in this process which can preserve history or help with future decision making. Signed copies of Saylor's book will be on sale at the end of the program. Register for this program by calling the Reader's Advisory Desk, (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4.

■ **NEEDLECRAFTERS MEETING**, Monday, April 24, 7-9 p.m. — Knitters, quilters, needlepointers are all invited to attend this informal group gathering. Lessons are not provided, but ideas exchanged among attendees. No registration required.

■ **MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG WORKSHOP**, Tuesday, April 25, 1:30 p.m. — The library joins CVS/Pharmacy in helping area seniors better understand the new Medicare Prescription Drug Program. Individuals should bring a list of their specific prescription needs and will be able to compare pricing in the different programs offered. Registration is required. Call (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4.

■ **WORLD WAR I SERIES**, Tuesday, April 25, 6:30 p.m. — Scott Beaman will conclude this six-part series as he introduces Professor Robert Citino of Eastern Michigan University. Professor Citino will present "After the War: the Turbulent Years." Register for this free program by calling (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4.

■ **BROWN BAG BOOK DISCUSSION**, Wednesday, April 26, noon — This month's discussion invites members to read *The Other Boleyn Girl* by Philippa Gregory. Copies of this book are available at the circulation desk. Bring a lunch, beverages are provided. For more information about Brown Bag Books, ask at the Reader's Advisory Desk, call Dixie Cocagne at the library, (734) 453-0750, or e-mail dcocagne@plymouthlibrary.org.

■ **HOMEBOUND BOOK DELIVERY** — Joining the Plymouth Community Council on Aging, the Plymouth District Library will deliver library books and audio books to homebound residents of the City of Plymouth and Plymouth Township. Call (734) 453-0750, Ext. 240 to enroll or go to plymouthlibrary.org and complete the homebound delivery service registration.

Youth Programs

■ **BABY PLAY**, Monday, April 24, 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. and Saturday, April 29, 10 a.m. — This program is for babies ages 6-24 months. Baby Play is a less formal companion to the library's Lapsit program. Babies and caregivers listen to a story, followed by play with developmentally appropriate toys and interaction with other children. The Baby Play program takes place on the fourth Monday of each month, and then repeated on the following Saturday. Registration is not required.

■ **SPRING BREAK MOVIE**, Thursday, April 20, 2 p.m. — Patrons can enjoy Walt Disney's animated comedy, *Chicken Little*. No registration is required.

BUS FEES

FROM PAGE A1X

LeFever, who pays a mandatory \$6 round trip fee to get to her doctor's office because it's in Canton, said it's not easy keeping appointments within a shortened time frame. She said the reduced hours of operation would also make it more difficult to get to the grocery store, hair dresser and senior activities.

It just seems to me the government is spending so much

money recklessly at the federal level, cutting communities, who are then cutting back on services so that we're paying," LeFever said.

City Manager Paul Sincock said he'll talk with Plymouth Township officials before any changes are implemented.

"We want the seniors to know the proposed changes won't be implemented immediately and we'll do whatever we can to keep those changes from having a big impact on them," he said.

tbruscato@hometownlife.com | (734) 459-2700

DEATHS

B
Francis Donald Brogan
Brogan 75 died April 13

C
Cheryl L. Caram
Caram 67 died April 13

D
Thadeus Edward Danaj
Danaj 78 of Petoskey died April 9

Arleen Marie Debozy
Debozy 84 of Westland died April 15

Florence M. Devriendt
Devriendt 79 formerly of Farmington died April 10

F
Bertha Louise Fuqua

Fuqua 69 formerly of Bloomfield Hills died Nov. 14

Elizabeth Furbacher
Furbacher 99 of Westland died April 15

H
Richard M. Howell
Howell 75 of Indian River died April 8

J
Ruth Isabel Jones
Jones 80 died April 14

P
Virginia (nee Ursullak) Perrot
Perrot 67 of Covenant Village Colorado died March 30

R
Mary Jane 'June' Ryan
Ryan of Bloomfield Hills died

S
George L. Schaffer Jr.
Schaffer 84 of Plymouth died April 12

Ann Krysa Sims
Sims 83 of Bloomfield Hills died April 15

Donald J. Smith
Smith 83 formerly of Rochester died April 15

Complete paid obituaries can be found inside today's newspaper in Passages on page A18.

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SPEEDSTER

FROM PAGE A1

Dickirson of his challenge "I have not taken a vacation since I retired. Basically, building this car has been my life. Most cars are customized, they take an existing car, modify it, cut and paste. This one is built from scratch."

The engine, cooling system and suspension are from a Corvette, but the rest was designed by the GDT team.

"We designed the car around

the windshield and the door hinges," Dickirson said. "If you have a custom windshield made, it cost from \$5,000 to \$50,000. What happens if you get a stone chip? We didn't want that."

The windshield, designed for the Jeep Cherokee, only costs about \$200 from suppliers. The fiberglass panels were made in North Carolina by a company which makes boat parts, the wheels were made by a Washington company for a little over \$1,000 a wheel, with the seats made in California and the leather upholstery

added in Garden City.

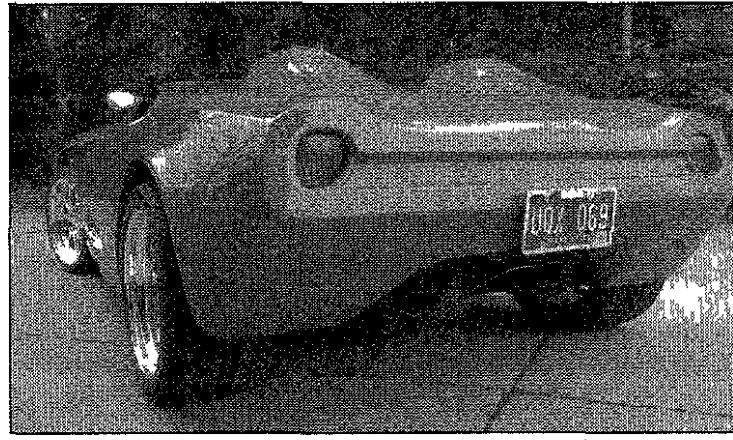
The 300-horsepower Speedster can go from 0-60 mph in 5.7 seconds, reaching a top speed of 175 mph, though Dickirson admits he isn't sure he's got the nerve to go that fast.

"The car will go faster than my guts," said Dickirson, who has driven the car sparingly on a route that includes Ann Arbor and Gotfredson roads. "I've driven it up and down M-14 at about 75 mph. One little spurt on Gotfredson I kicked it up to 95."

While Dickirson has the bulk of the hours to design and build the Speedster, his long-time friend, Chuck Carlson of Livonia, has the next highest at about 2,000 hours.

"Gene and I started the same day at Ford, we met in the personnel office," said Carlson, who retired a year after Dickirson. "We said goodbye to one another and were surprised to see each other working in the same office. We've been friends ever since."

Carlson, who drives a 2006 Corvette, has been a "car guy" since he was 12 years old. "There was never a question this was going to get finished," said Carlson, 62. "It was a



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

This is the rear view of Gene Dickirson's GDT Speedster

challenge every day, but we never got discouraged. It did take a long time, but the one thing we had was time."

"I've always been the type of person who likes to work with my hands," added Carlson. "Everyone has a little motor oil in their blood."

Carlson said success came because the team took its time to do it right.

"Because this vehicle was so well-designed, we knew ahead of time it was going to work," he said. "With a very few exceptions, everything worked the first time."

Dave Maran, 53, of Livonia

worked on the welding and body panels. When he was asked by Dickirson to be part of the team, Maran said he never hesitated.

"When I worked with Gene at Ford, he was always the guy that got things done," said Maran. "For a guy who was supposed to be retired, his energy really amazed me."

Maran, currently an engineer at Visteon, said despite working in the auto industry, the Speedster project helped him become more aware of what it takes to build cars.

"Working in the auto industry, you see little pieces here and there," Maran said. "Until I worked on this, I didn't appreciate how much engineering,

money and effort that goes into producing something like this. It was a thrill to see it grow from a model concept, get the lines on paper, and watch it grow to what it is today."

While the GDT team marvels at its success, the plan is to make it short-lived.

"Our plan, all along, was to auction it to a collector," said Dickirson. "Our business plan says team members will be paid from the profits, based on the number of hours they've invested in the project."

Dickirson said the financial gain at auction could range from \$250,000 to \$5 million.

"It's a very limited market," admitted Dickirson. "There's about 10 people interested in this kind of car who can afford it. Our minimum bid will be \$350,000."

Dickirson noted the GDT Speedster is 'a one-of-a-kind car, we have no plans to go into production.'

However, don't rule out another Speedster, of sorts, because for the GDT Speedster team "the fun for us is in the building."

"We want to build another car that will be similar to this, but look different," Dickirson said. "We want to make each one different, so that the collector who buys this kind of car gets something unique."

**WAYNE-WESTLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST**

The Westland City Clerk will hold a public accuracy test on the M-100 voting equipment for the Wayne Westland Community School District Board of Education election to be held on May 2, 2006 on Wednesday, April 26, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. at Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan. All interested parties from the Township of Canton, and the Cities of Dearborn Heights and Westland are hereby notified.

The public accuracy test is conducted to determine that the program and the computer being used to tabulate the ballot results count the votes in the manner prescribed by law.

Eileen DeHart
Westland City Clerk

Publish 4/20/2006

06E430596

**WAYNE-WESTLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTORS
NOTICE TO THE ELDERLY AND DISABLED VOTERS**

Absent voter ballots for the Wayne Westland Community School District election are available through the Westland City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan, for those persons who are physically unable to attend the polls or are 60 years of age or older. The voter, before the issuance of a ballot, must complete an application for ballot.

The last day to apply for a ballot by mail is Saturday, April 29, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. Persons qualified to vote absentee may vote in person in the Westland City Clerk's Office until 4:00 p.m. on Monday, May 1, 2006.

Eileen DeHart
Westland City Clerk

Publish April 20, 2006

06E430937

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
INVITATION TO BID**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk. Sealed bids enclosed in an envelope which has been sealed and clearly labeled with the words "Beck Road Water Main Extension" along with the name, address, phone number of the Contractor, the date and time of bid opening will be received by the Charter Township of Canton, Clerk's Office, 1st Floor, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48188 until 3:00 p.m., Thursday, May 4, 2006 at which time the bids will be opened and publicly read aloud for the following described project:

BECK ROAD WATER MAIN EXTENSION

Project consists of the following approximate major quantities:

- 1,372 LF 16" Diameter Ductile Iron Water Main
- 195 LF Bore and Jack with 30" Diameter Steel Casing Pipe
- 2 EA 16" Diameter Gate Valve and Well
- 3 EA Fire Hydrant Installation

The Project involves the installation of new water main and all associated work such as grading and restoration.

Bid documents are available to pick up at Canton Township Hall, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, 2nd Floor - Engineering, Canton, MI 48188. A nonrefundable fee of \$25.00 will be charged for the bid packet. A 5% bid bond will be required.

Bid Documents are on file for review at Canton Township Public Works, Construction Association of Michigan, Reed Construction Data Construction News Service of Michigan Inc. and McGraw Hill Construction.

The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

The Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids in whole or in part, and accept only the bid deemed to be in the best interest of the Township.

Terry Bennett
Clerk

Publish April 20 & 23, 2006

06E430982

SHURGARD STORAGE

Notice is hereby given that the following units will be sold to the highest bidder by way of open auction on 05/05/06 at approximately 9:00 a.m. or there after at the following locations:

Shurgard Storage of Canton North *2101 Haggerty Rd* Canton* 734-981-0300
6238 Brooks Household Items
5049 Galdon Household Items
4034 Sims Household Items

Shurgard Storage of Canton South* 45229 Michigan Ave* Canton* 734-398-5416
2023 Henderson household
2015 Hlavacek household
4016 Multi Rac family household
4039 Murray household
4162 Trammell household

Shurgard Storage of Dearborn*24920 Trowbridge*Dearborn*313-277-2000
1486 Klingensmith Household Items
228 Davis Household Items

Shurgard Storage of Livonia*30300 Plymouth Rd* Livonia*734-522-7811
101 Mason Household Goods
302 Donaldson Household/Camping Goods
3120 Karpanowski Household Goods
312 Johnson Household Goods
413 Flumerfelt Household Goods
5084 Shelly Household Goods
9043 Marks Household Goods

Shurgard Storage of Taylor*9800 Pelham Rd* Taylor*313-292-2950
5049 Bacon Household goods
4027 Bahu Household goods
7116 Cook Household goods
6011 Farraj Household goods
3071 Fossett Household goods
3082 Height Household goods
3078 Roop Household goods
5057 Siders Household goods
5039 Winer Household goods
7093 Cecil Household goods

Shurgard Storage of Westland*36001 Warren* Westland*734-326-6000
2036 Dunlap Household Items
1118 Gibson Household Items
5060 Gross Household Items
5132 Hellwig Household Items
3116 Hendon-Jenkins Household Items
1292 Pullen Household Items
3196 Tolbert Household Items

Shurgard Storage of Plymouth *41889 Joy Rd* Canton*734-459-2200
9118 Pappert household
5054 King household

Notice is hereby given that the following units will be sold to the highest bidder by way of open auction on 05/08/06 at approximately 9:00 a.m. or there after at the following location:

Shurgard Storage of Ann Arbor * 2500 S Industrial Hwy, Ann Arbor, *734-973-2212
1058 Rose Household

Publish April 20 & 27, 2006

06E430727

**Charter Township of Canton Board Proceedings-
April 12, 2006**

A regular study meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton held Tuesday April 12, 2006 at 1150 Canton Center S. Canton, Michigan. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and led the pledge of allegiance. **Roll Call Members Present:**

Bennett, Caccamo, Kirchgatter, LaJoy, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo. Members Staff Present: Director Durack, Director Faas, Director Minghine, Director Conklin, Director Santomauro. **Adoption of Agenda:** Motion by Bennett, seconded by Zarbo to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously. **STUDY SESSION TOPIC:**

Item 1. Discussion of Plan to Modify 2006 Budget: Budget Reduction and Reorganization Plan. Executive Summary. As the Board was made aware in January of 2006, building activity in Canton and in the entire State of Michigan has had a significant downturn. Throughout the first three quarters of 2005, Canton's building activity was very strong and showed no signs of slowing. That changed in the last quarter, and has continued through the first quarter of 2006. The Finance Department is monitoring this situation continually throughout this quarter. They have been aggressively communicating with the building industry and it appears that this slow down will continue for the next 18 to 36 months. At this time other revenue projections appear to be on track, with the exception of court revenues. Canton's finances are not in crisis. To the contrary, Canton is fiscally sound and the plan that follows is intended to make sure that is always the case. It would not be appropriate to raise taxes to maintain staff levels that are higher than the service demands would necessitate. The plan has two main elements. The first is a straight reduction in the staffing associated with building and development related activity. We are proposing staffing reductions in the administration, building planning and engineering divisions of Municipal Services that are directly linked to the decrease in activity. The planned workforce reductions in Municipal Services include the following and are proposed to be effective June 30, 2006: Deputy Building Official, Building Inspectors (2), Plumbing Inspector, Electrical Inspector, Mechanical Inspector, Neighborhood Coordinator, Clerical Positions (2), Engineering Project Coordinator, Engineering Intern. The second component is to implement structural changes across the organization that reassigns major components of the work force to better serve the community and improve the organization. The reorganization includes: Creation of Executive Director position, Transfer of Ordinance enforcement to the Public Safety Department, Elimination of the ACSD Director position, Significant increase in responsibilities of Finance and Budget Director, Additional staff reductions through natural attrition. A major component of the plan is to offer an early retirement incentive (ERI). This ERI will help minimize the layoffs necessary as part of the workforce reductions as well as offer additional opportunities to further restructure and downsize the workforce through retirements. The ERI suggested is a two month window that would offer to AFSCME TPOAM, and the Non Union staff the same retirement benefit currently enjoyed by police and fire. For many years we have anticipated that there would need to be changes made in staffing when building activity slowed. The sudden nature of the decline has not allowed the slow reduction of staffing through attrition that had been planned for. This plan will set Canton on a course that can be sustained well into the future. - Thomas J. Yack, Supervisor - Terry G. Bennett, Clerk -

Copies of the complete text of the Board Minutes are available at the office of the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Rd, Canton, MI 48188 during regular business hours and can also be accessed through our web site www.cantonmi.org after Board Approval.

Publish April 20, 2006

06E430988

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*The Center for Responsible Lending 2003

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No passes Free drink refills & 25¢ corn refills
ALL STADIUM SEATING TIMES: 4/21 - 4/27
FREE SPRING MATINEES
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 10 & 11 AM
BECAUSE OF WINN DIXIE (PG)
THE SENTINEL (PG 13)
12:15 2:35 4:55 7:15 9:35
FRU/SAT LS 11:55
INSIDE MAN (PG 13)
1:15 3:55 6:35 9:15
SCARY MOVIE 4 (PG 13)
(SAT/SUN 11:30) 1:30 3:30 5:30
7:30 9:30
FRU/SAT LS 11:30
THE WILD (G)
(SAT/SUN 11:05) 1:05 3:05 5:05
7:05 9:05
FRU/SAT LS 11:05
THANK YOU FOR SMOKING (R)
12:40 2:45 4:50 6:55 9:00
FRU/SAT LS 11:05
ICE AGE: THE MELTDOWN (PG)
(SAT/SUN 11:25) 2:30 3:25 5:25
7:25 9:25
FRU/SAT LS 11:25
TAKE THE LEAD (PG 13)
12:00 2:20 4:40 7:00 9:20
FRU/SAT LS 11:40
COUPON
FREE 20oz DRINK
with \$2.50 purchase of 4oz bag of kettle popcorn
at participating locations. Exp. 4/24/06

AROUND TOWN

Grief series

Coping with the death of a loved one can be very difficult for many of us. Heartland Hospice is offering a six week series "Living With Grief" beginning 4:30 p.m. April 20-May 25. The program is a series of weekly sessions offering insights and coping skills for an adult's journey through grief. The series will be held at the Heartland Hospice office in Ann Arbor and is open to anyone. For more information or to register contact Ann Christensen, bereavement coordinator at (734) 973-1145 or toll free (888) 973-1145.

MHS program

The Michigan Humane Society's Berman Center for Animal Care in Westland is offering spay or neutering of cats and vaccinations for \$20 for families with financial difficulties through May 31. The center is at 900 Newburgh Road south of Ford Road. People must provide proof of financial need such as documentation from government funded programs at the time of their appointment. The proof can include the Family Independence Program, state disability assistance, food assistance, WIC program and Medicaid. To make an appointment call (734) 722-1415.

Living longer

Dr. Dorcas Hardy, policy chair for the White House Conference on Aging and former U.S. Commissioner of Social Security, will be the guest at an Evening Under the Stars - Living Longer and Loving It! Tuesday, April 25 at Laurel Manor, 39000 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia. The evening will include hors d'oeuvres, cash bar, prizes, free goodie bags, music by the Silver Strings Dulcimer Society and exhibits by local businesses. The cost is \$5 with advanced registration and \$10 at the door. For more information call Renee Merckx at (734) 658-4317.

Asthma screening

The American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology will conduct its annual Nationwide Asthma Screening Program this May, marking the program's 10th anniversary of helping people breathe easier. Detroit area allergists will offer free screenings for people who are experiencing breathing problems such as chronic coughing, wheezing and shortness of breath at several locations including May 1 at Richardson's Pharmacy, 42433 Ford Road in Canton. During a screening, adults who are experiencing breathing problems complete a 20 question Life Quality (LQ) Test developed by ACAAI for the program. Children under the age of 15 take a special test called the Kids Asthma Check that enables them to answer questions themselves about any breathing problems. Another ver-

sion of the Check is available for parents of children up to 8 years of age to complete on their child's behalf. Participants also take a lung function test that involves blowing into a tube and meet with a physician to determine if they should seek a thorough examination and diagnosis. To obtain a list of asthma screening sites and dates or to take the online versions of the LQ Test and Kids Asthma Check visit the ACAAI Web site at www.acaa.org.

Book fair

The 28th annual Ann Arbor Antiquarian Book Fair takes place 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday, May 14 in the ball room of the Michigan Student Union, 530 S. State St. There is a \$5 admission charge which benefits the William L. Clements Library of the University of Michigan. More than 40 book dealers from Michigan and throughout the Midwest offer fine used, rare and out of print books, maps, photographs and prints for sale. For more information, contact Jay Platt in care of the West Side Book Shop, 113 W. Liberty, Ann Arbor, MI 48104, by e-mail at jplatt@provident.net or by phone at (734) 995-1891.

Creative writing workshop

The Michigan Horror Writers presents its Spring 2006 writing workshop "Revealing Character or What's in Your (Hero's) Wallet?" 3:45 - 6:15 p.m. Saturday, June 24 in the community room of the Madison Heights Fire Department headquarters, 31313 Brush, Madison Heights. Author Diane Burton offers tips for developing memorable characters which the reader will either root for or hiss at. Admission is \$25 for Michigan Horror Writers members, \$30 for pre-registered attendees, \$35 for registration after June 3 and \$40 for walk-ins. Attendees should submit a sample of their writing with their registration. For more information or to register, e-mail Shelby at president@michiganhorror.com.

Inside Dyslexia

The first presentation in Michigan of the documentary "Inside Dyslexia" and discussion with the film's two producers will be held 7 p.m. on Wednesday, May 3 during a free event sponsored by Eton Academy in cooperation with the Michigan Dyslexia Institute. Families who have a child with learning challenges and educators are encouraged to attend this program entitled "Inside Different Learners: Smart Kids Who Learn Differently." The program includes the film screening, commentary and a panel discussion with the film's producers, Josh Easdon and Nate Hamlin, and others who specialize in working with children with learning differences. It will be held at Eton Academy, 1755 Melton in Birmingham. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the program begins at 7 p.m. Resource infor-



March madness

Delaney Diggs (center) was the grand-prize winner in a March Madness prize drawing sponsored in the month of March by Lou LaRiche Chevrolet in Plymouth. Delaney's name was chosen from several hundred entries to win the big prize - a portable basketball net/rim/post/stand system. Other prizes given away during the promotion included 10 basketballs with nets and tickets to a Detroit Pistons game. Delaney posed with her prize along with her brother, Josh, and her mother, Renee LaForest.

ation will be provided. Admission is free. Parents of students with learning challenges, educators and others who are interested in attending must RSVP by Monday, May 1 by calling (248) 642-1150, ext. 386 or visit the Eton News section at www.etonacademy.org for more information.

Soup/salad luncheon

The St. Joseph Women's Guild hosts its annual Soup and Salad Luncheon 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Friday, May 12 in the Parish Activity Center on Third Street in Trenton. The \$7 cost includes choice of soups, salads, desserts and a beverage. The event features two 50/50 drawings and door prizes. Carry out orders are available. For advance tickets or more information, call Helen at (734) 671-1020.

Golden anniversary

The Livonia Historical Society celebrates its 50 year anniversary with a gala banquet at the Alexander Blue House in Greenmead on 8 Mile and Newburgh 6 p.m. Thursday, May 8. Dinner tickets are \$20. Call Joe Soltesz (734) 422-4061 or President Gene Kramer (248) 349-5999.

Genealogical societies

The Irish Genealogical Society presents a program titled "Irish Settlements in Five Southwestern Counties of Ontario" 1:30 p.m. Saturday, April 22 at the Gaelic League/Irish American Club in Detroit located at 2068 Michigan Avenue, four blocks west of Tiger Stadium. The presentation includes when the Irish

arrived in Ontario, what churches were there, where some of them came from in Ireland and their religion. Guest speaker is Joan Griffin, who has been doing Ontario research for more than 30 years. She was on the planning committee for Ontario Genealogical Society's Seminar 2005 in Windsor and is chair of the Kent County Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society. The public is invited and there is no charge. For more information call (313) 884-0039. The Livingston County Genealogical Society meets May 4 with dinner at 6 p.m. and its meeting at 7 p.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 1401 Grand River in Howell. The topic is a re-enactment of the life and times of Mary Bingham, the wife of governor Kingsley Bingham from Green Oak Township with speaker Diane Wynings of the South Lyon Historical Society. For more information call Margaret at (810) 227-7745.

Walk America

March of Dimes WalkAmerica takes place Saturday, April 29 at Hines Park in Livonia to help the March of Dimes fight prematurity - a growing crisis that now affects half a million babies born in the U.S. every year. The Walk is approximately six miles long and will begin and end at Nankin Mills in Hines Park. For more information about WalkAmerica or to join the event at Hines Park on April 29, visit walkamerica.org or call 1-800-525-WALK.

Hospice training

Heartland Hospice is looking for caring and dedicated people with an interest in serving terminally ill patients and their families in Washtenaw, Livingston and western Wayne counties. Volunteers provide services such as friendly visiting, patient transport/patient outings, errand running, grief support and clerical services. Spring volunteer training is approaching. For more information, contact volunteer coordinator Candice Jones at (888) 973-1145. Arbor Hospice & Home Care offers training dates for volunteers interested in delivering patient and family support in the home, nursing home or an assisted living setting. Volunteer Training Courses will be offered in the morning beginning May 2. Classes will be held 9 a.m. - noon for five consecutive Tuesdays at Arbor Hospice and Home Care's Northville office, 331 Center. This training course is designed to educate volunteers in providing comfort and support to families facing end-of-life issues. Attendees will gain valuable knowledge and expertise on many topics including a basic understanding of hospice and palliative care, improved communication skills, active listening, identifying and respecting cultural differences, spirituality and understanding the grief and healing process. To volunteer or for further information, please contact Michelle Grysko, Volunteer Coordinator at (248) 348-4980 or via email at mgrysko@arborhospice.org.

Safe driving program

St. Mary Mercy Hospital and the American Association of Retired Persons offers a two-day program, AARP Safe Driving, 12:30 - 4:30 p.m. May 23-24. Attendance at both ses-

sions is required. It's an eight-hour classroom refresher course for experienced motorists age 50 and older. There is a \$10 fee payable to AARP and pre-registration is required. For more information or to register, call (734) 655-8950.

Ann Arbor Women

The Ann Arbor Women's City Club hosts its 16th annual Tables and Tea event, displaying elegant and whimsical table settings designed by club members and local retailers. The event takes place at the City Club, 1830 Washtenaw (between Devonshire and Hill) 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Sunday, June 4. Tickets go on sale in mid-May at the Club and at some designated places around town. Tickets will be available the day of the event at the Club. For more information, call Linda Atkins (734) 741-8032.

Home tour

The Ann Arbor Women's City Club hosts its 54th annual Home Tour beginning at the City Club, 1830 Washtenaw 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. May 19. Ozone House has been designated the recipient of a portion of the event's revenue. Tickets go on sale in April at the City Club and in designated places around town. Tickets will also be available the day of the event. For more information and updates, call Sylvia Stetz (734) 878-9044.

Summer internships

Want to gain valuable knowledge through internship experience while being immersed in a vibrant creative setting? If so, the Ann Arbor Art Center is the place for you. Applications are now being accepted for internships during summer 2006 at the Ann Arbor Art Center. Internships include positions in Education, Exhibitions, the Gallery Shop, marketing, graphic design, special events, development and operations. All internships at the Ann Arbor Art Center are unpaid. Additional detailed descriptions of all internships available can be found at www.annarborartcenter.org. To apply for an internship, forward all resumes to info@annarborartcenter.org with "Internship" in the subject heading. Alternatively, mail a resume and cover letter to Marsha Chamberlin at the Ann Arbor Art Center at 117 West Liberty, Ann Arbor 48104 or fax it to 734-994-3610.

OUT IT GOES!

STORE CLOSED WEDNESDAY FOR FURTHER MARKDOWNS!

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Use Cash, Check, or Credit Cards

Maple Writing Desk Only \$108	SPECIAL INTEREST-FREE FINANCING AVAILABLE!	Teak China Cabinet Was \$3,169 Now \$1,428
Black Console Table Was \$1,176 Now \$378	Queen Mattress & Box Spring Was \$1,479 Now \$758	Oak Nest of Tables Was \$909 Now \$338
88" Sofa Was \$2,669 Now \$1,238	TAKE AN ADDITIONAL 10% OFF ALL ACCESSORIES	72" Cherry BOOKCASE Now \$188

SALE RESUMES THURSDAY AT 10 AM!

Permit # 15484

Items Subject to Availability

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NorthRidge Church

Worship with us!

April 28 - 2006
7:00 AM & 10:00 AM

Tickets on sale NOW at starticketsplus.com or call 800.585.3737

NORTH RIDGE Church
49555 North Territorial
Plymouth, MI 48170
734.414.7777
NorthRidgeChurch.com

Youth orchestra hits stage for Spring concert

The Celebration Youth Orchestra presents its Spring concert 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 3, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

Orchestra officials said the Celebration Youth Orchestra is dedicated to challenging and inspiring students through high level ensemble training and the performance of standard and new repertoire. Showing off all they have accomplished, young musicians in the CYO will perform a variety of classical and contemporary music, including

Tchaikovsky's *Little Russian Symphony*, Bach's *Brandenburg Concerto No. 2*, *Spring* from Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*, and the finale to Beethoven's *Symphony No. 5*.

The CYO is the youth orchestra supported by the Plymouth Symphony and is conducted by Ariel Toews. Plymouth Symphony Orchestra and Orchestra Canton Assistant Conductor. The CYO currently has two ensembles: the Celebration Sinfonia for students with three-plus years of training in string, wind, brass and percus-



Celebration Sinfonia, for students with three plus years of training in string, wind, brass and percussion instruments, will be featured in the Celebration Youth Orchestra's Spring concert May 3 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

ion instruments, and the Celebration Strings, designed for string players with one-plus years of instruction who wish to learn ensemble playing techniques.

The CYO is part of the Plymouth Symphony's Youth Outreach Education Program which will impact more than 5,000 students this year. Tickets are \$6 and can be

purchased through Summit on the Park, (734) 394-5460 or at the Village Theater box office one hour before performance. The theater is located at 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton.

For audition information or more information please contact the Plymouth Symphony office via e-mail at Jane@plymouthsymphony.org or call (734) 451-2112.

Canton man found murdered in home

Canton Police are investigating the apparent murder of 46-year-old Robert Lee Armstrong, who was found dead in his Canton home Saturday morning by his 10-year-old daughter.

According to Sgt. Rick Pomorski, the daughter woke up around 8 a.m. and found Armstrong bleeding and unconscious.

The girl was hungry and got up. She went into his bedroom to get him and found him bleeding from the head. She went next door to talk to a neighbor, who then called emergency, he said.

Pomorski said Armstrong, who lived with his daughter and 8-year-old son in the Wagon Wheel mobile home park located on Mott Road, was most likely already deceased when his daughter

found him.

The Wayne County Medical Examiner performed an autopsy Sunday morning. The medical examiner determined Armstrong's cause of death to be blunt force trauma to the back of his head, and ruled it a homicide.

The case remains under investigation. As of Wednesday afternoon, police had yet to arrest anybody.

"We believe there is other evidence in the room to suggest there was a struggle or altercation," Pomorski said. "We're still tracking down leads and trying to piece the crime together. We'll get it eventually, but it's going to take some time."

Armstrong's two children are staying with family members.

Charter Township of Canton Board Proceedings - April 11, 2006

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton was held Tuesday April 11 2006 at 1150 Canton Center S. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call Members Present: Bennett, Caccamo, LaJoy, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo. Members Absent: Kirchgatter, Staff Present: Director Munglue, Director Durack, Director Santomauro, Director Conklin, Director Faas.

Adoption of Agenda Motion by Bennett supported by Zarbo to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by all members present.

Approval of Minutes Motion by Bennett supported by McLaughlin to approve the Board Minutes of March 28 2006. Motion carried by all members present.

Payment of Bills Motion by Bennett supported by McLaughlin to approve payment of the bills as presented. Motion carried by all members present.

Expenditure Recap for April 11, 2006

General Fund	101	\$ 594,800.20
Fire Fund	206	808,485.00
Police Fund	207	103,044.57
Summit Operating	208	33,982.69
Street Lighting	219	18,511.39
Cable TV Fund	230	2,529.44
E 911 Utility	261	360.50
Auto Forfeiture(w/wa)	267	474.88
Federal Grants Fund	274	1,602.46
Auto Theft Grant	289	248.48
Cap Proj Road Paving	403	5,022.15
Golf Fund	584	28,040.87
Water & Sewer Fund	592	956,807.60
Trust & Agency Fund	701	5,622.00
Construction Escrows	702	30,555.53
Post Employ Benefits	736	1,475.52

Total - All Funds 2,591,563.28

CONSENT CALENDAR Item 1 **RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR WAYNE MICHIGAN TRANSIT STATION.** (SUPERVISOR) Motion by Bennett supported by Zarbo that the Canton Board of Trustees adopt the resolution in support of Wayne's effort to be identified as an access point for the Ann Arbor - Detroit Transit Line. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 2 **AMEND RESOLUTION DEFINING A DAY OF WORK FOR MERS RETIREMENT PURPOSES (ACSD)** Motion by Bennett supported by Zarbo to approve the attached resolution defining eighty (80) works hours a month to equal one (1) month of credited service for the Canton TPOAM Clerical Union ASFCME Union Local #3860 Deputy Chiefs Lieutenants and Sergeants Police Officers and PSSO employees Non Union employees and Elected Officials for MERS retirement purposes. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 3 **APPROVAL OF TRANSFER OF CABLE TV FRANCHISE FROM WIDE OPEN WEST HOLDINGS, LLC TO RACECAR ACQUISITIONS, LLC (ACSD)** Motion by Bennett supported by Zarbo to approve the FCC Form 394 application request to transfer control of the Wide Open West Michigan LLC franchise from Wide Open West Holdings LLC to Racecar Acquisitions LLC a wholly owned subsidiary of Avista Capital Partners LLC. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 4 **APPOINTMENT TO THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION (ACSD)** Motion by Bennett supported by Zarbo to approve the Township Supervisor's nomination of Terry Bennett for reappointment to the Canton Historic District Commission for a three year term effective through May 1 2009. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 5 **AUTHORIZE THE CHAMBER TO APPLY FOR ONE DAY LIQUOR LICENSE FOR LIBERTY FEST (LSD)** Motion by Bennett supported by Zarbo to approve the sale and consumption of beer and wine at Heritage Park during Liberty Fest on Saturday June 17 2006 and furthermore that the Canton Chamber of Commerce will make application for a one day special liquor license from the Liquor Control Commission. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 6 **CONSIDER BUDGET AMENDMENT TO RE-BUDGET FUNDS THAT WERE IN PURCHASE ORDERS THAT WERE CLOSED AT YEAR END (MSD)** Motion by Bennett supported by Zarbo to approve a capital budget adjustment for the retrofit of existing sewer inspection truck by Jack Doheny Supplies Inc in the amount of \$74,935. Water & Sewer Fund Capital Asset account #592 000 142 0000 and also approve the budget amendment in the Water & Sewer Fund for the balance of \$66 115 due to Municipal Software Corporation for the City View software purchase. Increase Revenues Appropriation from Fund Balance #592 000-699 0000 \$66 115 Increase Appropriations Contracted Services Public Works #592 441 818 0000 \$66 115. This budget amendment increases the Water & Sewer Fund budget from \$30,685,825 to \$30,751,940. Motion carried by all members present.

GENERAL CALENDAR Item 1 **THOMPSON TRUST REZONING (MSD)** Motion by Bennett supported by McLaughlin to adopt the resolution rezoning request of John Palmer (Retail/Works). Motion carried by all members present.

Item 2 **CONSIDER REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF THE TENTATIVE PRELIMINARY PLAT FOR MEADOWWALK ESTATES SUBDIVISION (MSD)** Motion by Bennett supported by McLaughlin to adopt the tentative approval of the Preliminary Plat for Meadowwalk Estates. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 3 **CONSIDER COSTCO FINAL PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT AND SITE PLAN (MSD)** Motion by Bennett supported by Zarbo to adopt the resolution for final Planned Development and Site Plan for Costco Wholesale. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 4 **APPROVAL OF CONSULTANT CONTRACT FOR SHELDON SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS (ACSD)** Motion by Bennett supported by LaJoy to approve the bid and award the contract for the Sheldon School design and engineering of site improvements to Northwest Consultants Inc in the amount of \$34,000 (Community Development Block Grant for the Sheldon School Improvements Account #274 666 971 2005 Cost Center A00028 0060 0000). Motion carried by all members present.

Item 5 **APPROVE EASEMENT AGREEMENT WITH WESTERN TOWNSHIP UTILITY AUTHORITY (WTUA) (LSD)** Motion by Bennett supported by McLaughlin to authorize the agreement with WTUA to maintain the 1000 linear foot path to be constructed by MDOT on WTUA property that would connect Haggerty Road to the existing 1.275 mile path. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 6 **AUTHORIZE CEMENT REPLACEMENT FOR SOUTH PAVILION #1 (MSD)** Motion by Bennett supported by McLaughlin to approve the replacement of the concrete pad at South Pavilion #1 in Heritage Park to Danjo Construction LLC 5781 S Sheldon Suite B, Canton MI 48188 in the amount of \$5,832 to be paid from Account #101 270 930 0000, Maintenance and Repair Parks. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 8 **CONSIDER CONTRACT WITH CAREER DIRECTIONS FOR LT. PROMOTIONAL EVALUATION (PSD)** Motion by Bennett supported by Zarbo to approve Career Directions Assessment Center 101 N Main Street Ste #850 Ann Arbor MI 48104 to conduct the promotional evaluations and recommendations for the positions of lieutenant in the Police Department for an amount of \$7300 Police FY 2006, Account 207 301 818 0000. Motion carried by all members present.

OTHER Supervisor Yack stated that on April 18 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at the Board of Trustees's Study Session Administration Building, First Floor Board Room there will be discussion on Follow's Creek deed restrictions added to the agenda.

ADJOURN Motion by Zarbo supported by Bennett to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. Motion carried by all members present. - Thomas J Yack Supervisor - Terry G Bennett Clerk -

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

CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN NOTICE TO BIDDERS



Notice is hereby given that the City of Plymouth Michigan will accept sealed bids up until 2:00 pm on Tuesday May 2 2006. The bid opening will take place in the City Commission Chambers on the second floor of Plymouth City Hall 201 S Main St for the following:

ROOF REPLACEMENT AT 1029 N MILL ST

This is a federally funded Housing Rehabilitation project authorized by the Wayne County Community Development Program. Davis Bacon Labor Standards are waived for this project. Specifications and bid documents are available at Plymouth City Hall 201 S Main St during normal business hours beginning on Friday April 21 2006. You may download a copy of the documentation from the City's web site at <http://www.ci.plymouth.mi.us>

A bid bond certified check or cashier's check in an amount equal to 10% of the bid submitted must accompany each proposal as security to assure the bidders acceptance of the contract within (7) days from the date of award.

The City of Plymouth reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals to waive any irregularities therein and to make the award in any number deemed to be in the best interest of the City.

CMC

Linda J Langmesser
City Clerk
City of Plymouth

Publish April 20 2006

062843062

Charter Township of Canton Public Notice of Accuracy Test

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Clerk's Office will conduct a Public Accuracy Test of the Optical Scan Tabulating Equipment to be used for the School Election on Tuesday May 2 2006. The test will take place on Wednesday, April 26, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. in the Clerk's Office, Township Administration Building 1150 South Canton Center Road. This test is open to all interested parties. For further information contact Clerk's Office at 734 394 5120.

Terry G Bennett, Clerk

Publish April 20 2006

06284229 7

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Charter Township of Canton will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon two weeks notice to the Charter Township of Canton. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Charter Township of Canton by writing or calling the following:

David Medley ADA Coordinator
Charter Township of Canton 1150 S Canton Center Road
Canton MI 48188
(734) 394 5260

Publish April 20 2006

062840632



NOTICE OF SCHOOL ELECTION PLYMOUTH CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, COUNTY OF WAYNE, STATE OF MICHIGAN

Notice is hereby given that the ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION Will be held in the City of Plymouth County of Wayne State of Michigan, on TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2006

From 7:00 o'clock in the forenoon until 8:00 o'clock in the evening Eastern Standard Time at which time voters will be asked to vote for not more than two (2) members who will serve on the Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton School District

In addition voters will be asked to vote on the following propositions:

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT BOND PROPOSITION 1

Shall the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, Counties of Wayne and Washtenaw, State of Michigan, borrow the sum of not to exceed Ninety Five Million Four Hundred Fifteen Thousand and 00/100 (\$95,415,000) Dollars and issue its general obligation unlimited tax bonds, therefore, in one or more series, for the purpose of paying for the cost of the following:

Erecting, equipping and furnishing a new middle school building and a new career technical education facility and acquiring, preparing, developing and improving the sites for a new middle school building and a new career technical education facility,

Erecting, equipping and furnishing additions to school buildings and preparing, developing and improving sites for additions to school buildings,

Remodeling, re-equipping, re-furnishing school buildings, preparing, developing and improving sites at school buildings and purchasing school buses, and

Equipping and re-equipping school buildings for technology systems and equipment?

The maximum number of years the bonds may be outstanding, exclusive of refunding, is not more than twenty five (25) years, the estimated millage that will be levied to pay the proposed bonds in the first year is 0.86 mills (which is equal to \$0.86 per \$1,000 of taxable value), and the estimated simple average annual millage that will be required to retire the bonds over twenty-five (25) years is 0.83 mills annually (\$0.83 per \$1,000 of taxable value)

If this Bond Proposition 1 is combined with Bond Proposition 2 it will be outstanding, exclusive of refunding, for not more than twenty-five (25) years, the estimated millage that will be levied to pay the combined proposed bonds in the first year is 1.08 mills (which is equal to \$1.08 per \$1,000 of taxable value); and the estimated simple average millage that will be required to retire the bonds over twenty-five (25) years is 1.05 mills annually (\$1.05 per \$1,000 of taxable value).

If approved by the voters the bonds will be guaranteed by the State of Michigan under Section 16 of Article IX of the State Constitution of 1963, as amended. If the School District borrows from the State of Michigan to pay debt service on the bonds under the State of Michigan's guarantee the School District may be required to levy debt mills beyond the term of the bonds to repay the State of Michigan.

(Pursuant to State law, expenditure of bond proceeds must be audited, and the proceeds cannot be used for teacher, administrator or employee salaries, repair or maintenance costs or other operating expenses.)

YES _____
NO _____

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT BOND PROPOSITION 2

Shall the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, Counties of Wayne and Washtenaw, State of Michigan, borrow the sum of not to exceed Twenty-Four Million Seven Hundred Sixty-Five Thousand and 00/100 (\$24,765,000) Dollars and issue its general obligation unlimited tax bonds therefore, in one or more series, for the purpose of paying for the cost of the following:

Erecting, equipping and furnishing a performing arts center addition, a multi purpose swimming pool addition and an auxiliary gymnasium addition to high school buildings;

Preparing, developing and improving sites for a performing arts center addition, a multi purpose swimming pool addition and an auxiliary gymnasium addition to high school buildings;

Equipping additions to high school buildings for technology systems and equipment, and

Erecting, equipping and furnishing additions to athletic fields and preparing, developing and improving sites for additions to athletic fields?

The maximum number of years the bonds may be outstanding, exclusive of refunding, is not more than twenty-five (25) years; the estimated millage that will be levied to pay the proposed bonds in the first year is 0.22 mills (which is equal to \$0.22 per \$1,000 of taxable value), and the estimated simple average annual millage that will be required to retire the bonds over twenty-five (25) years is 0.22 mills annually (\$0.22 per \$1,000 of taxable value).

If this Bond Proposition 2 is combined with Bond Proposition 1 it will be outstanding, exclusive of refunding, for not more than twenty-five (25) years; the estimated millage that will be levied to pay the combined proposed bonds in the first year is 1.08 mills (which is equal to \$1.08 per \$1,000 of taxable value); and the estimated simple average millage that will be required to retire the bonds over twenty-five (25) years is 1.05 mills annually (\$1.05 per \$1,000 of taxable value).

The Bonds authorized under this School Improvement Bond Proposition 2, if approved by the voters, will not be issued if the voters do not approve School Improvement Bond Proposition 1.

If approved by the voters the bonds will be guaranteed by the State of Michigan under Section 16 of Article IX of the State Constitution of 1963, as amended. If the School District borrows from the State of Michigan to pay debt service on the bonds under the State of Michigan's guarantee the School District may be required to levy debt mills beyond the term of the bonds to repay the State of Michigan.

(Pursuant to State law, expenditure of bond proceeds must be audited, and the proceeds cannot be used for teacher, administrator or employee salaries, repair or maintenance costs or other operating expenses.)

YES _____
NO _____

PRECINCTS AND LOCATIONS

Precinct #01 Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer Street
Precinct #02 Plymouth Cultural Center 525 Farmer Street
Precinct #03 Central Middle School 650 West Church Street
Precinct #04, Plymouth Cultural Center 525 Farmer Street

DATED CITY OF PLYMOUTH WAYNE COUNTY STATE OF MICHIGAN, THIS 13th DAY OF MARCH 2006

LINDA J LANGMESSER
City Clerk

Individuals with disabilities who require special accommodations auxiliary aids or services to attend or participate in this election should contact 453 1234 extension 234. Reasonable advance notice is required.

Publish April 20 2006

06284 942

Week spotlights how to be Money Smart

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

Glenn Hansen believes that the best customer a financial institution can have is someone who understands what goes on in a financial institution.

Unfortunately many people are lacking in basic knowledge to make intelligent financial decisions.

People will sign the first loan agreement they get but will try on 20 pairs of jeans before deciding which pair to buy, said Hansen, senior vice president and branch manager of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago-Detroit Branch. "They need to have the same approach to buying financial services."

That's why the Federal Reserve began Money Smart Week to provide basic financial information with a special emphasis on youth, the elderly and the unbanked. Money Smart Week, April 22-29, has been given the official support of Gov. Jennifer Granholm, Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano and Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick.

"It started in Chicago about five years ago working with Jump Start Coalition, Hansen said. We decided to start dealing with grass roots issues and providing free classes. This year we have 33 like-minded institutions participating and 320 seminars being put on.

Programs are being offered in Oakland, Wayne, Lapeer,



Hansen

Macomb, Monroe and Washtenaw counties.

On Saturday, April 22, a Money Smart Week Youth Day program will be held 12:30-5 p.m. at

Marygrove College, 8425 McNichols, Detroit with seminars for parents and youth on credit, spending and saving. Registration is required by calling (313) 927-1230.

On Monday, April 24, a Senior Day will be held 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the St. Patrick Senior Center, 58 Parson, Detroit. The program will cover living wills, Medicaid, long-term care, electronic payments and Medicare changes. For more information, call (248) 538-1800.

Junior Achievement will sponsor JA in a Day 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 25, at Courville Elementary School in Detroit and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 26, Campbell Elementary School in Detroit.

The University of Michigan-Dearborn will sponsor a Money Smart Day 8 a.m. to 6:15 p.m. Wednesday, April 26. The free programs will cover financial education, tax-smart ways to save and invest, how to land a job, understanding basic investment concepts, getting ready for retirement, personal income taxes and homebuying. For



Money Smart programs are especially intended to help children understand finances. Professionals in banking give programs at Detroit schools.

more information, call Michael Foran, (313) 593-5286, or Victoria Hage, (313) 593-5230.

Marygrove College will host a Money Smart Seniors Day 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Thursday, April 27. The program will include information on electronic payments, estate planning and medicare changes. For information and to register call Martha Soleau at (313) 927-1464.

Shorter programs dealing with everything from teaching children to save to identity theft to basic investing are planned throughout the metro Detroit area. For more information, visit www.chicagofed.org/moneysmart or call the Money Smart Hotline at (887) MNY-

SMRT (1-877 669-7678). "The approach we take is to help people understand the differences between wants and needs and the dangers of long-term debt," Hansen said.

Hansen will join volunteers from 33 institutions to provide 320 seminars.

For kids we work with Junior Achievement and do a JA for a Day, Hansen said. "A group of volunteers go into the schools and teach the JA curriculum. I will be teaching second grade when kids are just finding their voices and not full of themselves yet."

Hansen said the program has educated more than 20,000 area residents in the last three years.

LOCAL MONEY SMART EVENTS

■ Banking Basics free and open to the public 9:30-11 a.m. Wednesday April 26 3693 Metro Place Wayne Traci Emerson benefit banking coordinator discusses financial wellness and managing a bank relationship. Call (248) 603-0408.

■ Women in Investing By invitation 6:30 p.m. Wednesday April 26 Livonia Civic Library 32777 Five Mile Livonia. Jim Craig discusses women learning to be careful competent investors. For information call Jennifer Fee (734) 522-3700 Ext. 108.

■ Yes It Can Happen to Me Teens and Identity Theft Free and open to the public. Call to confirm time.

6:30 p.m. Wednesday April 26 Redford Township District Library, 25320 W Six Mile Redford Credit union professionals, Secret Service representatives and computer experts speak. For information call Jeremy Cybulski at (877) 243-2528 Ext. 1231 or Kathy Hoen at (877) 243-2528, Ext. 1226.

■ Money Smart Kids free and open to the public 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday April 27 Community Financial 500 S. Harvey Plymouth. Information including a hands-on financial activity station including money identification, savings goals growing money with Money Tree Seeds. For information call Beth Troost at (734) 582-8848.

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TAKE A RIDE IN A FORD

OUR VIEWS

'Pro-business' should not mean 'anti-environment'

During tough economic times, the temptation to "jump-start business" at the expense of the environment becomes even more attractive

Calls for relaxing pollution controls, opening up environmentally sensitive areas to oil and gas exploration and the like gain momentum among politicians and some residents alike. Such positions are shortsighted at best, and hold dire consequences well beyond our state borders at worst.

As residents of the "Great Lakes State," we are stewards to roughly one-fifth of the world's fresh surface water. We have the right to enjoy — and profit from, in the form of tourism — our proximity to these bodies of water, but we also have the obligation to protect them from pollution and misuse.

Evidence of past sins are easy to spot in the form of mercury-contaminated fish and "no swimming" signs on public beaches, a host of invasive species playing havoc with the fragile Great Lakes ecosystem and repeated efforts to siphon off millions of gallons of lake water to slake the collective thirst of other parts of the country.

But there is hope in the form of a law recently signed by Gov. Jennifer Granholm that bans dumping of contaminated dredge materials in open waters, and two bills making their way through Congress to fund a host of Great Lakes improvement initiatives.

While the state law helps stop the formerly shameful practice of using the Great Lakes as a giant sewer system, it is the federal initiative that could have a real impact for future generations. The spending plan would earmark more than \$20 billion to fix outdated and groundwater contaminating water and sewer systems nationwide, but with an emphasis on the Great Lakes basin, and would earmark an additional \$3 billion plus to fund an assortment of existing and new Great Lakes initiatives.

With the war raging on in Iraq and federal dollars at a premium, it will not be easy to get these bills signed into law, particularly by a president who is widely perceived as "pro-business" even at the expense of the environment. But we should all do our part to drive home the point that while the Great Lakes may be ours to enjoy and protect, we cannot do it alone.

Tune it off during TV-Turnoff Week

How much time do we Americans spend watching television each day? The answer may surprise you. According to one nonprofit group, the average American spends more than four hours a day in front of a TV. That averages out to about two total months we spend each year staring at the tube when we could be doing something else.

The TV-Turnoff Network (formerly TV-Free America), an organization that encourages people to watch less television, also found that children under the age of 6 are watching about two hours a day and that nearly 100 percent of American households with young children have at least one TV.

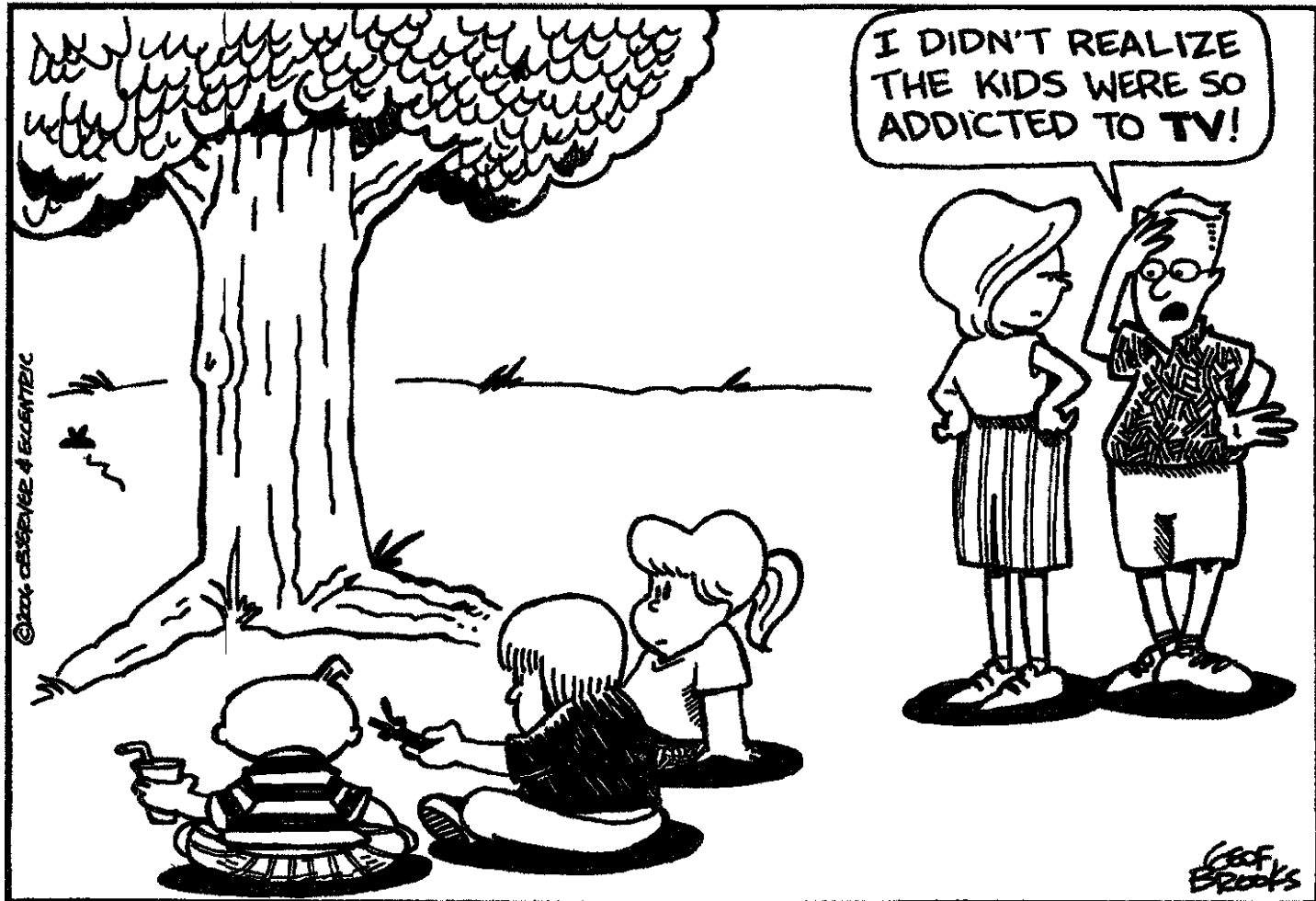
These statistics seem to explain why television has become such a major influence on our society. While there is certainly some quality programming to be found, the television is all too often a vehicle for commercials and inappropriate content, a tool to play violent video games and a baby-sitter.

In many homes, the TV has almost become part of the family. In the average American household, the television is on about 7½ hours a day, and about 40 percent of Americans say they always watch TV during dinner.

Many studies suggest this is not a healthy trend, particularly for children, who on average will spend more time in front of a TV than at school this year. Not only is excessive TV viewing linked to childhood obesity and poorer performance in the classroom, it also increases youth violence, according to the US Surgeon General. According to one study, children see an average of 200,000 violent acts on TV by the time they turn 18.

So clearly, there are many reasons to turn off the television. But if you were looking for an excuse, next week, April 24-30, is national TV-Turnoff Week. All over the country, school classrooms and church groups have pledged to go television-free during the week. Our readers are encouraged to do the same.

Use next week to liberate yourself from the TV. The world outside of the tube is much more interesting.



TV TURNOFF WEEK IS APRIL 24-30

LETTERS

Supports bond

I attended the PCCS Board of Education meeting Tuesday, April 11, and was very disturbed by a comment from Dianne Gonzalez during the citizen comment period.

She stated she did not understand the numbers that the Board of Education used during the bond preparations last fall and kept referring to data in the original Bond Steering Committee report of November 2003. She stated that either the numbers had changed or there was a "conspiracy."

I attended many of the Bond Workshops last fall and was impressed with the thorough evaluation process that was used. It appeared the Board of Education asked for updated data for both capital and operating costs, as well as student projections. If I remember correctly they actually used two different firms for these projections.

They used updated data that was available to the public at each meeting. At every one of these workshops, there was a period for citizen comments. This process took over five months and I am pleased with their decision to remodel and add to existing buildings instead of building a new elementary school.

The rooms will be located throughout the district where the students are. It also has a lower operating cost than a new building. At the same time, Livonia was faced with closing schools and the Board of Education took that into account, too.

I am disappointed to hear there are people in the community telling voters to vote no on this bond thinking that the Board of Education will have to come back with a proposal with a new elementary school. I have spoken with many of the board members and they are not in favor of that.

I am in favor of this bond because it has many benefits for all of the students in the district, elementary, middle and high school, and it would be a real disappointment if it's defeated for a few people's selfish reasons.

Del Templeton
Plymouth

Reasons for 'no' vote

I have made the personal decision to vote 'no' on the bond due to valid concerns that I have. Your readers have asked for an explanation of my concerns. I have many. In the past, I have always blindly voted 'yes' for any additional funding for schools. As a candidate, I felt it was my duty to study and understand the bond so that I could speak thoughtfully about it.

One of the concerns I have is in 2003, Dr. Ryan proposed moving to a 750-population model elementary school. We now call that model Workman Elementary School. It is slated to open in the fall. According to the 2003 Bond Steering Committee Report, "The administration felt that it needed the opportunity to identify, through experience, the benefits and challenges of this size elementary school, before implementing it at multiple sites."

Yet, without having had the experience at this time, if the bond passes, we will add 28 classrooms to six elementary schools (Isbister, Smith, Tonda, Allen, Bentley and Field) to render them capable of handling much larger populations.

I attended a bond pitch meeting and asked some tough questions that still have not been answered. I attended a school board meeting last week and voiced additional concerns, they have not been addressed.

There are some items on the bond that are very important. The new Tech Center, the new middle school and the additions to the current middle schools are all great ideas. Dr. Ryan has at least 20 more pitch meetings scheduled over the next couple of weeks. I encourage the community to take the time to attend a meeting and make decisions for themselves. Of course, I am a proponent of additional funding for our children, just not the way it is outlined in the current bond proposal.

As far as the bond is concerned, I am only one vote of thousands. However, as a candidate, if I am elected, I will scrutinize each issue and weigh credible information with regard to the benefit/detriment of each child in our district. It is the responsibility of the school board to watch the administration's actions and make sure they are visionary, and aligned with the public needs.

On May 3, the bond issue will be over. The school board in place will be faced with making huge budget cuts while maintaining high academic standards in a time of declining funding and dealing with aging facilities and a growing population. I hope your readers will be able to separate my qualifications as a school board member from my vote against the bond proposal as your newspaper has.

Dianne Gonzalez
school board candidate

Significant differences

Thank you to the League of Women voters and the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* for hosting a forum for the school board candidates last week.

What an incredible school district we live in! I find it heartening that during the whole discussion at the forum, our only concerns about the future of the district are the budget and overcrowding. We didn't spend any time talking about failing MEAP scores, student safety, dangerous facilities, high dropout rates and so on, because those are not issues in the Plymouth-Canton district.

There are some that may complain about the perceived "sameness" of the candidates. That perception is a direct result of how well the district is performing.

I believe, however, that there are some significant differences among the candidates. I am the only one who is asking the difficult questions: How are we going to manage the budget? What is the total effect of the bond? The district is laying off 11 teachers due to budget concerns next year. How, then, will we staff the 83 new classrooms included in the bond?

These are questions that should be answered before the vote May 2.

Larry Martin
Plymouth Township

Stop blaming others

I laughed out loud after reading Kathy Booher's recent letter to the editor, "Financial crisis coming to a district near you."

In her note, she warns of the imminent collapse of suburban school districts.

caused by the lack of proper funding by the state of Michigan. It's a perfect example of someone who helps to create a crisis and then subsequently blames others for not solving it.

Plymouth and Canton residents may remember Booher as the PCCS superintendent who resigned after nearly 18 months of claims that the PCCS budget was "being handled." As it turned out, nothing was further from the truth. Late in Booher's administration, it was learned through FOIA requests that during 18 months of weekly staff meetings, she never once placed the subject of budgets or district finance on her staff meeting agenda! With leadership like that, is there any wonder why we have a deficit?

In actuality, the current budget crisis began to really get out of hand on Booher's watch. As a person who has attended board meetings regularly since 1995, I think Booher probably has more to do with our district's deficit than any single person.

She revised board meeting agendas to be little more than rewards and recognition ceremonies, while leaving the difficult business of balancing the budget "to administration professionals," as Booher used to say. Once Booher came on the scene, the average time spent at board meetings declined from roughly 15 hours per month to little more than three hours per month.

Is it any wonder that budgets are out of control? Kathy Booher must be in perfect agreement with current board President Mark Slavens (who incidentally called Booher "a rose among thorns"), as neither ever met a deficit that a huge tax increase couldn't fix.

Thankfully, Booher is gone. Now, our community (particularly the PCCS board) should ignore her. The board must start TODAY with the time-consuming, politically difficult work of cutting waste and setting financial priorities for the district. This ought to be done BEFORE the May 2 bond vote, and not after.

Board President Slavens and the rest of the PCCS Board of Education need to start leading on the finance issue, and quit blaming others for the mess that they themselves have helped create.

Michael J. Maloney
former Plymouth Canton
school board president

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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

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QUOTABLE

"We have to do some of these things to meet our own ordinances. ... Our own building doesn't meet our own building codes. We've cut out capital expenditures for nearly five years as a way to save money and avoid the deficit situation ... It's the old 'pay me now, or pay me later.' Well, later has arrived."

— Paul Sincock, city manager, on improvements needed at Plymouth City Hall

PLYMOUTH
Observer

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

SBT follies reveal the state's leaders playing dangerous game

In some ways, the battle over what to do about Michigan's Single Business Tax resembles the Vietnam War. Nobody is quite sure how it all started. Nor is it clear what we should do, or how we can get ourselves out of it — or who we should blame.

So let's start off by recounting some chronology. Last year, in response to criticism that the SBT was at heart a job-killing tax on payroll (meaning it punishes employers for hiring more workers), Democratic Gov. Jennifer Granholm proposed substantial modifications, designed to benefit mostly Michigan's struggling manufacturers.

The Republican-led Legislature ignored her proposals. Then, earlier this year, the Michigan House and Senate passed bills repealing the SBT at the end of 2007 without addressing the problem of how to come up with the \$1.9 billion the repeal would cost the state.

Granholm last month vetoed the measure, saying it was "the height of irresponsibility" to cut nearly a quarter of the state's general fund revenue without providing a clue as to how to replace it. While all this was going on, Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson in early February announced he would lead a petition drive to put repeal of the SBT to the voters this fall.

The state Board of Canvassers last week approved the wording of the petition, obliging supporters to collect 254,206 valid signatures by May 31 to put the measure on the ballot. Last week, Granholm upped the ante. She sent a challenge to Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema (R-Grandville) and House Speaker Craig DeRoche (R-Nov) to sign an "Agreement to Lead," committing everybody to repeal the SBT at the end of 2007 and adopt a "better business tax" that fully replaces SBT revenues lost and does not put the tax burden on the backs of individuals.

Both GOP leaders promptly rejected the proposal, calling it a "campaign gimmick." So where does this leave us, other than up the Au Sable without a paddle? First, a far-reaching tax proposal that in a non-election year would be the subject of serious-minded discussion has been entirely swallowed by up political rhetoric, games of chicken, gotcha maneuvers and partisan gridlock. For example, a handout from Republican gubernatorial candidate Dick DeVos this week was headed, "On the road campaigning against the jobs-killing SBT."

Granholm's press release accompanying her challenge said, "I will not allow the business tax burden to be put on the backs of Michigan families." Republicans think they've got the gun over a barrel by proposing a big tax cut that promises to create badly needed jobs in Michigan's stricken economy. The Granholm camp figures that voters will recognize how irresponsible it is to blow a \$1.9 billion hole in the state's budget without talking about how to repair the damage.



Phil Power

Second, much of the sound and fury is being fueled by two myths.

Myth No. 1: Michigan is a high business tax state. False. The taxes businesses pay reflect the sum of both state and local taxes.

According to a recent study conducted by the Council on State Taxation, Michigan's business tax burden is the 17th lowest in the nation. According to the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, Michigan business taxes rank 36th in the country as a percentage of personal income and 31st as a percentage of business profits.

The Small Business Survival Index ranked Michigan as fifth most small-business friendly state in the country, while *Site Selection* magazine rated our business climate eighth in the nation last year, up seven places from the year before.

Myth No. 2: More tax cuts are the answer to all our economic problems. Not so. According to an EPIC-MRA survey of 1,200 "new economy" business executives, a skilled work force and excellent universities are just as important as the business tax climate.

Despite their heavy business tax structures, high-growth states like California and Massachusetts got the highest ratings as states most favorable to high-tech businesses.

And it's not just high-tech industries. Speaking to the Detroit Economic Club last month, an "old-tech" manufacturer, Delphi Corp. CEO Steve Miller, said there was nothing any state government could do to prevent Delphi from shutting 21 of 29 U.S. plant sites.

Not tax cuts. Not financial lures. The underlying economic realities trump all. Ask General Motors boss Rick Wagoner if tax cuts would have resolved his market share problems or, for that matter, his relations with the United Auto Workers union.

Any CEO in the private sector would chop off the head of any silly subordinate who walked into the board room and proposed eliminating one-quarter of the company's revenue, without at the same time explaining either how to cut costs or get enough new income to at least replace the money lost.

Why should Michigan — the one company in which we all have a major stake — be any different?

Putting repeal of the SBT on the ballot could hurt the state's bond ratings," says John Ceffalio, Fitch's Ratings analyst for Michigan.

Ceffalio says our financial picture is cloudy and eliminating the SBT without a replacement for the \$1.9 billion it generates would create more uncertainty. On Wall Street, or anywhere else for that matter, uncertainty costs money.

Our political leaders are playing a very dangerous game. A story I picked up last week on a visit to Lansing tells it all. A top aide to DeVos was asked how his guy would make up the revenue.

"Who cares?" the man is supposed to have answered. This is a campaign. We'll worry about where we'll get the money when we govern."

Phil Power is a longtime observer of politics, economic and education issues in Michigan. He can be reached at ppow@hcn.net.com

'No' vote would actually be a vote in support of our children

Some of you may be aware that the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools are going to be asking taxpayers for money to build more school facilities. This will be part of the May 2 election and will ask voters to approve two separate proposals for a total of more than \$120 million.

I am a former school board president who led the board during the bond election that built Plymouth High School and Dodson Elementary School and made numerous district improvements. I was also the chairman of the Citizens' Election Committee that led a community effort in a bond election that produced a nearly 70-percent "yes" vote for the construction of Discovery Middle School.

These bond issues had one thing in common. They delivered both classroom space and a sound financial plan to make sure the school district could afford to put teachers in these new classrooms. I only tell you about my past, so those of you who don't know me won't think I am crazy when you read the next thing I am asking you to do, FOR OUR KIDS.

I am asking each of you to think of our children and VOTE NO on the May 2 bond issues. That's right — vote no FOR OUR KIDS. Sounds pretty strange, doesn't it?

Normally we try to lump the "vote no" folks into either the anti-tax or anti-public school categories. In this case, the only vote that will truly support our children is a NO VOTE. To support this seemingly strange position, please allow me to take a few minutes to point out some facts.

The PCCS Board of Education is currently operating our school district in a deficit spending mode. This simply means they are spending more money than they take in and are planning to do so, according to their own financial "plan," for the foreseeable future until our money runs out.

Passing the bond will increase the amount of money the school district must spend on things like utilities and maintaining the buildings and classrooms. This will leave less money for teachers to actually teach our children.

Passing either or both of these bond proposals will result in fewer teachers, higher class sizes and less money spent on our kids. Please VOTE NO FOR OUR KIDS.

Our school district receives operating money based on the number of pupils enrolled in our schools. More kids equals more money. It doesn't matter if these kids

are Plymouth or Canton residents. Under current state law, the school board can open up our school district to students from Van Buren, Belleville, Wayne, Westland or elsewhere. The board could choose to do this at any time to bring in more money to cover the operating deficit that the school board has created in our district.

By passing the bond proposals, the school board can use your tax dollars to create extra space to bring in kids from other school districts to cover the deficits that they have created by poor financial planning. Your local tax dollars could be building school facilities for families who don't even live in our school district and won't be paying taxes for these bonds.

When this happens, all of the services and staff that are currently dedicated to the students of our community will be shared between our students and out-of-district students who will be using the facilities that will be paid for with your tax dollars.

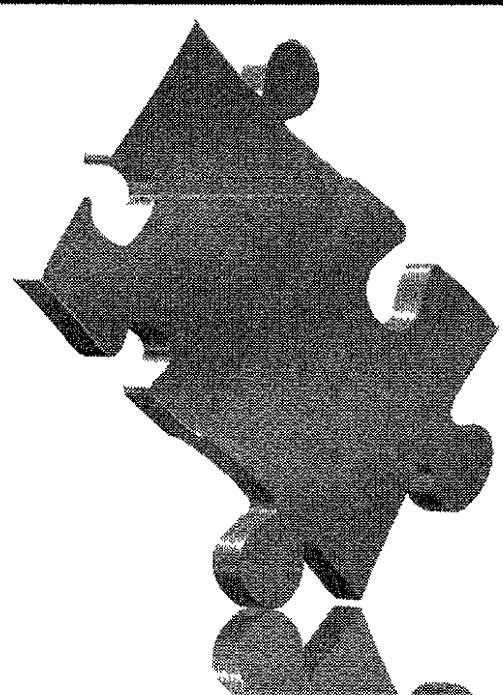
Facilities like the proposed Career and Technical Education Center are key to attracting students from other districts. Once again, passing these bond issues means less money and resources being used to teach your kids. Please VOTE NO FOR OUR KIDS.

The treasurer of the PCCS Board of Education has said that he does not believe this is the right economic climate for a bond issue and voted against the bond proposals during school board deliberations (as reported by the *Observer* March 19). He has also said that he now publicly supports these bond proposals.

Even the highest-elected financial leader in our school district seems confused over the idea of these bond proposals. This does not provide a very clear or confident picture of our schools' financial future. If the treasurer of our school board cannot even determine if this is a good idea or not, how can this school board possibly develop a financial plan that will properly allocate resources to maximize teachers in the classroom instead of asking us to build new classrooms with no money left to hire teachers? Please VOTE NO FOR OUR KIDS.

The facts seem clear, but the conclusion might be confusing. This is one of those strange elections where a NO VOTE for these bond proposals is actually a VOTE FOR OUR KIDS. Voting NO means lower class sizes, more teachers and more resources FOR OUR KIDS. On May 2, please join me in VOTING NO FOR OUR KIDS.

Mark Horvath is a former president of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education. He resides in Canton.



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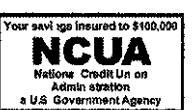
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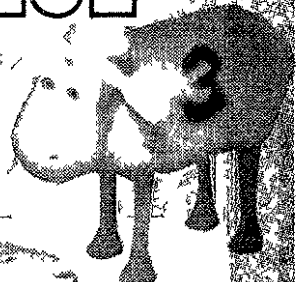
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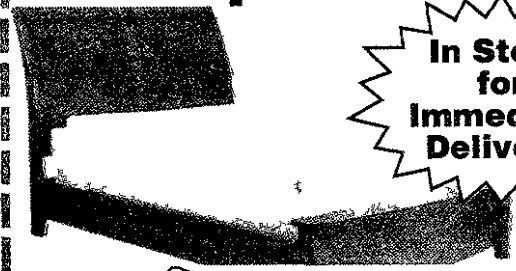
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Ear to ear

Operation Smile honors local news anchor Monica Gayle

BY NICOLE STAFFORD
STAFF WRITER

Monica Gayle, WJBK-TV (Channel 2) news anchor, always has a sincerity about her when she's delivering the stories of the day, good and bad.

So it's not surprising the West Bloomfield resident is receiving honors for her volunteer efforts to help children across the globe.

Gayle is slated to receive the Metro Detroit Humanitarian Award at the second annual Journey of Smiles event, Saturday, April 29, at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Dearborn. The black-tie benefit raises funds for Operation Smile, a national organization that sends medical teams to foreign countries to perform surgeries on children with facial deformities.

Former Detroit Pistons player and coach Ray Scott will be honored as well. Also appearing are former NBA player John Salley and celebrity hair stylist Ken Paves.

Gayle became involved in the organization during the establishment of a local chapter, the Michigan Friends of Operation Smile. "And she has been wonderfully dedicated and involved

since," said Terri Klimek, southeast Michigan liaison and medical volunteer for Operation Smile and Journey of Smiles event chair.

In addition to serving as a working committee member and hosting organization events as a local celebrity, Gayle traveled to Honduras on an Operation Smile mission just over a year ago.

"She worked side-by-side with us," said Klimek, a nurse anesthetist at the University of Michigan Medical Center who, along with her husband, a physician, donates her expertise overseas for Operation Smile.

A typical mission involves travel by 40 medical professionals equipped with all necessary medical supplies and, ultimately, the surgical treatment of about 150 children with cleft palates and other facial deformities. The teams also train local medical personnel in current treatment standards and techniques.

Children are born with cleft palates at higher rates outside the United States. More importantly, many nations lack the resources to provide corrective surgery. The deformity is caused by a combination of genetics and poor prenatal care.

Operation Smile also sponsors surgical trips to the U.S.

for children whose needs require surgery here. In the U.S., it operates a referral program through which American families can locate financial assistance for the corrective surgery.

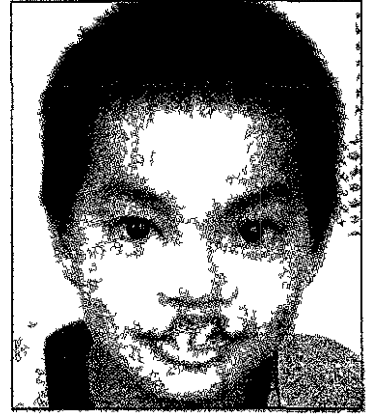
Gayle's involvement with the Michigan Friends of Operation Smile exceeds ordinary volunteerism, Klimek said. Her trip to Honduras inspired two WJBK-TV specials about the organization and children who have been helped. "And she continues to be a dedicated working member of our committee," Klimek said.

But perhaps Gayle's greatest contribution is her ability to convey Operation Smile's important message, Klimek said, adding "What is wonderful about Monica when she speaks as a non-medical person is that she speaks directly from the heart."

nstaffor@hometownlife.com | (248) 901-2567



Monica Gayle joined Operation Smile medical volunteers on a recent mission in Honduras.



OPERATION SMILE

Operation Smile missions bring much-needed surgery to children who are born with facial deformities in countries where the treatment is unavailable or too costly. These are before and after photos.



OPERATION SMILE

Back Pain?

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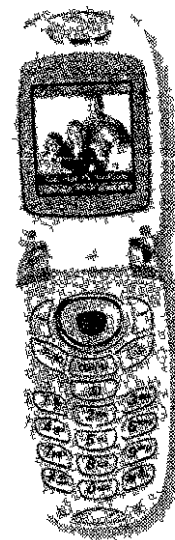
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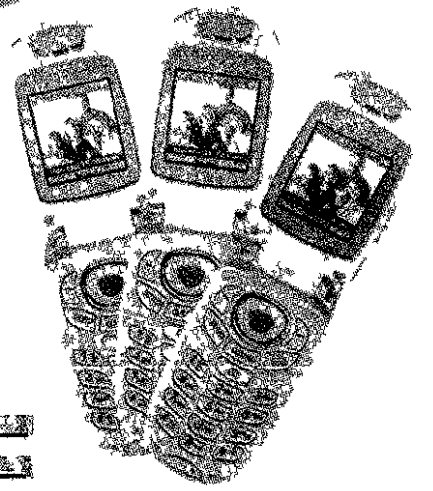
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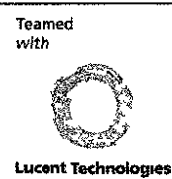
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State's GOP chair senses change

BY STACY JENKINS
STAFF WRITER

Saul Anuzis can feel something in the air. It's the winds of change as he delves head-first into the 2006 political season as chairman of the Michigan Republican State Committee.

"The economic environment, the mood of the people in Michigan, is very negative," said Anuzis. "People are looking for change, they're looking for leadership."

Anuzis, 47, is setting the stage and gearing minds to the state's single largest issue.

"Jobs, jobs, jobs, it's that simple," said Anuzis. "The last three polls showed over 70 percent of the people in Michigan's No. 1 concern is jobs and the economy."

The Detroit native notes Michigan's unemployment rate, which teeters between 6.6 and 7.1 percent — one of the highest in the country for a state unaffected by the hurricanes last year.

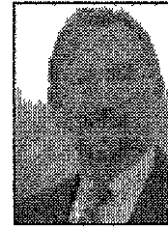
"We were the only state in the country that lost jobs last year," said Anuzis. "And, the only state to lose jobs three years in a row. Michigan continues to be on the losing track."

Anuzis argues that the leadership is lacking in Lansing and the state is prohibitive for businesses in terms of regulatory issues, permits and taxes.

Yet, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, a partnership between the state and local communities, reported this week a plan is in place to create and/or retain 14,297 jobs statewide through MEDC incentives.

The report states more than \$516 million has been secured in private investment in the five listed projects: Alma Iron & Metal in Alma, General Motors in Ypsilanti and Warren, Hess Industries Inc. in Milton Township, Otsego Paper Inc. acquisition of the former Menasha Paper facility in Otsego, and Second Chance Armor in Central Lake Township.

"The state continues to attract investment from global companies and local developers that create jobs and good places to live and work for our citizens," said Gov. Jennifer Granholm in the MEDC news release. "The fact that these companies are choosing Michigan over competing



Anuzis

sites in other states proves that they value our highly-skilled workforce and competitive business climate."

Anuzis said Dick DeVos is the person who can lead Michigan in the right direction, economically. DeVos, a Grand Rapids businessman who is credited for rebuilding Grand Rapids, has started his gubernatorial campaign.

Anuzis said DeVos' campaign ads are simply to gain name recognition in the Detroit area, where many are not yet familiar with him.

Anuzis said the state's Republicans are confident they will keep the majority of seats in the state House and Senate and are also hopeful a Republican governor will be elected in November.

Anuzis, whose parents immigrated to America from Lithuania after World War II, has been a political guru since attending college at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. In 1980, he was elected as the youngest delegate to the Republican National Convention, held in Detroit that year. Attending President Ronald Reagan's first inaugural speech was one of the highlights of his life.

Anuzis was elected third vice chair of the Michigan Republican State Committee and served six years as a MRSC member and two terms as a congressional district chairman. He managed Dick Posthumus' state Senate campaign in 1982 and worked for the House Republican Campaign Committee, the Senate Republican Campaign Committee, and finally as chief of staff to then Majority Leader Posthumus.

Anuzis became involved in the telecommunications business and focused on his family — wife Lina and four sons. Now, he's back on Michigan's political scene and moving full speed ahead on the notion that change is in the air.

"People continue to be more and more dissatisfied and upset about the lay of the land," he said. "They're looking for change, they're looking for an alternative."

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We will hold our third annual Senior Expo **Wednesday, May 24, 2006**, from 9 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the beautiful VisTaTech Center on the **Schoolcraft College** Livonia campus.

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The Expo will be intensely promoted with ads in 17 award-winning community newspapers for a tremendous **172,300 circulation** plus additional promotion on the Observer & Eccentric website, [hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com), which receives more than one-million page views per month.

You will also receive a listing in the center of our colorful Senior Expo section which will include your quarter or full page advertisement.

Participation ranges from \$695 to \$1,195 and includes a covered 8-foot table, two chairs, complementary coffee and donuts and two boxed lunches.



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JCI exec honored for diabetes effort

Keith Wandell, executive vice president for Johnson Controls and the president of the company's Automotive Group, will be honored Thursday, April 27 by the American Diabetes Association for his work in the battle against diabetes. As America's Walk for Diabetes Corporate Recruitment Chair in 2004 and 2005, Wandell's employees across the state have worked to raise more than \$100,000 for the American Diabetes Association. His involvement has helped raise awareness about a disease that impacts more than 23.5 million Michigan residents. He will be one of several people to receive the American Diabetes Association's "Excellence in Leadership Award" at the 14th Annual Commitment for a Cure Gala at The Ritz-Carlton in Dearborn. The black-tie-optional fundraiser benefits American Diabetes Association research, services and programs like Camp Midcha, the only residential summer camp in Michigan for children and teens with diabetes.

Another component of the Commitment for a Cure Gala is acquainting Metro Detroit's corporate and business community with the ADA and its mission to prevent and cure diabetes and to improve the lives of all people affected by diabetes. This year's corporate recruitment co-chairs for the Gala are Francine Parker, president and chief executive of Health Alliance Plan, and W. Frank Fountain, senior vice president of External Affairs and Public Policy for DaimlerChrysler.

For the second time in three years, FOX 2 News anchor and investigative reporter Fanchon Stinger will serve as emcee of the Commitment for a Cure Gala. Stinger was emcee of the 2004 event and is a strong supporter of the fight against diabetes.

Diabetes is a chronic disease that has no cure. It is a disease in which the body does not produce or properly use insulin, a hormone needed to convert sugar, starches and other food into energy. The cause of diabetes continues to be a mystery, although both genetics and environmental factors such as obesity and lack of exercise appear to play roles.

There are 20.8 million children and adults in the United States (7 percent of the population) who have diabetes. While an estimated 14.6 million have been diagnosed, unfortunately, 6.2 million people are unaware that they have the disease. In Michigan, more than 826,000 people have diabetes.

For tickets, tables or information about the Commitment for a Cure Gala, call Mary Riegle at (248) 433-3830, Ext. 6702.

Human Rights film series offered by Citizens for Peace

A weekly film series on Human Rights will be shown at 7 p.m. Wednesdays beginning April 26 in Madonna University's Kresge Hall. Four documentary films will be presented by the Citizens for Peace, one each Wednesday, with a facilitator who will field questions and opinions from the audience.

Scheduled are:
 ■ April 26 - *Darfur Diaries*
 This film looks at genocide as countless thousands flee from a conflict that spares nobody in the Darfur region of western Sudan.

■ May 3 - *Rich Media - Poor Democracy*
 If the key indicator of the health of a democracy is the state of its journalism, this film says our nation is in deep trouble.

■ May 10 - *Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room*
 Newsweek said, "This riveting documentary made my jaw drop and my hackles rise."

■ May 17 - *Mighty Times: The Legacy of Rosa Parks*
 This film tells the story of the life and times of a genuine American hero.

All films will be followed by a discussion. A donation of \$5 per event is requested, \$2 for students. Parking is free. Madonna University is at the corner of Levan and the I-96 service drive (Schoolcraft) in Livonia. For additional information, call (734) 425-0079.

For information about the American Diabetes Association, events and programs, call (888) DIABETES or visit www.diabetes.org

SME appointments

Mark K. Kramer, president of Soil and Materials Engineers, Inc., of Plymouth, honored six team members for their hard work, teamwork, commitment and dedication to the company's clients, their profession and SME, and their professional development activities. In recognition of their efforts, they were named to Principal, Senior Associate or Associate status.

Daniel O. Roeser, Manager-Development Services in SME's Plymouth office, was named a principal. With 21 years of experience including 13 years with SME, Roeser specializes in large urban redevelopment projects with a multitude of earthwork, environmental challenges, brownfield funding incentives, and constructability issues.



Roeser

Project geologist Daniel R. Cassidy and project engineers Jason Schwartzberger and Kevin Wilk, all from SME's Plymouth office, were named associates.

With 10 years of experience including nine years with SME, Cassidy specializes in large

urban redevelopment projects and providing solutions to environmental challenges, brownfield funding incentives, and constructability issues.

Wilk has 10 years of experience with SME and manages geotechnical engineering evaluations to address design and construction of shallow and deep foundations, ground improvement, and other geotechnical concerns for development/redevelopment projects.

Schwartzberger has nine years of experience at SME with transportation and infrastructure projects. He specializes in geotechnical/pavement engineering evaluations, pavement design, and implementation of pavement management systems.

Top vendor

Cequent Consumer Products, a division of TriMas Corporation, was recognized by Advance Auto Parts as its "Vendor of the Year" for 2005.

"It is an honor to receive this award, and it is testimony to the people, products and brands that support our retail customers," said John Aleva, general manager of Cequent Consumer Products, who accepted the award at Advance Auto Parts' Vendor Recognition Event, held during Advance Auto Parts' biennial leadership conference. David Mueller, executive vice president of Advance Auto Parts' merchandising and marketing, presented the award to Cequent's Aleva.

Advance Auto Parts measured its vendors based on an overall fill rating, product innovation, gap analysis, category management, support of Advance Auto Parts' initiatives and top-line sales growth. Cequent was one of only 10 companies to receive the

award. Cequent joins the ranks of companies like Shell (SOPUS), Purolator, Bosch and Valvoline to earn this prestigious award.

Cequent Consumer Products is part of TriMas' Transportation Accessories group. Established in 2002

and headquartered in Plymouth, Mich., Cequent is comprised of market-leading transportation brands, including towing accessories, trailer braking and core trailer components, cargo management products and weight distribution items.

NOTICE OF ELECTION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS of the Charter Township of Canton notice is hereby given that a May 2, 2006 Election will be held in the Charter Township of Canton on Tuesday, May 2, 2006 from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M., at which time bond proposals and candidates in the Plymouth-Canton Community School District, and candidates in the Van Buren Public Schools in Wayne County will be placed on the ballot for consideration as follows:

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION (TERM ENDING: JUNE 30, 2010).

VOTE FOR TWO:
 Mark Christenson
 Dianne Gonzalez
 Brandon Hynes
 John T. Jackson
 Larry A. Martin
 Cheryl W. McKoy
 John Nichols
 Steven M. Sneiderman

PROPOSAL PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT BOND PROPOSITION 1

Shall the Plymouth Canton Community Schools Counties of Wayne and Washtenaw State of Michigan borrow the sum of not to exceed Ninety Five Million Four Hundred Fifteen Thousand and 00/100 (\$95,415,000) Dollars and issue its general obligation unlimited tax bonds therefor in one or more series for the purpose of paying for the cost of the following:

Erecting equipping and furnishing a new middle school building and a new career technical education facility and acquiring preparing, developing and improving the sites for a new middle school building and a new career technical education facility.

Erecting equipping and furnishing additions to school buildings and preparing developing and improving sites for additions to school buildings.

Remodeling re equipping re furnishing school buildings, preparing, developing and improving sites at school buildings and purchasing school buses and

Equipping and re equipping school buildings for technology systems and equipment?

The maximum number of years the bonds may be outstanding exclusive of refunding is not more than twenty five (25) years the estimated millage that will be levied to pay the proposed bonds in the first year is 0.86 mills (which is equal to \$0.86 per \$1,000 of taxable value) and the estimated simple average annual millage that will be required to retire the bonds over twenty five (25) years is 0.83 mills annually (\$0.83 per \$1,000 of taxable value). If this Bond Proposition 1 is combined with Bond Proposition 2 it will be outstanding exclusive of refunding, for not more than twenty five (25) years the estimated millage that will be levied to pay the combined proposed bonds in the first year is 1.08 mills (which is equal to \$1.08 per \$1,000 of taxable value), and the estimated simple average millage that will be required to retire the bonds over twenty five (25) years is 1.05 mills annually (\$1.05 per \$1,000 of taxable value). If approved by the voters the bonds will be guaranteed by the State of Michigan under Section 16 of Article IX of the State Constitution of 1963, as amended. If the School District borrows from the State of Michigan to pay debt service on the bonds under the State of Michigan's guarantee the School District may be required to levy debt mills beyond the term of the bonds to repay the State of Michigan. (Pursuant to State law expenditure of bond proceeds must be audited, and the proceeds cannot be used for teacher administrator or employee salaries, repair or maintenance costs or other operating expenses.)

YES NO

PROPOSAL PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT BOND PROPOSITION 2

Shall the Plymouth Canton Community Schools Counties of Wayne and Washtenaw State of Michigan borrow the sum of not to exceed Twenty Four Million Seven Hundred Sixty Five Thousand and 00/100 (\$24,765,000) Dollars and issue its general obligation unlimited tax bonds therefor in one or more series, for the purpose of paying for the cost of the following:

Erecting equipping and furnishing a performing arts center addition a multi purpose swimming pool addition and an auxiliary gymnasium addition to high school buildings,

Preparing developing and improving sites for a performing arts center addition a multi purpose swimming pool addition and an auxiliary gymnasium addition to high school buildings

Equipping additions to high school buildings for technology systems and equipment and

Erecting equipping and furnishing additions to athletic fields and preparing developing and improving sites for additions to athletic fields?

The maximum number of years the bonds may be outstanding exclusive of refunding, is not more than twenty five (25) years the estimated millage that will be levied to pay the proposed bonds in the first year is 0.22 mills (which is equal to \$0.22 per \$1,000 of taxable value) and the estimated simple average annual millage that will be required to retire the bonds over twenty five (25) years is 0.22 mills annually (\$0.22 per \$1,000 of taxable value). If this Bond Proposition 2 is combined with Bond Proposition 1 it will be outstanding exclusive of refunding for not more than twenty five (25) years, the estimated millage that will be levied to pay the combined proposed bonds in the first year is 1.08 mills (which is equal to \$1.08 per \$1,000 of taxable value) and the estimated simple average millage that will be required to retire the bonds over twenty five (25) years is 1.05 mills annually (\$1.05 per \$1,000 of taxable value). The Bonds authorized under this School Improvement Bond Proposition 2 if approved by the voters will not be issued if the voters do not approve School Improvement Bond Proposition 1. If approved by the voters the bonds will be guaranteed by the State of Michigan under Section 16 of Article IX of the State Constitution of 1963, as amended. If the School District borrows from the State of Michigan to pay debt service on the bonds under the State of Michigan's guarantee the School District may be required to levy debt mills beyond the term of the bonds to repay the State of Michigan. (Pursuant to State law, expenditure of bond proceeds must be audited and the proceeds cannot be used for teacher administrator or employee salaries repair or maintenance costs or other operating expenses.)

YES NO

VAN BUREN PUBLIC SCHOOLS MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION (TERM ENDING JUNE 30 2010).

VOTE FOR TWO:
 Victor A. Hogan
 David Peer

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON PRECINCT NUMBERS AND LOCATIONS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a MAY 2, 2006 ELECTION will be held on Tuesday, MAY 2, 2006 from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. at the following polling locations:

Precinct No.	Name of Facility	Address
1 & 23	First Baptist Church	44500 Cherry Hill Rd
2	Tri City Christian Center	3855 Sheldon S
3 10 21	St John Neumann Church	44800 Warren Road
4 & 13	Miller Elementary School	43721 Hanford Road
5 & 31	Crescent Academy	40440 Palmer Rd
6	Royal Holiday Clubhouse	39500 Warren Road
7	Salem High School	46181 Joy Road
8	Resurrection Parish Church	48755 Warren Road
9 & 34	Eriksson Elementary School	1275 N Haggerty Road
11 & 19	Tonda Elementary School	46501 Warren Road
12 & 14	Hulsing Elementary School	8055 Fleet Street
15	Winter/Walker Elementary School	39982 Michigan Avenue
16 & 17	Bentley Elementary School	1100 S Sheldon
20	Township Fire Station #1	1100 S Canton Center
22	Hoben Elementary School	44680 Salts Rd
24 & 25	Canton High School	8415 N Canton Center
26, 27 & 36	Summit on the Park	46000 Summit Parkway
28	Agape Christian School	45081 Geddes
18 & 29	Field Elementary School	1000 S Haggerty
30	Mettetal Airport	8550 Lally Road
32	Main Street Baptist Church	8500 Morton Taylor N
33 & 37	Dodson Elementary School	205 Beck Rd
35	Canton Human Service Center	50430 School House Rd
38	Cherry Hill School	50440 Cherry Hill Rd
39	Plymouth High School	8400 N Beck Rd

The Office of the Township Clerk 1150 S Canton Center Road will be open from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on Saturday APRIL 29 2006 for obtaining and casting absentee ballots. Qualified voters must appear in person to receive a ballot.

On Monday MAY 1, 2006 those requesting an absentee ballot must appear in person at the Clerk's Office until 4:00 p.m. Emergency absentee ballots ONLY will be issued on Election Day MAY 2, 2006. All absentee ballots that are returned in person must be returned to the Clerk's office by 4:00 P.M., MAY 2, 2006.

If you are unsure of your voting location please refer to your voter registration card or contact the Clerk's office at 394-5121.

Terry G. Bennett Clerk

STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF WAYNE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ORDINANCE NO. C-06-02 AMENDMENT TO WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND PARAGRAPH A OF SECTION 73.040 AND PARAGRAPH A OF SECTION 73.050 OF CHAPTER 73 PART OF 7 OF THE CODE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ENTITLED WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM ORDINANCE, TO AMEND THE WATER CONSUMPTION RATES AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL RATES FOR THE TOWNSHIP; PROVIDING FOR VIOLATION AND PENALTY, PROVIDING FOR THE SEVERABILITY OF THIS ORDINANCE, PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ALL OTHER INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES, PROVIDING FOR THE SAVINGS CLAUSE OF THIS ORDINANCE AND PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE ORDINANCE.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ORDAINS

SECTION 1.

Paragraph A of Section 73.040 of the Water and Sewer System Ordinance entitled "Consumption Rates" is hereby amended to read as follows:

WATER RATES

A. Consumption Rates. The Consumption rate shall be \$2.36 per 1,000 gallons.

SECTION 2.

Paragraph A of Section 73.050 of the Water and Sewer System Ordinance entitled "Sewer Disposal Use Rates" is hereby amended to read as follows:

SEWER SYSTEM RATES

A. Sewer Disposal Use Rates

- (1) Such rates shall be levied on each lot or parcel of land, building, premises now or hereafter having any connection with the sewers of the system. Such rates shall be billed along with the water bill and shall be based on the quantity of water used therein (if there is such a meter).
- (2) The sewage disposal rate shall be \$3.06 per 1,000 gallons of metered water. The sewage disposal rate during the billing months of September, October and November shall be reduced by Twenty five (25%) percent.

SECTION 3. VIOLATION AND PENALTY.

Unless otherwise provided, any person, corporation, partnership or any other legal entity who violates the provisions of this Ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and may be fined not more than Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars or imprisoned for not more than ninety (90) days or both at the discretion of the Court.

SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY.

If any clause, sentence, section, paragraph or part of this Ordinance, or the application thereof to any person, firm, corporation, legal entity or circumstances, shall be for any reason adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or invalid, said judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared to the legislative intent of this body that the Ordinance is severable and that the Ordinance would have been adopted had such invalid or unconstitutional provision not have been included in this Ordinance.

SECTION 5. REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES.

All Ordinance or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

SECTION 6. SAVINGS CLAUSE.

All rights and duties which have matured penalties which have been incurred, proceedings which have begun and prosecution for violations of law occurring before the effective date of this Ordinance are not affected or abated by this Ordinance.

SECTION 7. PUBLICATION.

The Clerk for the Charter Township of Plymouth shall cause this Ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

SECTION 8. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Ordinance as amended shall take full force and effect upon publication as required by law.

The above is a summary of proposed Ordinance No. C-06-02 considered for first reading at the April 11, 2006, regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth. It will be submitted for second reading at the regularly scheduled Board meeting on Tuesday, May 9, 2006. The Ordinance, in full, is available in the Clerk's office for public perusal at 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170 during regular business hours 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Marilyn Massengill CMC
Clerk, Charter Township of Plymouth



HOME EQUITY LOAN

6.05% APR

10-YEAR TERM.

NO POINTS. NO CLOSING COSTS.

Good for a very limited time.

Lock in this great rate today.

If you have a variable rate loan, today is the day to refinance and get a great fixed rate. We'll give you an answer in minutes and your money in days. To apply, visit any of our 124 Michigan branches, go to charterone.com or call 1-877-TOP-RATE.

Offer Ends
Sunday
April 23, 2006

6.05% Annual Percentage Rate (APR) available for qualifying properties in IL, IN, MI and OH with a loan to value (LTV) of 85% or less for loans of \$10,000 to \$500,000 or an LTV of 80% or less for loans over \$500,000 with auto deduction from Circle Checking™ and a 10 year term. Circle Checking Account with \$50 minimum opening balance required. An equity loan of \$10,000 with a 10 year term at 6.05% APR results in 120 monthly payments of \$111.27. Other rates and terms available. Rates and terms vary by property type, loan amount and LTV ratio. Offer subject to change without notice. 1 to 4 family owner occupied properties only. Not available for homes currently for sale or intended to be sold within six months of closing. Property insurance required. Flood insurance may be required. Trust review fees ranging from \$85 to \$175 apply for properties held in trust. All accounts are subject to individual approval. Answers in minutes applicable to completed loan applications submitted at branch or by phone and limited hours apply. See a banker for details. Equal Housing Lender. Member FDIC.

Cell phone choices, self-defense on the rise in Wayne County

TALK THE TALK

This week Livonia welcomed a new no-contract cell phone service provider to its business community. MetroPCS hosted a grand opening Wednesday at its new location at 28505 Schoolcraft Building 6, near Burton Manor.

The Dallas-based company has become the first cellular company in Michigan to offer a no contract, no credit check, month-to-month flat rate service. The Livonia office will employ 200 people by the end of 2006, officials said.

And that's only the beginning. MetroPCS plans to open eight stores in Michigan. The wireless provider aims to let you "talk all you want, anytime you want with no strings attached."

The flat rate service includes unlimited local and domestic long distance calls anytime, without a contract. The company hopes to make counting minutes obsolete.

Basic plans cost \$30, \$35, \$40 and \$45. Options include TextTalk, which allows an unlimited number of text messages for \$3 per month, Metro411, a directory assistance service for \$2 per month, and PictureTalk to send and receive digital photos for \$5 per month.

MetroPCS offers Detroit an affordable alternative to expensive, frustrating wireless plans, said Pat Markey, general manager of MetroPCS Detroit. "By allowing customers to pay by the month, not by the minute, we are giving residents of Detroit and

WHAT'S IN STORE

surrounding communities another option for their wireless service.

And, we believe we will be the natural choice of wireless service for those who live, work and play in the Detroit area."

MetroPCS Communications currently has 2 million subscribers. For more information, visit the Web site at www.metropcs.com

WALK THE WALK

After taking up self-defense on her own, Katie A. Ling now teaches it. She has developed The Protection Connection, an organization meant to improve the health, safety and overall well-being of teens, students and women everywhere. Her Canton-based company provides private group seminars for student groups and sororities around Michigan.

The Protection Connection also provides Moving Body Meditation and Proactive Self-Defense classes on a weekly basis at Deborah Chase School of Dance, located at 29820 Joy Road in Livonia.

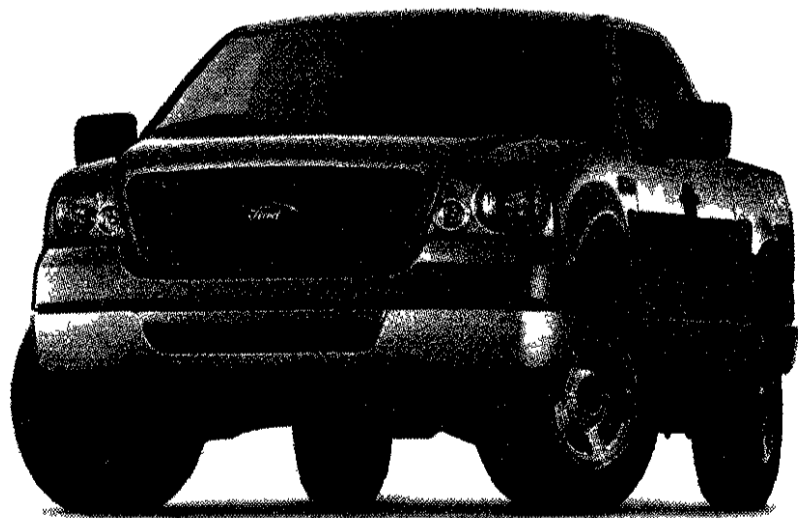
For more information, visit www.ProtectionConnection.biz. To register for programs, call (734) 649-8478 or send e-mail to katie@protectionconnection.biz

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

Herniated Disc Technology Discovered by NASA Scientists

Ann Arbor - A new free report has recently been released that reveals how breakthrough medical technology is offering new hope for sciatica sufferers. Discover how research has proven non-surgical decompression 86% successful in treating debilitating back pain. Find out how NASA's accidental discovery led to the most promising treatment today. For your free report entitled "How Space Age Technology Is Solving Back Pain Without Drugs Or Surgery!" Call 1-800-469-3618 for the toll free recorded message. Supplies are limited. Call now. If phone lines are busy, visit www.midischernation.com

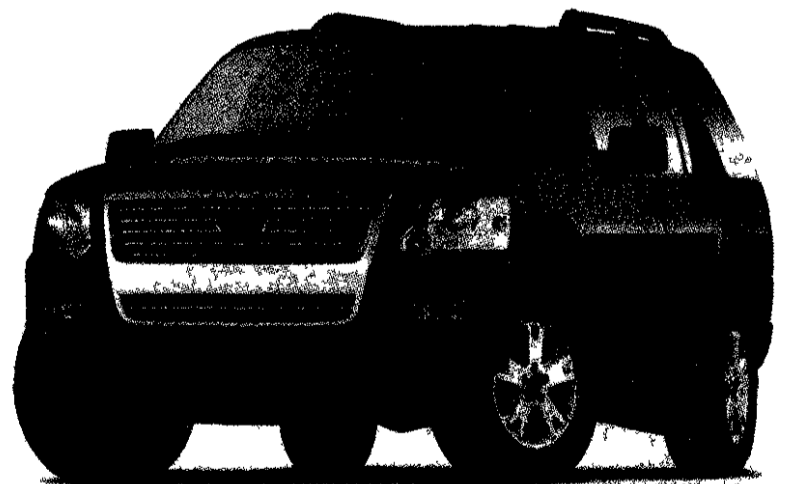
PERFECT MATCH



Eligible Ford Employees can Lease a 2006 F-150 SC 4X4 XLT

For as low as **\$169** A month(1) with a 24 month low mileage Fleet Carpet Lease. With \$2,214 customer cash due at signing.

Includes acquisition fee, security deposit waived** Excludes tax, title and license fee. Cash due is after \$1,500 RCL cash back, \$500 A/Z plan cash and \$1000 matching down payment.



Eligible Ford Employees can Lease a 2006 Explorer XLT 4x4

For as low as **\$239** A month(1) with a 24 month low mileage Fleet Carpet Lease. With \$2,034 customer cash due at signing.

Includes acquisition fee, security deposit waived** Excludes tax, title and license fee. Cash due is after \$3000 RCL cash back, \$500 A/Z plan cash and \$1000 matching down payment.

VARSITY
3480 Jackson Rd. 1-800-875-FORD
ANN ARBOR

ATCHINSON
9800 Belleville Rd. 734-697-9161
BELLEVILLE

GENE BUTMAN
2105 Washtenaw 734-482-8581
YPSILANTI

BRIARWOOD
7070 Michigan Ave. 734-429-5478
SALINE

HINES PARK
I-96 at Milford Rd. 248-437-6700
LYON TWP.

FRIENDLY
2800 N. Telegraph, 734-243-6000
MONROE

OPEN SATURDAYS

Believing in miracles

Guild, Capuchin brothers remember priest Solanus Casey, work on cause for sainthood

BY SUSAN STEINMUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Helen Gleeson remembers the day her brother was miraculously healed in Detroit by a Capuchin priest whom many would like to see named a saint.

While she was growing up in Detroit in a family of nine children, Gleeson's older brother Charles, 12, contracted polio.

"The doctors gave up hope on Chuck, because he was paralyzed," she said.

Her Catholic parents were very religious, and so her father went to see the Rev. Solanus Casey, a priest in the Capuchin order at St. Bonaventure Monastery on Mt. Elliott in Detroit. He knew that healings had been attributed to the priest's prayers of intercession.

"Father told him, there will be a decided change within a day," said Gleeson, still showing the amazement and happiness in her voice after so many years. "That day, Chuck walked down the steps to my mother and father."

Her late brother grew up to have a happy life and a large family. His story was also told on the television program, *Unsolved Mysteries*.

As for Gleeson, Father Solanus made a lasting impact on her life. "My father used to take us to see him. Father Solanus used to sit at his desk, and there were people gathered around the room wanting to talk to him. He was so pious, and took time for every one."

PRAYERFUL GUILD

Father Solanus Casey died in July 1957 and is buried at St.

Bonaventure. Three years later, the Father Solanus Casey Guild was formed to keep alive his memory and spirit, and further his cause for canonization as a saint. Today members are all over the world.

Gleeson, now of Bloomfield Hills, formed a local circle of the guild in her home. Thirty years later, the circle continues to meet, at the Monastery of the Blessed Sacrament in Farmington Hills. Members pray and listen to new stories of healing attributed to prayers to Father Solanus for intercession.

While such healings as her brother experienced can only be proclaimed a miracle if Father Solanus is canonized, or declared a saint, Gleeson has no doubt that is what happened.

"The doctors felt like when

Chuck walked, well, there is a miracle there. This is something they could not explain."

Brother Richard Merling of St. Bonaventure is guild director. Brother Richard came to the friary a few months before Solanus died. He also remembers a visit with him as a child. Father Solanus prophetically told his mother his brother would be okay after an auto accident and talked about what it was like when he entered the monastery — something Brother Richard recalled later when he himself felt called to service.

REMEMBERING

"When those who had been healed came back to thank him, sometimes tears would come out of his eyes and he would say, 'don't thank me, thank the Lord,'" he said of Father Solanus.

He was a happy person, Brother Richard added, who enjoyed playing the violin. "One of Father Solanus' emphasis was when people came and asked for blessings, he would often say to them OK, if you are asking some-

thing of God, be willing to do something for him."

Perhaps that's why when the Capuchin Soup Kitchen was established during the Depression there was never a lack of food or help. His concern for the hungry inspired the soup kitchen, and many people helped provide for it. "If Father Solanus asked for something people just responded so well."

Brother Richard works with Brother Leo Wollenweber, vice-postulator for the Cause of Canonization of Father Solanus Casey, to research his life and candidacy for sainthood.

Brother Leo, now 89, lived with him from 1940 to 1945. "He was a very kind of quiet, humble, very human man with a good sense of humor. He had a wonderful faith and trust in God, a goodness that he shared."

With the intercession of Father Solanus, "medical conditions just seemed to be cured overnight. Many doctors were quite surprised."

If Father Solanus is named a saint, he would be the first American-born male saint, he said.

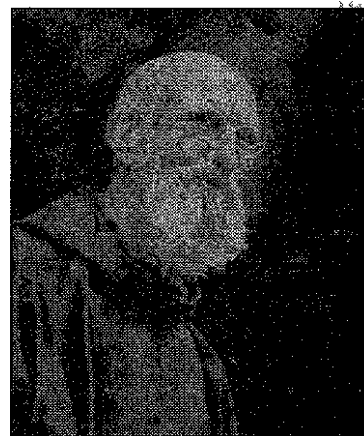
A big step was taken in July 1995, when he was declared Venerable by Pope John Paul II. A saint must also be beatified and canonized by the church in Rome.

NEW REPORTS

Unusual healings before and after death must be attributed to a candidate for sainthood.

Today, reports are still being made, he said. "Many people come to pray at his tomb. They send us reports."

"What we have to do is collect enough medical information," said Brother Leo. "That is very difficult to get with all the privacy issues, and sometimes doctors are reluctant to speak out, and so on."



This oil painting of Solanus Casey is available as a reproduction at the Father Solanus Casey Guild headquarters in Detroit.

But, "it's at a point where we are investigating a case that might bring positive news for us. There is no intervention through medical means, and there is a healing."

"We don't want to say anything that would anticipate the decision of the Congress for Causes of Saints," he added. "We do hope that the Vatican will consider all the evidence that we send them."

For Rachel Lent of Bloomfield Township, having Father Solanus declared a saint would be wonderful news. She saw a television program on him, and contacted the guild to see if she could help in the effort. But she'd be just as happy if more people knew about him.

"We need it right now. We need something to hang on to," she said. "There are so many wonderful things that happen and we just don't know about them. It's the kind of thing that gives you a little hope."

The Father Solanus Guild is located at 1780 Mt. Elliott Ave., Detroit. The phone number is (313) 579-2100. The guild has a Web site at www.solanuscasy.org.



A photograph of the Rev. Solanus Casey shows him in prayer at the Capuchin monastery in Detroit.

A holy life: Solanus Casey memories

Father Solanus Casey was born Bernard Francis Casey to Irish immigrant parents on Nov. 25, 1870. He grew up on a farm in Wisconsin, the sixth of 16 children. He worked at other jobs for economic reasons before beginning studies for the priesthood.

He entered St. Francis Seminary High School in Milwaukee, Wis., at age 21. He then joined the Capuchin Franciscans, a Roman Catholic religious order inspired by the ideals of St. Francis of Assisi, who lived simply and served the poor. He received the religious name of Solanus.

After his ordination in 1904, Father Solanus served in various appointments in New York. Because of low academic rankings as a student, his priestly duties were restricted. But while fulfilling humble duties such as doorkeeper, he became known for his great charity toward others and as a model of religious observance.

In 1924, he was assigned to St. Bonaventure Monastery in Detroit. Serving as porter, he

again became known for his ministry to others, especially the sick and troubled.

His concern for the poor inspired the Detroit Capuchins to establish their charitable Soup Kitchen, which continues today. And, many reports of cures from maladies, conversions of fallen away churchgoers and favorable resolutions to problems were attributed to his prayers of intercession.

In 1946, superiors sent him to a friary in Indiana, desiring to give him a well-earned retirement. There he received about 200 letters a day. He attempted to answer them all, but in his 80s and infirm, the friars had a rubber stamp made of his signature. He was diagnosed with skin cancer and sent back to Detroit in 1956 to be near expert medical care.

Father Solanus died at the age of 86 on July 31, 1957, at the same day and hour of his first Holy Mass 53 years earlier. He is buried at St. Bonaventure Monastery in Detroit.

RELIGION CALENDAR

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

A Healing Mass will be offered 1 p.m. Saturday in the church at the corner of Hubbard and Plymouth in Livonia. This Mass offers special prayers and anointing for Catholics recovering from serious illness, facing surgery or suffering from a chronic health condition and asks for the relief of suffering and the restoration of health both physical and spiritual. Those interested in participating should call (734) 261-1455 to register. The church and its facilities are wheelchair accessible. On Mercy Sunday, April 23, the Parish holds its first formal celebration of the Divine Mercy as instituted by Pope John Paul II and based on Christ's revelations to St. Faustina Kowalska about humanity's need for His Divine Mercy. The day begins with a noon Mass followed by a 1 p.m. Polish luncheon featuring stuffed cabbage, kielbasa, sauerkraut and other traditional Polish fare by reservation only and priced at \$6 for adults, \$3 for children ages 4-12, free for children 3 and under. Reservations must be placed by calling (734) 261-1455 no later than Tuesday, April 18. The Divine Mercy Devotion begins at 3 p.m. traditionally the hour of great mercy commemorating the hour of Christ's death and will include the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and close with Benediction. All area Catholics are welcome to participate in as many of the weekend activities as they choose. The luncheon is reserved only by those planning to participate in the Divine Mercy devotion.

peacemaker retreat leader and author. Fee is \$40 (includes conference continental breakfast & lunch). For information on registration, workshops etc. call (517) 482-2558 or send e-mail to TirakPaxMI@aol.com or visit www.paxchristi.org or call Carol Jachim (313) 839-0249.

APRIL

Garage sale
10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, April 20 and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, April 21 at St. Alexander's Church, 27835 Shawwassee between Middlebelt and Inkster, Farmington Hills. Call (248) 474-5748.

Just for kids
Looking for something for your kids to do during Spring Break? Kids from 5 to 18 years old are invited to make Candy Animal Crafts 1-3 p.m. Thursday, April 20 at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh, Livonia. Please let us know if your child will attend by calling (734) 464-0990. You are welcome to drop off your child and return back at the end of the session because there will be adult supervision during the time.

Garage sale
9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, April 21. \$2 bag sale at 4 p.m. all large items go for \$2 at the bag sale at SS Simon and Jude Church, 32500 Palmer, Westland. Call (734) 722-1343.

Lazer tag
Meet at the Zap Zone, 6:45 p.m. Friday, April 21 at 41953 Ford, Canton. Ticket \$18 includes pizza, pop and lazer tag. For more information, call Ward Presbyterians Church at (248) 374-5920.

Divine Mercy weekend
St. Michael Catholic Church of Livonia celebrates its first Divine Mercy Weekend, April 22-23 with several special services and devotions to which all area Catholics are cordially invited.

Concert
Dave and Barb Anderson with Keyboard artist Dale Post perform a Concert of Faith and Encouragement 6 p.m. Sunday, April 23 at St. Michael Lutheran Church and School, Hanna at Glenwood, Wayne. Call (734) 728-1950.

Youth talent program
Starts 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 25 for ages 6-14 and continues Tuesdays until the Talent Show 6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 1 with Livonia Theater Arts Teacher Georgie Wilson and Unity youth director Lin Wilson at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile between Inkster and Middlebelt. No charge. It is hoped that the program leads to the formation of a community theater group for children. Call (734) 421-1760.

Celebrate spring
Celebrate Life: An event to create awareness about First Step a representative will talk about the nonprofit organization's services for abused women and children and sexual assault victims 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 26 at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile between Middlebelt and Merriman, Livonia. No charge but call (734) 421-7249 to reserve a spot. Event includes music, desserts and a handmade quilt raffle to benefit First Step. Tickets \$1 each, \$5 for six.

Lecture
Life and Death: Joy and Reality by Sister Ann Stamm, doctorate of ministry, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 26 at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia.

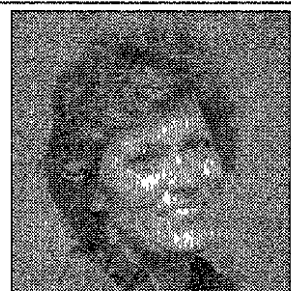
Passages

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

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

ANN KRYSIA SIMS

Age 83 died April 15, 2006 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Pontiac from a long illness. She was born September 9, 1922 in Morrisville, Pennsylvania and was currently a resident of Bloomfield Hills since 1956. Wife of the late H.G. Sims who was an Executive with General Motors Corp. he died in 1999. She was a graduate of Morrisville High School in Pennsylvania and a graduate of Comptroller School in New Jersey. Ann was an adamant bridge player and belonged to the Neighborhood Bridge Club. Ann is survived by two daughters, Cynthia Ann Sims of Bloomfield Hills and Eileen (Robert) Seale of Huntington Beach, California. Grandmother of John and Michael. Also survived by 7 Brothers and Sisters including the two living in this area: Lynne Fichtinger of West Bloomfield and Marjorie Habel of Chesterton, Indiana. Memorial Service at The Wm. R. Hamilton Co., 820 E. Maple, Birmingham on Saturday, April 22, 2006 at 11:00 A.M. Pastor Jim Ackerman of Cross of Christ Lutheran Church of Bloomfield Hills officiating.

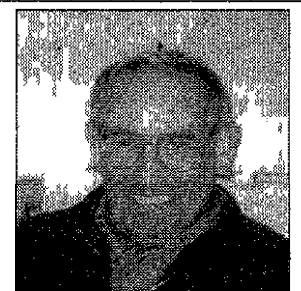


BERTHA LOUISE FUQUA

Age 69, previously of Bloomfield Hills, MI, died Nov. 14, 2005 in Scottsdale, AZ. She was the wife of William Fuqua for 47 years. They most recently resided in Brewster, MA. Born in Birmingham, AL. Mrs. Fuqua attended the University of Alabama, Birmingham and the Candler School of Theology at Emory University where she gained Certification in Church Business Administration. She was a member of the United Methodist Association of Church Business Administrators and a Fellow of the National Association of Church Business Administration. In Michigan she was a member of Kiwanis and in Brewster, "Queen Bee" of her local Red Hat Society. A medical secretary for many years, she later worked at her church, starting as a volunteer and eventually becoming Church Business Administrator at the First United Methodist Church, Birmingham, MI. She retired in 1995. She was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother, known for her generosity and hospitality. Her retirement years were focused especially on her family. Besides her husband, survivors include a son, Bradley Fuqua of Scottsdale, AZ; three daughters, Elizabeth Ouellette of Tallahassee, FL; Patricia Wilson of Boca Raton, FL; and Martha Lemondes of Fairfax, VA; 3 brothers, a sister and 10 grandchildren. A memorial service will be held at First United Methodist Church, 1589 West Maple Rd., Birmingham, MI on Saturday, April 22, 2006 at 2:00 P.M.

HELEN W. HEFFERNAN

April 17, 2006. Age 81 of Bloomfield Hills, MI. Wife of the late Harold J. Dear mother of Colleen M. Weiss (Edward) and Michael P. (Denise). Grandmother of William and Jennifer. Funeral service Thursday, April 20, 10am at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu Rodgers & Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward (btwn 13 & 14 Mile). Interment White Chapel Cemetery. Memorial tributes to the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan, 1169 Oak Valley Dr., Ann Arbor, MI 48108. View obituary and share memories at www.desmondfuneralhome.com



THADEUS EDWARD DANAJ

Age 78 of Petoskey died peacefully April 9, 2006 with his family at his side. He was born February 29, 1928 in Lark's Lake, the son of Paul and Agnes (Krzysztofczyk) Danaj. Ted was a Merchant Marine at 17 and served during WW II in Italy. He enlisted in the US Army on August 19, 1946. He married Bertha Elaine McDonough on June 29, 1952 and they made their home in Detroit and later Westland. He drove a double tanker truck delivering petroleum in the Detroit area until he retired and took up golf—his passion. In recent years the couple returned to northern Michigan and made their home in Petoskey. He was a member of St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Petoskey and the American Legion Post #32 in Westland, MI. Ted is survived by his wife, Bertha of Petoskey; sons Lawrence (Becky) of Livonia, Timothy (Lorraine) of Alpharetta, Georgia; daughters Pamela (Gary) Malo of Livonia, Susan (Bill) Wright of Lake Leelanau; Beth (Tom) Burke of Petoskey; 20 grandchildren; one brother and two sisters. He was preceded in death by granddaughter Brandee, five sisters and two brothers. Interment at St. Mary's Cemetery in Charlevoix. Memorial Contributions may be made to Hospice of Little Traverse Bay.

ANNA "ANN" MAE BRECHT

With deep sorrow we announce the passing of Ann on April 17, 2006 at age 90. Ann was a good friend to many and lived a full and active life. She was a member of the Canton Sounds and the Nardineers of Farmington and was a Sears retiree. She enjoyed travel, golf, square dancing, bowling, bingo cards and spending time with her family and friends. Beloved wife of the late Julius Loving mother of Shirley Casler and Donald (Betty). Dearest sister to 5 brothers and 3 sisters. Loving grandmother to 8 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren. Funeral Saturday, 11 a.m. from the chapel of the L. J. Griffin Funeral Home, 42600 Ford Rd. (W. of Lilley Rd.). The family will receive visitors Friday, 4-9 p.m.

ARLEEN MARIE DEBOZY

Age 84 of Westland formerly of New Boston. Died April 15, 2006. Mrs. Debozy was born July 14, 1921 in Huron Township to Ernst and Esther (Schuessler) Guntow. She married Andrew B. Debozy May 26, 1940 in New Boston, Michigan. She was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church and St. Pauls Ladies Aid. Preceded in death by her husband, 1 grandson, 2 brothers and 1 sister. Survived by her children: Sons Allan Debozy of Westland, Alvin (Margaret) Debozy of New Boston, Terry (Marty) Debozy of Hemlock, MI; Daughters Andrea (Harold) Owens of Harrison, Tennessee; Sandy Heath of Westland; Grandchildren: Eleven Great Grandchildren. Sixteen Funeral services were held April 19, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. St. Paul Lutheran Church, New Boston, MI. Visitation was held at Arthur Bobcean Funeral Home Inc., 3740 Rock Mt. Interment Michigan Memorial Park, Huron Township, MI. Donations can be made to St. Paul Lutheran Church Elevator Fund.



CHERYL L. CARAM

Age 67, April 13, 2006. Beloved wife of Edward Dearest Mother of Lisa (Raymond) Lindenmuth, Jeffrey and Tony Caram. Loving Grandmother of Brittany and Connor Lindenmuth, Sister of Donna Dunn and the late Wayne Aldrich. Services Sunday, April 23, 2006 at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 34567 Seven Mile Road, Livonia, MI with visitation at 1:30 p.m. until the time of the Memorial Service at 4:30 p.m. Pastor Walt Dickenson officiating. Memorial Contributions to the Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Livonia or Angela Hospice would be greatly appreciated.

ELIZABETH FURBACHER

Of Westland, age 99, April 15, 2006. Beloved wife of the late Peter Furbacher Sr. Dear mother of Irma (the late John) Tiano, Peter (Herta) Furbacher, Edward (Mary) Furbacher, Donald (Shirley) Furbacher, Wilma (Hank) Rochette and the late Elizabeth Valcke and Joseph Furbacher. Dearest Grandmother of 25 grandchildren, 43 great grandchildren and 12 great great grandchildren. Visitation was Monday at the Ziomek Funeral Home in Livonia. Funeral was held Tuesday, Instate 11 AM at St. Theodore Catholic Church, 8200 Wayne Road, Westland. Burial at St. Hedwig Cemetery.

OBITUARY POLICY

The first five billed lines of an obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at \$4 per line. You may place a picture of your loved one for an additional cost of only \$6. Symbolic emblems may be included at no cost (example: American Flags, religious symbols, etc.).

Deadlines: Friday 5 PM for Sunday, Wednesday Noon for Thursday.

Obituary as received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.

e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to Attn: Obits c/o Charolette Wilson 734-953-2232. For more information call Charolette Wilson 734-953-2070 or Liz Keiser 734-953-2067 or toll free 866-618-7653 ask for Char or Liz.

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To mail copy: The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 or Fax to (734) 953-2121

If you've got junk, they'll haul it away

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

Got junk?
Brian and Jill Vanderziel of Canton had a half a garage full Friday — old carpet, plaster-board, wires, fencing, cardboard boxes and a toilet. They called 1-800-GOT-JUNK.

Brothers Tom and George Todoroff and George's wife Susan are betting that a lot of other people have junk they want or need to unload. In November they purchased a franchise of 1-800-GOT-JUNK that puts a new spin on the fabled junkman.

The Todoroffs' franchise covers southern Oakland County and western Wayne County with an office in Farmington Hills.

"Our thought was that we could do better with the franchise and the man was ready to sell," said George Todoroff. "This showed so much potential with an aging population and cities cutting back on services. The time was right."

Todoroff had been operating a low-voltage electronics firm in Dearborn, but with the declining economy, he saw a brighter future in other people's junk.

"Basically we've taken a junk removal service and taken it to professional level," said Susan Todoroff. "We have clean shiny trucks, uniformed drivers. We provide same-day service. We're always on time and we give upfront rates. We don't start removing until the customer has a price."

Brian and Jill Vanderziel and their baby daughter, Hailey, now 9 months old, moved into their home in December. It had been a foreclosure and needed work.

"We did some remodeling to the house, updates, some construction, we tore up carpeting," Brian said. "We were looking at getting a dumpster because regular trash wouldn't take it. But the price of the dumpster and having them remove it was about the same. And we don't have to do the labor and we won't have the dumpster sitting there for a couple days."

When potential customers dial 1-800-GOT-JUNK, they're actually connecting to the franchiser's Vancouver call center. The information is then relayed by computer to the Farmington Hills office, where four trucks are ready to pick up that same day.

"We actually go in the house," Susan said. "We'll go into a basement or attic. We clear the junk, we clean up and leave space looking better than it was. Then we determine where it will go, so that if we can donate or recycle anything we look to do that first. Then to a landfill."

On Friday, co-owner George Todoroff was joined by driver Matt Remy of Canton.

On the theory that one man's



Homeowners Brian (holding daughter Hailey) and Jill Vanderziel started remodeling their home even before they moved in last year. They had half of a two-car garage full of debris from the project.



George Todoroff and Matt Remy load the truck with debris.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

junk is another man's treasure, employees are given the option of keeping anything that they want.

"Everything in our office from the desks, the file cabinets, the couch, the table is reclaimed from someone's home or business," Susan said.

Remy said the construction materials at the Vanderziel house weren't a typical run. He said he's gone to several houses where they were throwing out old furniture in good condition to make way for new.

"A lot of times it's nice, because we get to donate to charities like St. Vincent de Paul," he said.

Customers have disposed of rare record collections, old

turntables, heavy pianos and refrigerators and even a motorized wheelchair.

"You see some pretty strange things, from the horror stories of houses where there is only a path from the front door to each room and you can't deviate off the path," George said. "We've done commercial removals where I didn't know why they were getting rid of the things."

Business has been picking up and the Todoroffs are looking to increase their current six person staff.

"Spring motivates people, but we do it year round," George said. "You don't have to

think spring to do that."

On Friday Remy said the job would take less than a half hour and Jill Vanderziel would have use of her garage again.

"We're really fast," he said. "We make it quick and painless for the customer."

The company has a couple restrictions. Two people have to be able to lift the item with a utility cart. The company won't handle certain hazardous waste, including paint and flammable materials.

Rates range from \$98 to \$498 based on volume. A full truck carries 15 cubic yards for \$498.

Brunch brings together heroes

Don't miss your chance to join the Michigan Humane Society as it honors local two-legged and four-legged heroes at the 17th annual Bow Wow Champagne Brunch 11:30 a.m. Sunday, April 23, at the Ritz-Carlton, 300 Town Center Drive, Dearborn. Tickets are available for the event which will spotlight stories of heroism including accounts of those who helped rescue animals affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

The brunch begins with a

silent auction reception followed by a gourmet brunch and live auction. Highlights include a meet and greet with championship golfer Tiger Woods and a ride along with the cruelty investigators.

Tickets to the Bow Wow Champagne Brunch begin at \$200. To reserve your tickets, call (866) MHUMANE (648-6263) Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. or buy tickets online at www.michigan-humane.org.

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McCotter schedules teleconference

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, is inviting constituents of the 11th Congressional District to take part in a live teleconference Town Hall 7-8 p.m. Monday, April 24.

The Town Hall, which will also be Web cast live (audio only) on the Internet, will cover several topics, including port/border security, immigration and the economy. Participants can register online by clicking on the registration page at www.mccotter.house.gov or by phone at (734) 632-0314. Participants can also submit a question for the congressman during phone registration or by email at thaddeus.mccotter@mail.house.gov. Questions not answered during the Town Hall will be answered by mail. The deadline for registration is 5 p.m. Friday, April 21.

Webcast system requirements: Internet Explorer version 5 or later, Windows Media Player 8 or greater, and an Internet connection of 28.8 Kbps or greater (dial-up speed), plus speakers or soundcard with built-in speaker.

Prescription drug coverage benefits are subject to plan terms and conditions. Prescription Blue is available to all Michigan residents who are entitled to Medicare benefits under Part A or enrolled in Part B. Medicare beneficiaries may be enrolled in only one Part D plan at a time. Prescription Blue is a prescription drug plan with a Medicare contract issued by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, a nonprofit corporation and independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

S5584 N82 [CMS Approval xx/xxxx]



Saline ends Canton's win streak

Modano face of Stars' franchise



SPORTS



(CP)

Thursday April 20 2006

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

www.hometownlife.com

Ed Wright, editor (734) 953 2108 ewright@hometownlife.com

Chiefs race to share of 1st in Elks Relays

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Complete Dearborn Elks Relay results B2

You know it's spring when the grass turns green, the trees sprout leaves and the Canton boys track team finishes on top at the Dearborn Elks Relays.

On Saturday, the Chiefs compiled 49 points to tie Ypsilanti for first place at the 41st annual event held at Dearborn High School.

Canton has now finished first four of the past seven years.

"It was an awesome day for the kids," said Canton coach Bob Richardson. "We had sev-

eral kids who PR'ed. One of our pole vaulters, Rob Lindman, had a really good day. Our relays looked smooth for the first time this year and turned in their best times."

The Braves earned the tie by winning the meet-ending 1,600-meter relay by a blink of an eye.

"They edged us out by three-hundredths of a second," said Richardson. "Cyrus Azizi, who ran the anchor leg for us, was 15 meters behind their kid when

he got the baton, and he nearly caught him. I'm happy for the Ypsi kids. It's the first year they've run in this event and it was nice to see them do well."

Adnan finished third with 41 points. The nine-team standings were rounded out by Novi Catholic Central (29), Dearborn (17), Plymouth (16), Detroit Mackenzie (12), Westland John Glenn (10) and Taylor Truman (9).

The Chiefs placed first in three events: the pole vault (Lindman, Ryan Langdon, Brian Rakovits), high jump (Eric Thornton, Andy Rossow, Steve Paye) and discus (Paye,

Joe Zugaj, Jeff Chapman) Lindman (pole vault), Thornton (high jump) and Paye (discus) all won individual titles.

Plymouth's distance-medley relay team of Kyle Wallath, Nate Gholston, Josh Le Duc and D J Coleman also took gold with an 11:26.6 clocking.

Canton earned second-place points in four events: the intermediate hurdles relay (Tim Belcher, Sherif Hassanien, Bill Turner, Azizi), 6,400-meter relay (Phaltiel Whitlock, Jeremy Mollner, Duncan Spitz, Josh Godwin), 800-meter relay (Dalton Walser, Rossow, Azizi,

Eric Piwowar) and the 1,600-meter relay (Rossow, Andrew Manuel, Belcher and Azizi).

Plymouth placed second in the long jump relay.

The Chiefs' shot put relay team of Ryan Jonik, Zugaj, Paye and Ryan Waidmann won medals for placing first, but the event did not count toward the final standings.

Ypsilanti stayed with the Chiefs by winning the long jump, high hurdles, intermediate hurdles, 3,200-meter and 1,600-meter relays.

ewright@hometownlife.com | (734) 953 2108

SideLines

St. John Neumann Golf Outing

The public is invited to participate in the 2006 St. John Neumann Athletic Department Golf Outing, which will be held Saturday May 20, at Hickory Creek Golf Course in Canton. The shotgun start will commence at 8 a.m., registration opens at 7:30 p.m.

The cost of the four-person scramble, which is \$100 per player, includes the use of a cart, prizes and a buffet lunch. Proceeds from the event will go toward youth sports at St. John Neumann.

For more information, contact St. John Neumann athletic director Walt Marek at (734) 455-5910, ext. 31.

Kalmbach saluted

Madonna University senior first baseman Todd Kalmbach was named Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Player of the Week (April 17).

The Wyandotte native led a potent MU offensive that scored 86 runs in six games by hitting 529 to go along with 16 RBI.

Kalmbach went 9-for-17 with six extra-base hits, including a pair of homers, and six runs scored with a slugging percentage of 1.176.

Whalers lauded

The Plymouth Whalers capped their 2005-06 season Tuesday night with an awards banquet at Ginopolis on the ice Restaurant at the Compuware Sports Arena.

Following is a list of the awards and the recipients:

■ **Regular-season MVP, leading scorer and Alice lafrate Award as**

Overage of the Year: Outgoing captain John Vigilante, who scored 24 goals with 53 assists.

■ **Best defenseman:**

Steve Ward, who scored 14 goals with 33 assists and 90 PIM's in 67 games.

■ **Scholar-athlete:**

Overage defenseman Mike Letizia, who carried a ".8" average at Schoolcraft Community College.

■ **Top rookie:** Center

Chris Terry, who scored nine goals with 19 assists in 64 games.

■ **Most improved player:** Second-year left wing

Tom Sestito, who scored 10 goals with 10 assists and 176 PIM's in 57

■ **Hardest worker:**

First-year right wing Jared Boll, who scored 19 goals with 22 assists and 205 PIM's in 65 games.

■ **Barbara Ann**

Karmanos Community Goals Award: Second-year goaltender Justin Garay, who played an integral part in the Compuware Sports Arena's Learn-to-Skate Program and worked tirelessly at the Whalers' community-relations events.

■ **Playoffs MVP:** Third-year left wing James

Neal, who led the Whalers in scoring in the playoffs with nine goals and seven assists in 13 games.



Sharon Schief leads an adult women's class. Students are June Doll of Northville, Kristi Fiorenzi of Plymouth, Dana Toth of Canton, and Marlene Baker of Plymouth.

PHOTOS BY B. L. BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bardoni hurls Crusaders to DH split

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

Ryan Bardoni's pitching gem in the second game of Tuesday's nonconference baseball doubleheader enabled host Madonna University to defeat Bethel and avoid a sweep at the hands of the Pilots.

Bardoni, a sophomore from Warren, pitched all seven innings and gave up just one unearned run as the Crusaders won 7-1 in the matchup of two teams who lead their respective conferences and who could eventually meet in the NAIA Region VIII championship.

In Tuesday's first game at Ilitch Ballpark, Bethel emerged with a 7-4 victory.

Bardoni was the MVP of our team today," said Madonna head coach Greg Haeger. "I didn't think our pitching in the first game was particularly good. We hit some guys and walked some guys. So Ryan Bardoni really gave us that great opportunity we were looking for to get us going."

With very good command of his fastball, Bardoni gave up five hits and walked one while striking out three to improve to 2-1 on the season. His solid effort, which followed two so-so appearances, also puts him back on track for Madonna's postseason roster.

"We have 16 pitchers, we have a lot of depth on the mound," said Haeger, whose team improved to 21-16-1 overall. "That's the least of my concerns. That being said, I think it can be better. But we have a lot of options."

Also a plus for Haeger and the Crusaders as the regular season winds down, is how the team made the most of opportunities in the second game.

Madonna scored three runs in the first against Bethel's Logan Nussbaum. Senior Ben Ramsey (2-for-4, one RBI) and junior Tony Luttmann of Farmington Hills (2-for-3, three RBI) stroked back-to-back doubles to open the scoring. Two more came in when a high fly off the bat of senior Todd Kalmbach bounced off the glove of Bethel rightfielder Nelson Sanchez - who might have lost the ball in the sun.

The Crusaders capitalized on some "small ball" and situational hitting to tack on four key runs in the fourth, which effectively sealed the victory.

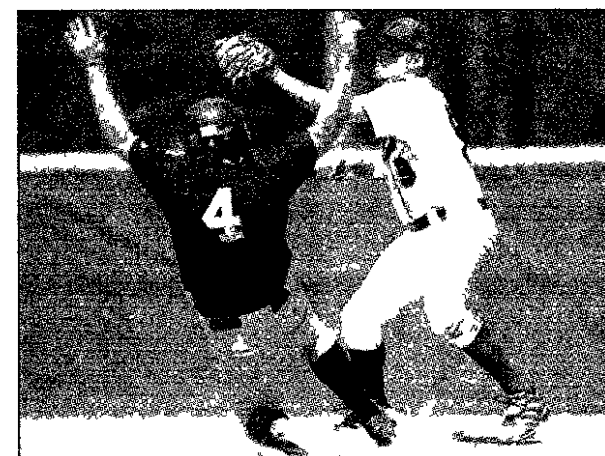
Junior leftfielder and Southfield High School alum Manny Alvarado walked and went to second on a bunt single by junior shortstop Kyle Fedorka.

The next batter, junior third baseman Gary VanAllen (2-for-3), then laid a bunt down in an attempt to move the runners up. But he also was safe and Alvarado scored when the throw sailed over the Bethel first baseman's head.

With two out and Ramsey at the plate, VanAllen stole second base to put a pair of runners in scoring position. Ramsey then grounded a two-strike single to right, scoring Fedorka to make it 5-0.

One stolen base later (by Ramsey), the score was 7-

PLEASE SEE BASEBALL, B2



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Madonna University second baseman Jason Barbeau secures a throw too late to tag out Bethel's Matt Zappasodi as he steals second during the first game of Tuesday's doubleheader.

Worth the risk

Plymouth native's dream evolves into popular martial arts facility

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Not long after earning an official bachelor's degree in Asian studies from the University of Michigan in 1996, Plymouth native Ryan Fiorenzi decided to pursue an *unofficial* master's degree in risk-taking.

Several years later, the bachelor's degree hasn't paid dividends, but the risk-taking sure has.

Fiorenzi is the owner of Canton-based East West Martial Arts, a nine-year-old company that offers a wide range of martial arts classes to people of all ages and backgrounds.

After struggling initially, the company currently boasts a roster of close to 260 students.

"When I was going to the University of Michigan, I planned on being a professor someday," said Fiorenzi, who owns the distinction of being the

THE ART OF SELF-DEFENSE

- **What:** East West Martial Arts
- **Where:** Located at 7950 N. Lilley, Canton
- **Who:** Owner and head instructor Ryan Fiorenzi is the only black belt in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu in Michigan. A graduate of Canton High School and the University of Michigan, he has also earned a black belt in kung fu.
- **Special events:** On Saturday at Madonna University, East West will host a Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu seminar which will be taught by world champion Jean Jacques Machado. On Sunday a tournament featuring several local competitors will be held 12:30-6:30 p.m. in the Madonna gymnasium.

only resident of Michigan to have earned a black belt in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu. "After I got my degree, I took some time off to decide what I was going to do."

PLEASE SEE MARTIAL ARTS, B4



Owner Ryan Fiorenzi works with adult students Jon Schmidt of Farmington Hills, and Joe Dodds of Canton.

Storm derails title hopes for Whalers

Mike McLean's goal with 3:02 remaining in regulation gave the Guelph Storm a 4-3 victory over the Plymouth Whalers in an Ontario Hockey League playoff game played Saturday night before 2,804 at the Guelph Sports and Entertainment Centre.

With the victory, Guelph clinched the best-of-seven Western Conference semifinal series, four-games-to-two, and advanced to the Western Conference Finals against the London Knights, who eliminated Owen Sound in six games.

Kelsey Wilson, Rafael Rotter and Ryan Callahan also scored for Guelph. Tom Sestito, Jared Boll and John Armstrong replied for Plymouth.

Neither team led by more than one goal the entire game.

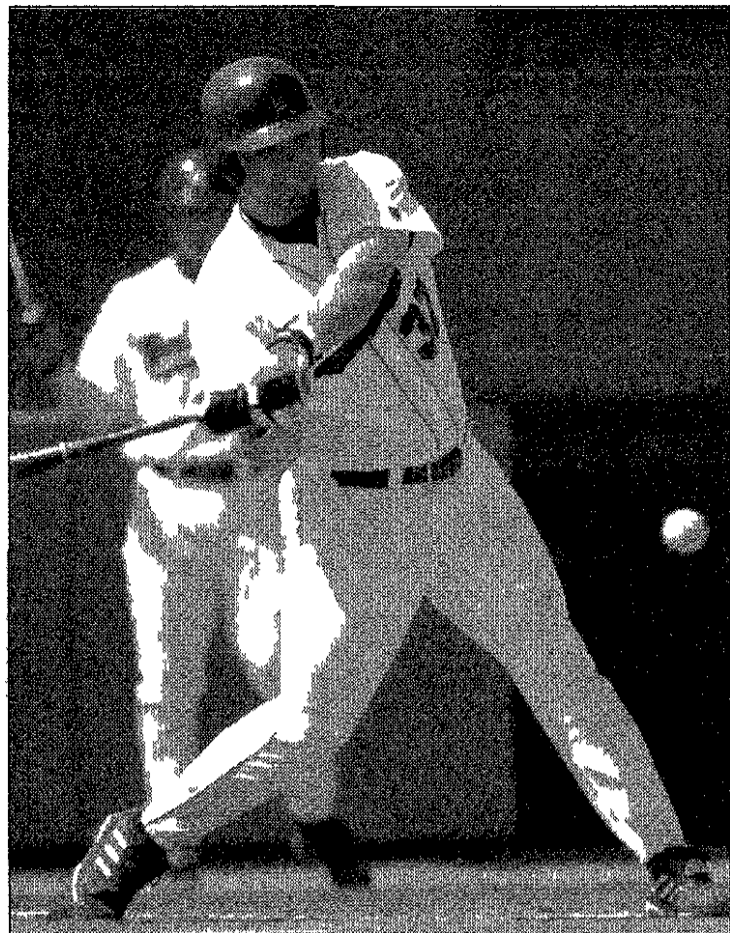
Sestito gave Plymouth a 1-0 lead at 1:34 of the first period when he guided the puck past Guelph goalie Ryan MacDonald. Guelph tied the game at 1-1 two minutes later when Wilson scored from the left wing past Plymouth goaltender Justin Peters.

Plymouth grabbed a 2-1 lead at 4:07 of the second period when Boll skated up the left side and scored from a severe angle on a shot that caromed off MacDonald. Rotter answered for the Storm on a power play at 15:05 of the period when he scored from the doorstep.

Guelph took its first lead of the game at 5:15 of the third period when

Callahan took Matt D'Agostini's pass from the right dot in the Plymouth zone and deflected the puck past Peters. However, Armstrong came right back for Plymouth to tie the game at 3-3 20 seconds later when he one-timed Boll's pass from behind the Guelph net from the right hash mark by MacDonald.

The Whalers appeared to take a 4-3 lead at 6:19 of the third period when Evan Brophy carried the puck over the Guelph line and passed to James Neal on the right wing. Plymouth put the puck in the net following a scramble, but referees Pat Smola and Ryan Carroll waved the goal off and sent Neal off on a penalty for goaltender interference.



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Madonna University designated hitter Dave Herrick takes a rip at a pitch during the first game of a Tuesday doubleheader with Bethel Ind

BASEBALL

FROM PAGE B1

On a sharp single up the middle by Luttmann, which brought in both VanAllen and Ramsey Bethel (23-15) finally scored in the sixth with the help of a two-out error

"We take a shot at bunting for the base hit first and it opened up on two different occasions," Haeger said "They weren't ready to defend it Our kids are capable of bunting, we work on it hard, and we made two great bunts"

In the first game, a three-hit performance by Madonna senior second baseman Jason Barbeau was wasted as the Pilots broke a 3-3 tie with three runs in the fifth

Taking the loss for the Crusaders was starting pitcher Keegan Beaton, who gave up six runs in 4 2/3 innings, although three were unearned Haeger, whose team played

another nonconference game Wednesday against Rochester, said the top priority now is nailing down the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference and not thinking too far ahead about any potential matchup with Bethel

Madonna will host WHAC rival Aquinas in a 1 p m doubleheader on Saturday, at Hlitch Ballpark Another conference twinbill will take place a week later against Indiana Tech

The Crusaders, 8-0 in the WHAC, also are slated to play road doubleheaders against those two teams

"Our goal is to win the conference first," he emphasized "We've put ourselves in a great position We're sitting at 8-0 right now But we have good opponents coming here the next two weekends and our focus is on Saturday

"When Saturday rolls around, we want to get off to a good start and take care of another conference opponent"

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Weather, Vikings can't stop Rocks from earning victory

The Salem girls track team evened its record at 1-1 April 12 with a decisive 99-34 victory over Walled Lake Central

The stormy weather that delayed the meet and hampered the first few events proved to be a bad omen for the host Vikings

"For a while there, it didn't look like we were going to get the meet in," said Salem coach Julie Montgomery, referring to the drenching rain and windy conditions "But it cleared up nicely and the girls performed very well The key was the fact that we swept several events and we won three of four relays We got off to a nice start in the field events, too, which was nice"

Turning in individual first-place efforts for the Rocks were Alexa Van Vliet (pole vault), Brittany Lockhart (long jump, 100-meter hurdles, 300-meter hurdles, 200-meter dash), Caitlin Heaney (400-meter dash), Trineea Vojcek (100-meter dash), Marisa Carpinelli (1,600-meter run), Allison Janda (800-meter run) and Hannah Cavicchio (3,200-meter run)

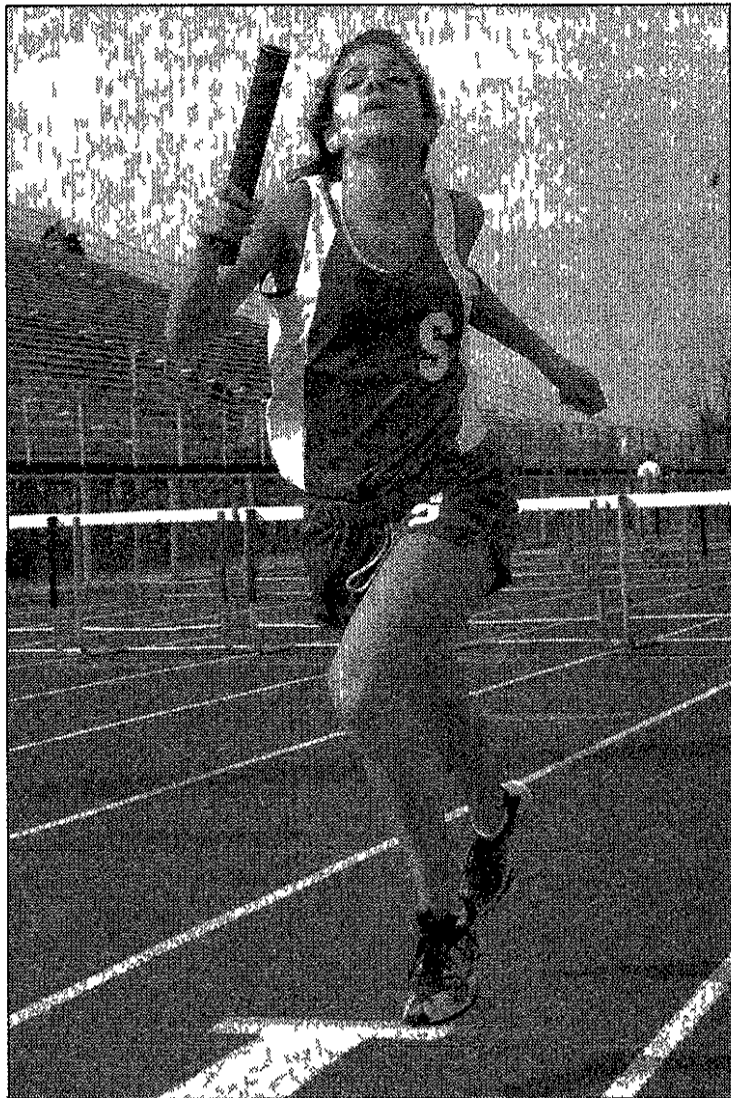
The Rocks return to action

Tuesday at the Annual City Meet, which will be held at the P-CEP varsity stadium

SALEM 99
W L CENTRAL 34
April 12 at W L Central

(Following are Salem athletes who finished in the top three of an event)

- Discus 2 Ashley White 68 2 3 Samantha Oliver 60-8
- Shot put 2 Samantha Oliver 24-0 3 Victoria Brotz 22 11
- Pole vault 1 Alexa Van Vliet 6 0
- High jump 2 Katie Donaldson 4 2
- Long jump 1 Brittany Lockhart 14 4 50 2 Dana Eldred 14 2 50 3 Alexa Van Vliet 13 2
- 3,200-meter relay 1 Salem (Allison Janda Marisa Carpinelli Linda Ling Hannah Cavicchio) 11 04
- 100 hurdles 1 Brittany Lockhart 16 9 2 Dana Eldred 17 3
- 100 dash 1 Trineea Vojcek 13 7 2 Anna Zhang 14 4
- 800 relay 1 Salem (Lauren Olson Trineea Vojcek Caitlin Heaney Linda Ling) 1 56 3
- 1,600 run 1 Marisa Carpinelli 5 46 1 2 Allison Janda 5 46 5 3 Hannah Cavicchio 5 48 7
- 400 dash 1 Caitlin Heaney 1 08 5 2 Alexa Van Vliet 1 09 0
- 300 hurdles 1 Brittany Lockhart 48 8 3 Dana Eldred 55 4
- 800 run 1 Allison Janda 2 37 8 2 Marisa Carpinelli 2 44 2 3 Sarah Kosteva 2 49 8
- 200 dash 1 Brittany Lockhart 27 9 2 Lauren Olson 30 6 3 Trineea Vojcek 31 6
- 3,200 run 1 Hannah Cavicchio 12 23 6 3 Kourtney Marsh 14 17
- 1,600 relay 1 Salem (Allison Janda Linda Ling Alexa Van Vliet Dana Eldred)
- DUAL-MEET RECORDS Salem 11



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Marisa Carpinelli played a major role in the Rocks' 99-34 victory over Walled Lake Central April 12, winning the 1,600-meter run and running the second leg of the first-place 3,200-meter relay unit

PREP TRACK RESULTS

41st annual DEARBORN ELKS BOYS TRACK & FIELD RELAYS April 15 at Dearborn H.S.

TEAM STANDINGS: 1 (tie) Canton and Ypsilanti, 49 each, 3 Adrian 41 4 Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, 29, 5 Dearborn, 17 6 Plymouth 16, 7 Detroit Mackenzie 12 8 Westland John Glenn, 10 9 Taylor Truman 9

FINAL RELAY RESULTS

Shot put: 1 Novi CC (Maloney, Salley Martin, Bednarz-Gray), 176 feet, 2 75 inches, 2 John Glenn (Greg Copeland, Bryan Henley, Zach Bozigan, Robert Haddad), 172-3 75, 3 Adrian, 166-10 75 4 Canton 1649 5, 5 Dearborn, 149-7
Top Individual: Copeland (WJG), 48-11
Discus: 1 Canton (Paye, Zujaj, Chapman), 366-6, 2 Novi CC, 347-3, 3 Adrian, 343-7, 4 Dearborn, 324-6, 5 Ypsilanti, 286-9
Top individual: Paye (Canton), 143-6
High jump: 1 Canton (Thornton, Rossow Paye) 17 1 2 Adrian 16 6 3 Dearborn 16 2 4

Ypsilanti, 11-10 5 Mackenzie 11-4
Top individual: Thornton (Canton), 6-2
Long jump: 1 Ypsilanti (Payne, Sanders, Dykes) 56-10 25, 2 Plymouth 55-3, 3 John Glenn (Aiante Whiting, George Easter, Curtis Jackson) 52-9 75, 4 Adrian, 62-9 5, 5 Mackenzie, 51-10 25
Top individual: Wodel Payne (Ypsi), 20-4 5
Pole vault: 1 Canton (Langdon Lindeman, Rakovitis), 32-3 2 Adrian, 29-0, 3 Dearborn, 26-0, 4 Plymouth, 21-0
Top individual: Rob Lindeman (Canton), 11-3
High hurdles: 1 Ypsilanti (Malveaux, Wilson, Oyebamiji, Roberson), 1 10 75, 2 Mackenzie, 1 10 87, 3 Canton, 1 14 07, 5 Novi CC, 1 14 19 5 Dearborn, 1 15 64
400 meters: 1 Truman (Thomas, Spencer, Jones, Bynum), 44 65, 2 Ypsilanti 44 66, 3 Canton 44 97, 5 Plymouth, 45 12, 5 Adrian, 46 5
Intermediate hurdles: 1 Ypsilanti (Malveaux, Wilson Roberson, Sanders) 1 26 31 2 Canton,

1 25 56, 3 Dearborn, 1 26 6, 4 Adrian, 1 27 6, 5 Novi CC, 1 30 6
6,400: 1 Novi CC (Oleski, Toloff, Champine, Morad), 20 14 81, Canton, 20 53 7, 3 Ypsilanti, 21 36 16, 4 Adrian, 21 40 0
Distance medley: 1 Plymouth (Wallath, Gholston LeDuc, Coleman), 11 25 6, 2 Novi CC, 11 31 25, 3 Adrian, 11 41 15, 4 John Glenn (Jim Wood, Adam Sonak, Tyler Hilyard, Mike Jacobs), 12 10 97, 5 Dearborn, 12 23 5
3,200: 1 Ypsilanti (Oyebamiji, Roberson, Simmons, Malveaux), 8 29 31, 2 Adrian 8 36 2, 3 Dearborn, 8 45 03, 4 Mackenzie, 9 6 94, 5 Novi CC, 9 07 63
800: 1 Adrian (Johnson, Galvin, Lauver, Russell), 1 32 35, 2 Canton, 1 33 1, 3 Ypsilanti, 1 33 25, 4 Truman, 1 33 88, 5 Mackenzie, 1 34 59
1,600: 1 Ypsilanti (Oyebamiji, Searcy, Malveaux, Simmons) 3 30 37 2 Canton, 3 30 4, 3 Adrian, 3 32 16, 4 Mackenzie, 3 39 66 5 Novi CC, 3 41 72

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Saline stings Chiefs' win streak

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Even an industrial-sized can of Raid wouldn't have stood a chance against the bus-load of Hornets that invaded Canton's baseball field Tuesday afternoon.

The smooth-swinging Saline Hornets stung the baseball with regularity and left a welt on the Chiefs' season-opening, six-game winning streak by sweeping a doubleheader, 5-1 and 13-1.

Although both teams walked off the field following the six-inning nightcap with identical 6-2 records, their batting averages and earned-run averages were heading in opposite directions once the infield dust had settled.

"It was a nice wake-up call for us," said Canton coach Scott Dickey whose team had surged to a 6-0 start. "Even though we were feeling pretty good coming into today, we always remind the kids that with our difficult schedule they have to compete hard every inning or they're going to get beat."

I don't mind as much when we get beat by teams like Saline — they're one of the best teams in the area. But I was disappointed in the way we played the second game with three errors and eight walks. We'll be seeing the same type of hitters — maybe even better ones — against Brother Rice on Friday.

If Canton senior righthander Shawn Little could have erased the first two innings of the



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Chris Woudstra is pictured crossing the plate during a game earlier this season. Runs were hard to come by for the Chiefs Tuesday afternoon when they were swept by Saline, 5-1 and 13-1.

opener, he would have had a masterpiece. The hard-throwing Little yielded four runs and

seven hits over the first two frames before scattering just one run and three hits over the

next five. He finished with nine strikeouts.

"Shawn's performance was the only positive of the first game," said Dickey. "That's the best I've seen him throw since he's been in our program. After the first inning, he really settled down and shut them down."

Canton scored its only game-one run when Little reached on an error. Keith Campbell, Brad Barath (double), Tark Khasawneh and Jon Puskar accounted for the Chiefs' only four hits.

Khasawneh had a solid game behind the plate, throwing out two would-be Saline base-stealers.

Senior righthander Josh Lancaster earned the mound victory for Saline, holding the Chiefs to three hits over the first six innings. Casey Dishman pitched a one-hit seventh.

In the second game, Saline broke open a scoreless tie with six runs in the second inning. The Hornets slammed the door on the sweep by pushing across four more runs in the fifth and three in the sixth.

Senior Nick Sheridan limited the Chiefs to six hits in the nightcap — two each off the bats of Khasawneh and Kyle Gring. Corey Lewis and Justin Latin also ripped hits for the Chiefs, who scored their only run in the fifth when Justin Latin's fielder's choice scored Lewis.

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Bucks reach working agreement MLS Crew

The Michigan Bucks of the United Soccer League's (USL) Premier Development League (PDL) and the Columbus Crew of Major League Soccer (MLS) have announced a soccer partnership for the 2006 soccer season.

The relationship for this year will include the Bucks' top MLS prospects for the future training with the Crew this summer, while playing full time for the Bucks.

In addition, the Crew has announced they will travel to Detroit to play the Bucks on Thursday, May 25 at Stoney Creek High School in Rochester Hills.

Final details of the relationship have not been released, but Bucks owner Dan Duggan is pleased with the initial response from the Crew front office.

"We have been talking about partnering up with the Crew for several years now, but for one reason or another, it just hasn't come to fruition," said Duggan, a Livonia native. "In meeting with Crew GM Mark McCullers in Dallas last November at MLS Cup, it was clear that the benefits of

this relationship are in both teams' best interest.

"Both Mark and coach Sig Schmid have gone out of their way to make this happen for the 2006 season. We plan to show the Crew that the Bucks will support them with players for their Reserve team if necessary and competitive training sessions, whenever possible. The plan is to bring as many Bucks fans to a designated Crew game in Columbus this summer, to show our appreciation, as well."

Duggan also said that the Bucks and Crew relationship would closely adhere to all NCAA guidelines, as it relates to the eligibility of its college players when associating with a professional club.

Duggan, who with brother Jim started the MLS Detroit campaign three years ago to bring a Major League Soccer team to Detroit by 2007, has not given up hope on a local franchise.

The Bucks are currently finalizing the 2006 roster. The Bucks open the 2006 campaign 7:15 p.m. Wednesday, May 10 against the Kalamazoo Kingdom at Lake Orion High School.

MHSAA looking for new game officials

Registrations for individuals interested in becoming a high school athletic game official for the 2006-07 school year may now do so exclusively online through the Michigan High School Athletic Association's Web site, mhsaa.com.

From now until about June 1, the Association will conduct an exclusive online registration

period for new registrants and renewals. After June 1, applications will also be accepted by mail, telephone and on a walk-up basis for the upcoming school year.

Effective with the 2006-07 registration period, online registrants will receive a 50 percent discount off their processing fees, regardless of when they submit their application.

MHSAA registration fees are among the lowest in the nation. A \$10 fee is charged for each sport an official wishes to work, and the online processing fee is \$20.

Officials registering by mail, telephone or on a walk-up basis will incur a \$25 processing fee. Officials registered in 2005-06 will be assessed a late fee of \$20 for registration after

July 1. The processing fee includes liability insurance coverage of up to \$1 million for officials while working contests involving MHSAA schools.

For more information about official registration, contact the MHSAA at 1661 Ramblewood Drive East, Lansing, MI 48823; call (517) 332-5046 or e-mail regster@mhsaa.com.

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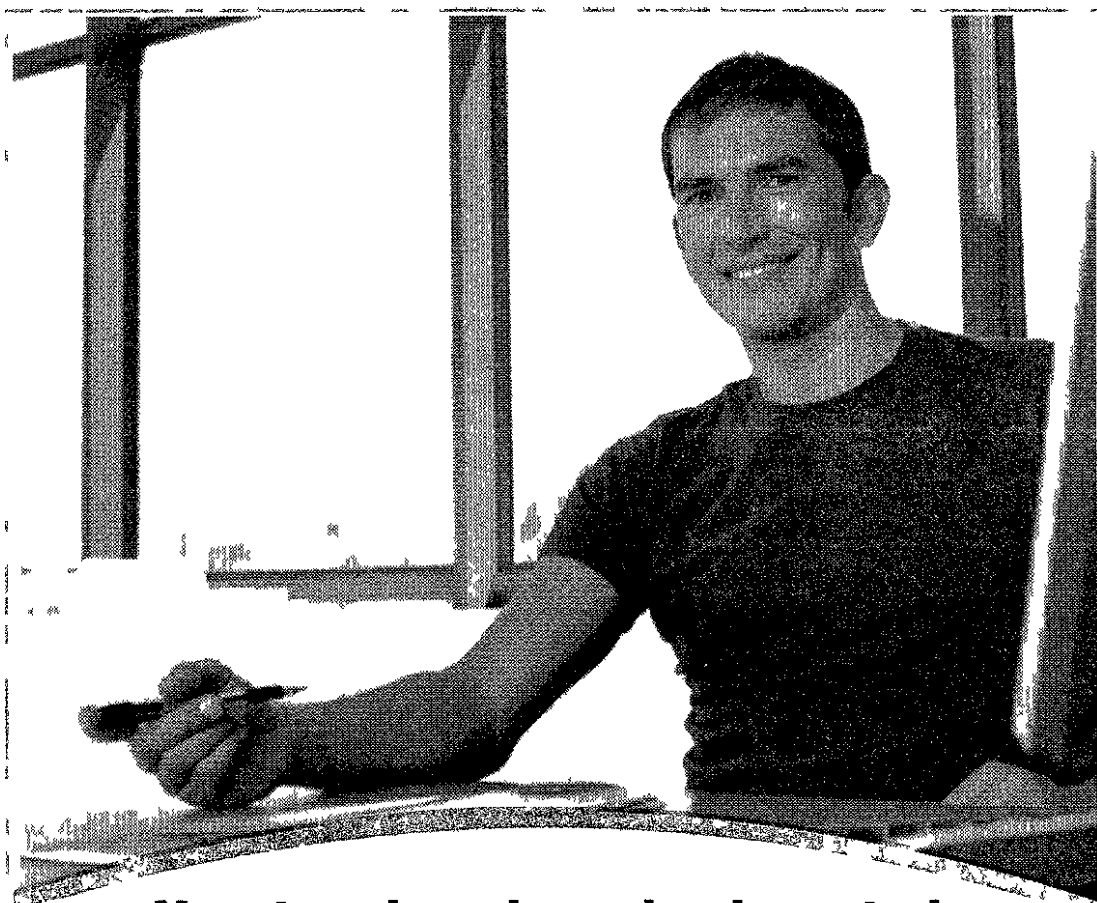
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Six year-old Matt Decker practices his moves during a class for kids

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

MARTIAL ARTS

FROM PAGE B1

I wanted to get into something where I could help people every day. I wasn't sure if being a professor would be the right thing for me.

"Well, the risk-taker in me took over and I decided to teach martial arts full time. When I signed my first lease here, I didn't have any students yet, which was probably the wrong way to go about things. The first year or so was painful, but everything has worked out well."

Visitors to East West Martial Arts can learn about the company's philosophy before they step foot in the facility. The company's motto — "Leave your ego at the door" — is printed in big letters near the front entrance.

That is the motto of the Machados, the brothers who have taught me the most about what I know about Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, said Fiorenzi, a graduate of Canton High School. They believe that it's not just

about trying to beat the other guy. It's more about getting better and better at what you're doing every time you do it. People tell me all the time that what they like the best about this place is the relaxed and friendly atmosphere."

Fiorenzi's No. 1 goal is to teach his students how to defend themselves by using a blend of Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, judo, wrestling, boxing and kick-boxing techniques. Once a student has completed a series of classes, the self-defense skills are only one of many assets — both tangible and non-tangible — that they take from the experience, Fiorenzi said.

"Along with being able to defend themselves, the adults and kids who take our classes leave with more self-confidence and self-discipline," he said. "And when people know they can defend themselves, they feel less threatened by others, which makes them more peaceful to be around."

Plymouth resident Eric Pearch, 19, said he's been pleasantly surprised by the number of benefits he's inher-

ed from taking classes at East West over the past eight months.

"I've gotten a lot more than I expected out of it," said Pearch, a graduate of Novi Detroit Catholic Central. "It's improved my self-confidence and I'm more disciplined now. I'm there two hours a day, five days a week, so it's become a big part of my life."

East West Martial Arts will be hosting a Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu seminar and a tournament this weekend at Madonna University in Livonia. On Saturday, California-based Jean Jacques Machado will teach a pair of classes in the Madonna gymnasium on Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu. The first class will run from noon to 2 p.m., the second from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The tournament, which will feature several Plymouth and Canton residents, will run from 12:30 p.m. until approximately 6:30 p.m.

For more information, call (734) 414-7789 or visit www.eastwestmartialarts.com

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Madonna softball team enjoys magical start

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

Sometimes, Al White has to pinch himself

His Madonna University softball team is steamrolling to victories both in and out of the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference

White knows he has a pretty good thing going. The Crusaders, fueled by the sensational pitching of senior Erin Brockert and fired up by a group of impressive freshmen, have compiled a 28-5 overall mark (8-3 in the WHAC)

Also, the squad is ranked No. 24 in the country, with no telling how high it can fly before the gloves and aluminum bats are stored away for another year

"Well, that's to be seen yet," said White, recently asked about what the ceiling for the 2006 Crusaders could be. "But it's definitely big-time"

If MU has a chance to strike it big this spring in conference and national playoff tournaments, it will be for a variety of factors. Of course, the key ingredient is Brockert (16-4), who pitched a 13-inning victory April 13 against Concordia before dropping a tough 3-0 decision Saturday to host Cornerstone. Brockert recently was named WHAC Pitcher of the Week three times in a row

"That's unreal, isn't it?" noted White about Brockert's

amazing run. The pitchers on other teams are no slouches. Following last week's games, the Dayton, Ohio native sported an earned run average of 1.43 in 129 1/3 innings of work. Brockert also has 18 complete games (in 18 starts) and 128 strikeouts

It's just her determination, she just wants to win," said White. That's the best way I can put it. She's a competitor

And Brockert can hit, too. Her .398 batting average is tops among Madonna regulars with 100 at-bats, and she has 29 RBI, 13 doubles and three triples. Brockert leads the team in the latter two categories

But White is quick to point out that his is no one-trick pony

Other returnees pounding the ball include sophomore and Canton native Heather Richardson (350, team-leading six homers, 24 RBI), senior Crystal Little from Wayne Memorial (318) sophomore Christina Finch (389) and Livonia Ladywood alum Stephanie Day (the sophomore catcher is batting .311, with 18 RBI)

Add to the mix a group of stellar freshmen and it's no wonder White is feeling pretty good about his coaching lot in life

Leading that group is catcher-first baseman Alison Grant, who is batting .414 with four homers and 31 RBI in 87 at-

bats. Freshman outfielder Hannah Godfrey is hitting .342 while two other first-year players making contributions are outfielder Mary Kate Setta (.286) and infielder Danielle Richardson (.241)

"We're very surprised that they've come along that quick," White said. "It's tough (for freshmen) to compete sometimes because they're going against women with more experience"

But their ascent into being important players is a real plus as the Crusaders try to match the school record for victories in a season (39, set in 1994) and keep the momentum building into tournament time

If all goes well - and that includes slugging first baseman Christina Finch (389, four homers, 13 RBI) returning from a leg injury - the Crusaders have a chance to become the second Madonna softball team to qualify for the National Association of Interscholastic Athletics national championship tourney

But regardless, with outstanding talent and team unity, White is pretty certain he'll be proud of his team

"That's the glue that holds this team together," said White, about chemistry. "I couldn't wish for anything better"

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

Late rally vaults MU softball team to win

A three-run rally in the top of the seventh lifted Madonna University's softball team to a 5-4 triumph against Cornerstone Saturday and help the Crusaders avoid being swept in a Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference double-header

Trailing 4-2 to the host Golden Eagles (16-10 overall, 6-4 in the WHAC), freshman third baseman Danielle Richardson doubled to get the frame started and she scored on a two-out double by sophomore rightfielder Heather

Richardson (Canton). Senior designated hitter Erin Brockert (3-for-3) walked, and the rally continued on an RBI infield single by sophomore catcher Stephame Day (Livonia Ladywood) to knot the score

Brockert then came in with the tie breaker on a single to center by freshman first baseman Alison Grant (2-for-4)

The Crusaders (28-5 overall, 8-3 in the WHAC) had to escape a scary bottom of the seventh to emerge with the split

After MU pitcher Shannon

Noder retired the first two batters, she made an error to keep Cornerstone's hopes alive. A single and another error loaded the bases. But Noder (6-1) got the next batter to ground out to her and this time she made no mistake to finish her complete game

Madonna's first two runs came on a Brockert homer in the fourth and on an RBI single by freshman leftfielder Mary Kate Setta (2-for-4)

In the opener, Brockert pitched a six-inning complete game, giving up just five hits, but lost 3-0

SPORTS ROUNDUP

GCYBSA news

Several important Greater Canton Youth Baseball & Softball Association events will be held from Saturday, April 22, at the Canton Sports Center, which is located at 46555 Michigan Ave

Following is a list of events: ■ A free coaches clinic will be held from 10 a.m. to noon on Field 8 of the CSC

■ A free Pepsi Pitch Hit & Run event for players between the ages of 7 and 14 will be held on Field 5. The check-in for players is 10 a.m. and the contest will begin at 10:30 a.m. A free players clinic will be held immediately following the contest

■ Coaches' uniform pick-up will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the CSC's outdoor pavilion (or in the restaurant if it is raining). Each team must send a representative to pick up the uniforms on April 22

■ Canton Township will offer a free special event, "The Sky's the Limit," from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be inflatables, high-flying frisbee dogs and much more

For more information on the events, contact Ann-Marie Carravallah at (734) 483-5600

Canton golf outing

The 4th Annual Canton Chiefs Football Golf Outing will be held Saturday, June 10, beginning with a 1:30 p.m. shotgun start at Fox Hills Classic course in Plymouth Township

For more information on the event, call (734) 467-8148 or (734) 981-9385

Wildcat boosters

The next Plymouth Wildcats Football Booster Club meeting will be held Tuesday, May 2, at 7 p.m. in room 401 of Plymouth High School

All parents of current players and parents of incoming freshmen players are encouraged to attend the meeting

Youth golf

Plymouth's Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center will serve as one of 105 national qualifying sites for the 2006 Mutual of Omaha Drive, Chip & Putt competition. The event, a free golf skills competition for kids between the ages of 7 and 14, will be held at 4 p.m. Thursday, July 20, at Fox Hills

More than 35,000 youngsters throughout the country are expected to compete in the DC&P Winners from each local event will have the opportunity to compete in regional championships and possibly represent their hometowns at the national championship in October

For more information, including a complete schedule and registration form, visit www.TheGolfChannel.com

Ann Arbor run

Online registration is open for the 33rd annual Dexter Ann Arbor Run, presented by Comerica Sunday, June 4

The featured race is the RRCA Michigan Half Marathon Championship. Other runs include 10K and 5K run and walks. All races follow picturesque Huron River Drive to the finish on Main Street in downtown Ann Arbor

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enjoy the post-race carnival atmosphere, then take the family a block down Main Street to sample the offerings of the Taste of Ann Arbor Festival. Proceeds benefit the Champions for Children Campaign, spearheading fund raising for the new C.S. Mott Children's Hospital

Honorary chair Tyrone Wheatley will walk the 5K in support of the fund. Complete information is available at www.dexterannarberrun.com

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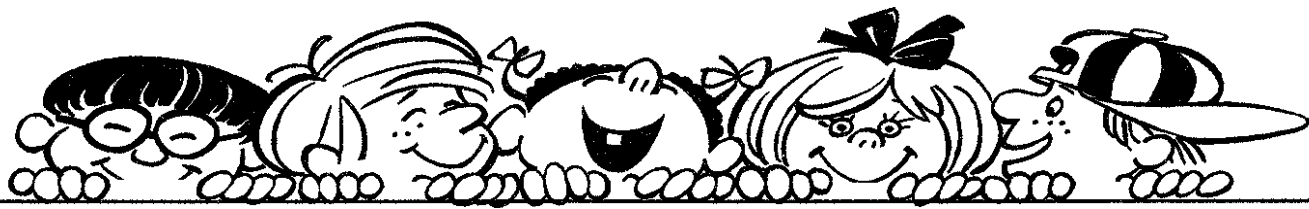
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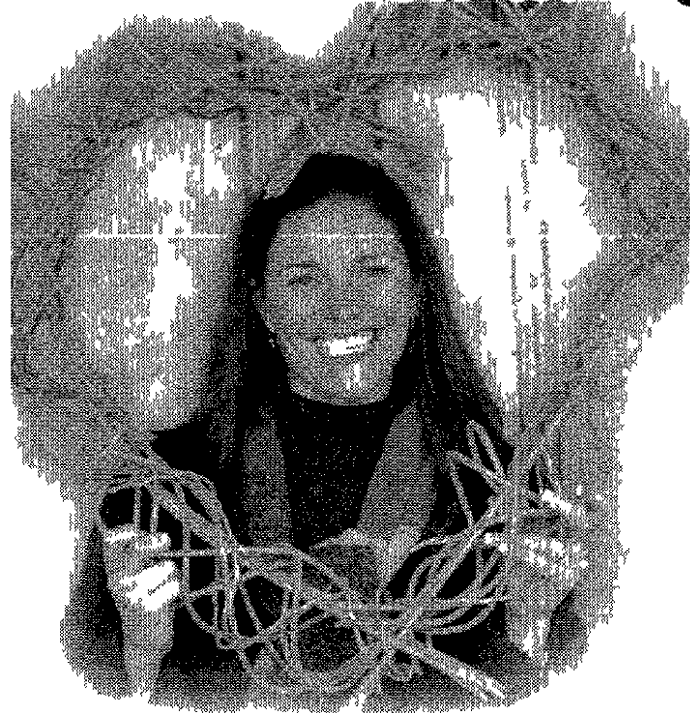
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Franchise face

Westland native Modano a
fixture as captain for Stars

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

The wear and tear of 16-year
National Hockey League veter-
an was visibly evident in the
visitor's dressing room Monday
night at Joe Louis Arena

Mike Modano was wearing
three ice packs - one on his
shoulder, another on his knee,
and yet a third on his foot,
courtesy of a slap shot from the
blue line taken off the boot
from a Red Wing player

In NHL lingo, that consti-
tutes two lower body and one
upper body injury

Despite the bumps, bruises,
broken bones and scars,
longevity has been the 35-year-
old Westland native's mantra, a
survivor 16 demanding and rig-
orous 82-game seasons, not to
mention numerous Stanley
Cup playoffs, the World
Championships and three
Olympics

Monday's game with the Red
Wings was virtually meaning-
less as the two teams had
already locked up the top two
seeds in the Western
Conference

But the sting of a 3-2 loss,
after the Stars failed to protect
a two-goal advantage in the
final seven minutes, hurt none-
the-less

"We have to be better at pro-
tecting leads," said Modano,
the Stars' captain who leads the
team with 77 points on 27
goals and 50 assists "That's
one of the things we better
improve on soon or it is going
to cost us It was a fun game to
play in, but obviously the out-
come wasn't what we wanted"

Dallas coach Dave Tippett
obviously was miffed after the
Stars controlled play through
the first two periods He
thought the play got sloppy
and certain players didn't give
an honest effort

Modano couldn't disagree
"We were skating well, a lot
of up-and-down action and
some great plays by both
teams," he said "It's one of
those things It's a sore spot
when you lose a two-goal lead,
but then again it's a tough time
to stay focused when there's
nothing on the line But it's still
no excuse whether it's now or
November

"When the game is on line
you'd like to think it be kind of
different"

Modano, a six-time NHL
All-Star, always looks forward
to coming home, visiting his
family, and putting on a good
show

Although his dad Mike Sr
contends, "I'm way past that
stuff now," his son always
knows there's another voice out
there evaluating his play

"Dad (Mike) will still make a
comment or two if I'm not
skating or working hard," Mike
said "My mom (Karen) stays in
the background She's a silent
critic"

Modano, a bachelor, has
made Dallas his year-round
home, but always looks for-
ward to spending time with his
parents, both retired, along
with his sister and other family
members

"In past years I got to come
home a day early, get home for
dinner and have and a home-



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Westland's Mike Modano, captain of
the Dallas Stars, addresses the media
following Monday's last-minute 3-2
setback to the Red Wings at Joe
Louis Arena

cooked meal, but with all the
late travel the year has been
rough," he said

Modano has certainly val-
dated his being the No 1 pick
in the 1988 NHL draft after
starring in the Western Hockey
League for three seasons for
Prince Albert Raiders (where
he left home to play at age 16
after attending Livonia
Franklin High School for three
semesters)

As a 20-year-old with the
Minnesota North Stars, he
played in the 1990 Stanley Cup
finals In 1999, he earned a
Stanley Cup title

He has become an icon in
Dallas, a football town that
worships its Cowboys

Much like Steve Yzerman is
to Detroit, Modano has
become the face of the Stars'
franchise, recently signing a
five-year deal (for \$6 195 mil-
lion a year) after a bitter NHL
lockout in 2004-05 (which cost
him millions)

In 1,179 regular season NHL
games, Modano has 485 goals
and 689 assists, which ranks
him second all-time among
US born players

He is also the Stars' all-time
franchise leader in goals,
assists, points, games played,
game-winning goals, power
play goals and shorthanded
goals

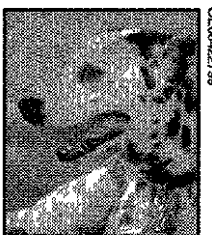
Modano has also taken an
active role in his community,
recently to help raise \$160,000
for Hurricane Rita and Katrina
relief efforts

In the summer of 2000, he
established the Mike Modano
Foundation, a non-profit
organization dedicated to rais-
ing money to improve the qual-
ity of life and assist underprivi-
leged children in the Dallas
area

Despite all his accolades,
success on the ice and commu-
nity involvement, the NHL
career for No 9 hasn't been
totally smooth sailing

After a lackluster 2003-04
season where he had his lowest
point production (14 goals and
30 assists, a minus-21),
Modano spent the 2004-05
locked out by NHL owners,
playing golf, shuttling between
his home in Dallas and cruis-
ing Mexico, before embarking
on a late season stint repre-
senting the U S in the World
Championships

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CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS 1 Thud 4 Give the eye 8 Do pull ups 12 Parisian street 13 Bus alternative 14 Soften 15 Use poor judgment 16 Kind of radio 17 Part of A M 18 Ripple 20 Soph s place 21 Roomy leas 22 Popular watches 26 Cul de sac 29 Cote mummur 30 Unseal to Blake 31 Billiard sticks 32 Fence flaw 33 Wren s residence 34 Yale grad 35 Do a sewing chore 36 Welds 37 Travel bag 39 She lobster 40 Little Rock st 41 Kid s question (2 wds) 45 Challenging 48 Play 49 Orbs on or Acuf 50 Wren s feeling 51 Just scrapes by 52 lcy remark? 53 Harper of "The Man in the Moon" 54 Finest 55 Get the picture

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE. 7 "Nightmare" street 8 Desist 9 Star Wars" rogue 10 Adherent 11 Society column word 19 New singles 20 Insurance gp 22 Dimy s rder in the comics 23 Pushes off 24 Nave neighbor 25 Collectons 26 Sailed through 27 Humdinger 28 Explorer - Erson 29 Motor part 32 Thcken 33 Now 35 - Majesty 36 Least 38 Slowly vanishes 39 Bucket defects 41 Price increase 42 Planets or moons 43 Longer 44 Bronte governess 45 Alt 46 Pub order 47 Thing in law 48 Maze

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-55.

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Farmington Hills 3145. By Owner. NICE HOUSE SEEKING NICE FAMILY Beautiful 3 4 acre park ke setting n the city 3 bd m 1 bath living room family room w/cathedral ceiling & natu a frop ace emode ed kitchen w/oak cabinets bsmt Large 2 level deck 2 car heated garage very close to historc downtown Farm ngton \$269 900 (248) 476 6642

Farmdale 3155. FERRDALE SCHOOLS Cozy 3 bdrm bungalow w/deck on private treed lot shows like model! Hardwood floors ceramic tile bsmt close to town \$154 900 248 887 6900 FIRST AMERICAN

Desirable Brick Ranch 3 bdrm 2 bath Kitchen with nook Large living room with fireplace & lg picture window overlooking landscaped yard 2 car attached garage \$264 900 26057720

UNIQUE CAPE COD On a large lot 2 full baths 3 bdrms dining room partially finished bsmt attached 3 car garage w/breezeway \$165 000

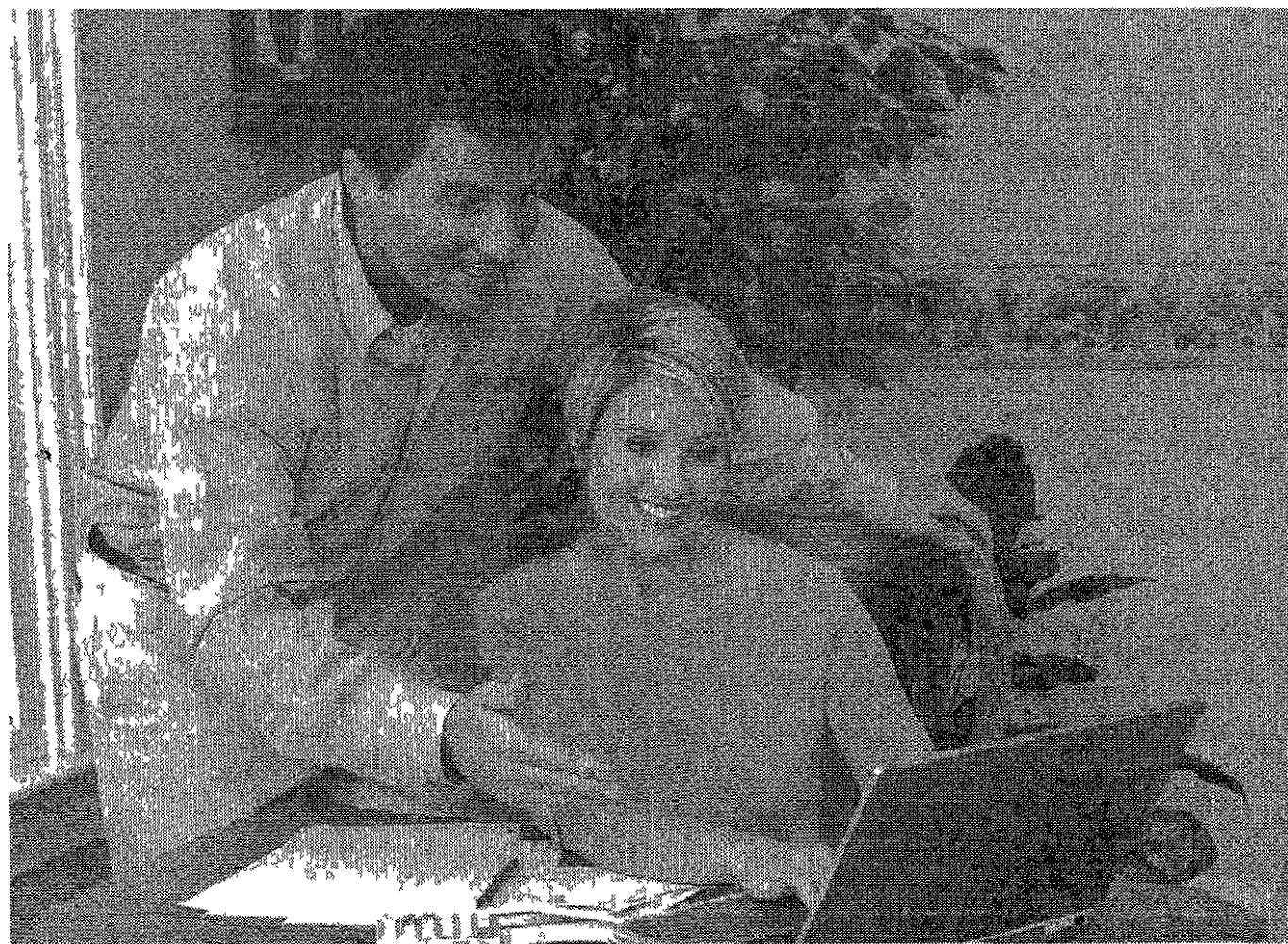
BEAUTIFUL ALL BRICK 3 Bdrm ranch w/fireplace remodeled kitchen w/nook formal dining room full bsmt oversized all brick 2 car garage \$174 900

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<p>Linden 3240</p> <p>LIVONIA \$300,000 ONE LOOK & IT'S SOLD PICTURE PERFECT Exceptional value in this contemporary beauty Open floor plan w/1st floor master ste great room off super kitchen + finished bsmt Sure to please every one Make an offer! (25170844) Karen Thomas 248 505 3066</p> <p>For the best auto classifications check out the Observer & Eccentric Newspaper It's all about RESULTS!</p>	<p>Livonia 3250</p> <p>JUST LISTED! ABSOLUTELY GORGEOUS 3 bdrm 1 1/2 bath brick ranch w/ attached 2 car garage Family room w/ gas fireplace 4 season room w/ heat C/A sprinklers NEW windows doors roof siding patio enlarged drive 3 of 5 Mile E of Levan \$228,500 Remerica Country Place 734 981 2900</p> <p>ABSOLUTELY GORGEOUS! 3 Bdrm 2 1/2 bath remodeled brick ranch w/new roof w/ndws garage front door lighting C/A 2 1/2 garage sprinkling system & more! \$255,000 OPEN SAT & SUN 1 5 Quakertown sub 39127 Meeting House Lane S/6 Mile E/Haggerty Call 248 563 5649</p> <p>When seeking out the best deal check out the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds! 1 800 579-7355</p>	<p>Livonia 3250</p> <p>JUST LISTED! BRICK RANCH 3 bdrm 2 bath All appliances newer roof furnace fenced yard patio \$159,900 #25166432</p> <p>Century 21 Today Inc (248) 360 9100 www.century21today.com</p> <p>By Owner BRICK RANCH 3 bdrm remodeled kitchen w/ hickory cabinets appliances neutral decor hardwood floors C/A Walkside W ndws 2 car garage w/ opener very clean immediate occupancy \$172,500 248 446 7312 owners.com/tpg8238</p> <p>Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL(7355)</p>	<p>Livonia 3250</p> <p>CHARMING LIVONIA ranch w/ recent updates (close to new rec center) \$169,900 Call today 734 751 8694</p> <p>By Owner DOVER COURT SUB Beautiful 3 bdrm 1 1/2 bath a brick ranch 2 car attached garage Living room family room w/ fireplace all new appliances Hardwood floors C/A finished bsmt w/ bar New shed in huge fenced yard that backs up to woods \$195,000 734 891-0856</p> <p>FSBO Open House Sat Sun ITS THE LOCATION! 16852 Renwick Dr 3 Bdrm family room 2 car garage updates appliances 80 x 135 lot Bring Offers! MUST SEE! 734 464 6156</p>	<p>Livonia 3250</p> <p>MOVE RIGHT IN! 3 bedroom 2 bath Ranch w/fireplace Deck Lg fenced yard New w ndws siding roof & more! \$199,999 (20BR)</p> <p>PRICED TO SELL! Colonial in Stoneleigh Village Huge family room w/fireplace New carpet furnace & A/C \$219,900 (13AS) Century 21 Hartford South 734 464 6400</p> <p>NEW CONSTRUCTION By Owner in NW Livonia 4 bdm 2 1/2 bath colonial 3 car garage and full bsmt Quiet court location Gourmet kitchen w/ceramic granite maple & numerous upgrades \$489,900 (248) 477 4550</p> <p>UPDATED! Sprawling brick ranch w/attached garage finished bsmt + Gunite pool for summer fun! \$209,700 Pat Puninske 734 267 5000 CENTURY 21 ROW 734 464 7111</p>	<p>Redford 3369</p> <p>By Owner OPEN SUN APRIL 23 1 4 PM 19600 Garfield N of Grand River E of Beech Daly 3 bdrm Cape Cod 1 1/2 bath bsmt fenced yard 2 car garage completely remodeled \$125,000 734 812 9261</p> <p>Open Sunday 1 4pm 25821 ROSS DRIVE Your private retreat room to expand or just enjoy the grounds! This Redford Tudor on over 1 1/2 ac has 3 bdrms updated kitchen library and offers golf course views from nearly every window! 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Charming 3 bdrm bungalow Partly finished bsmt 2 car garage S Redford schools \$134,900 Denis Berry Century 21 Row 734 464 7111</p>	<p>Rochester 3380</p> <p>Rochester Hills Open Sunday 1-4 104 BREWSTER N off of Walton E side of Brewster GREAT ROCHESTER HILLS LOCATION! 2 bdrm 1 1/2 bath 1152 sq ft c/a Finished walkout basement with fireplace 2 1/2 car attached garage huge lot all appliances and home warranty are included Great Potential for only \$209,999 Ask for Sharon Taylor 248 770 9430 Coldwell Banker Shooletz (248) 628 4711</p> <p>For the best auto classifications check out the Observer & Eccentric Newspaper It's all about RESULTS!</p> <p>ROCHESTER HILLS University Hills Sub 4 bdrm 2 1/2 bath colonial Many updates elementary school in sub 90x120 lot \$312,900 248 652 2172</p>	<p>Westland 3445</p> <p>JUST LISTED! Fully updated Brick Ranch 3 bedrooms 1 1/2 baths basement Garage \$156,900 MLS 26032754</p> <p>Century 21 Today Inc (313) 538 2000 www.century21today.com</p> <p>"It's All About Results" 1-800-579-SELL (7355)</p>	<p>Washenaw County 3550</p> <p>REAL ESTATE AUCTION Minimum Bid Auction \$229,000 Sat April 22nd at 2:00 pm 2325 N Harris Rd Superior Township</p> <p>Auction conducted by the owners NO AUCTIONEER OR AGENCY FEE Charming Victorian farm house with gingerbread trim on 1.92 acres in Superior Twp 2364 sq ft 4 bdrms 2 full baths 2 kitchens and 3 covered porches Hardwood floors throughout large closets 32 X 64 pole barn Previewing on Saturday April 22nd from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm Auction begins at 2:00 pm Call today for details Phone 248 621 1735 or 734 604 2915</p>
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Apartments

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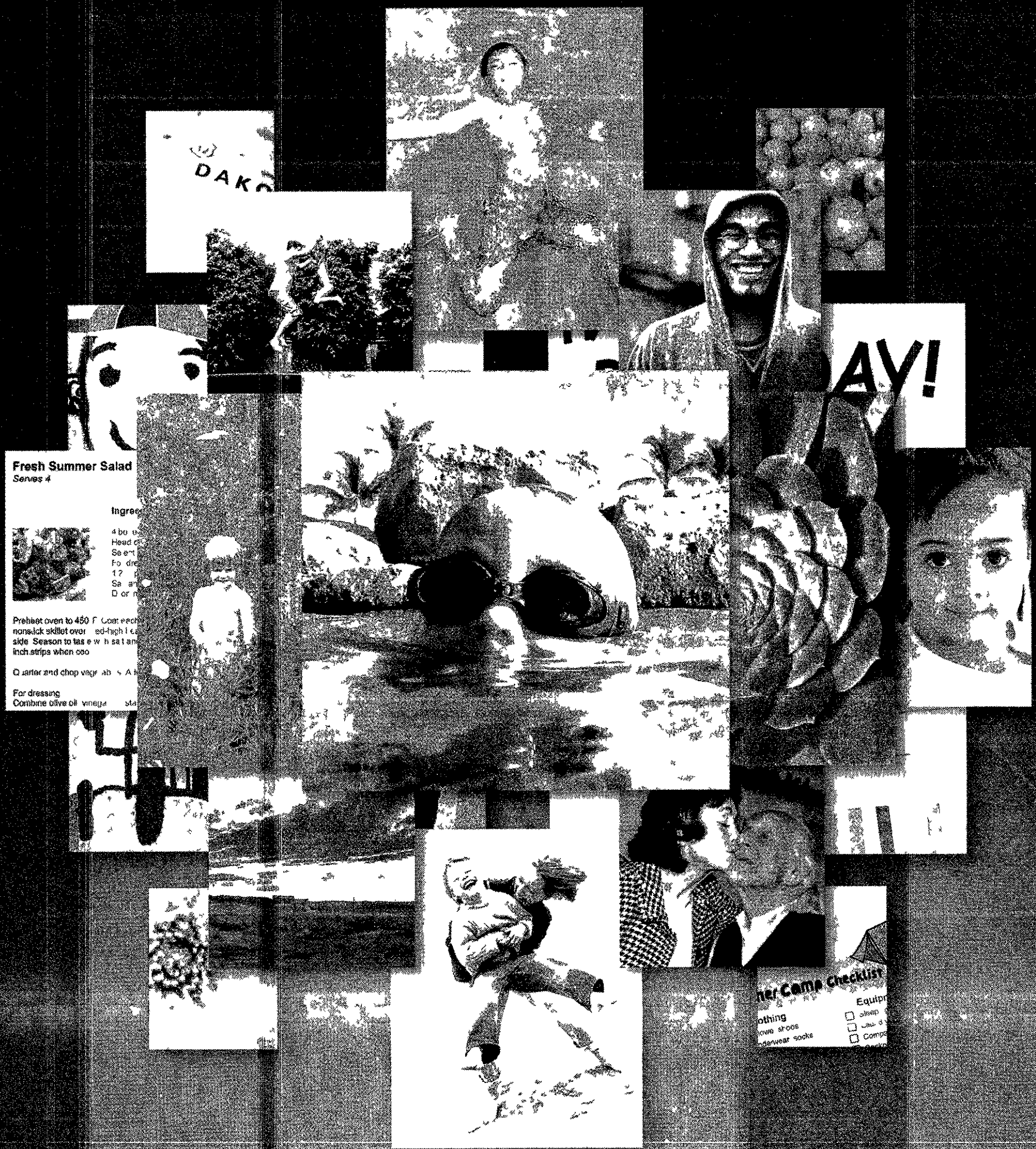
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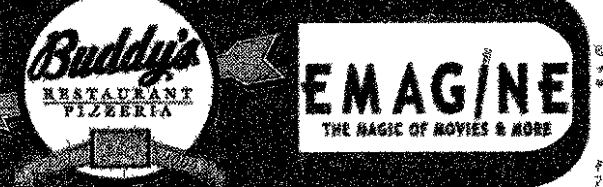
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Seeking independent handy men with tools transportation cell phones to perform small/midsize home repairs. Contract work Suburban Wayne County locations. Call (866) 532 4799

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Waltonwood at Carriage Park a luxury retirement community in Canton is seeking to fill a full time Housekeeper position. Candidates must be reliable friendly and outgoing and able to work weekends. EOE. Please apply in person at 2000 N Canton Center Rd Canton MI 48187 or call 734 844 3060 for more information.

HOUSEKEEPING & KITCHEN HELP NEEDED
Part Time Mature good hrs & pay. Please apply in person American House 14285 Middlebelt Livonia No phone calls please

HVAC INSTALLERS & HVAC SERVICE TECHNICIANS
Needed in Livonia. Exp necessary. Call 248 919 1260

HVAC & R SVC & MTNCE
Experienced Commercial & Industrial Full Time BC/BS Dental 401K with matching Vacations Holidays Education & a truck + \$1 000 new hire bonus. Fax resume to 313-535 4403 \$16-\$32 per hour

HUMAN RESOURCES GENERALIST
Established Beverage Company in Plymouth has an immediate position available for an experienced HR Generalist. Requirements for this position include hands on experience recruiting for salary and hourly positions payroll administration benefits administration and previous HR experience in a manufacturing environment. Experience with regulatory management OSHA and DOT a plus. Experience with SAP and Kronos a plus. Education in related field required. Travel will be required for this position. We offer a competitive benefits package. Qualified candidates submit resume to attn HR Generalist, P.O. BOX 701248 PLYMOUTH MI 48170 Fax 734 416 3810 or email hr.manufacturing@hotmail.com E O E

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Thornton & Grooms Inc in Birmingham since 1937 is seeking techs with 5+ years residential light commercial HVAC & Boiler service exp to join our growing team. We are proud to offer a great benefit & compensation package. If you are a quality driven professional with a great attitude we want to talk to you about the opportunities that await you. E mail or fax resumes to info@thorntonandgrooms.com or (248) 644 4014 EOE

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IT RECRUITER
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JANITORIAL/PORTER
Am 24 hours per week. Masons Lounge 734 522 2552

JANITORIAL
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Exp req CDL licensed. Exc pay Michigan Outdoor Living call 734 891 9665

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LAWN & GROUND CREWS
Highland Lakes Condos are now accepting applications. Full time seasonal help 3 positions avail. Lawn exp a plus. Drivers license req. Apply in person at Clubhouse 20301 Silver Spring Dr Northville

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Are you tired of working weekends? Well give us a call! Farmington Hills co seeking hardworking experienced responsible person for full time position GOOD WAGES 248 626 6161

LAWN MAINTENANCE Exp
For Northville Co. Must have own transportation. 248 449 6137

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LEASING CONSULTANT
Full time experienced for Southfield apt community. Contact Terry @ 248 356 6570

Leasing Consultant
Responsibilities include: leasing apartments tenant relations & other administrative functions. Requires a minimum of a high school diploma 2 4 yrs exp knowledge of Fair Housing PC literature. Candidates should know how to close the deal. Comprehensive compensation and benefits. If you like working with the public and are results oriented please fax your resume and cover letter to Residential Leasing Consultant Berger Realty Group Inc (248) 905 5511 or email to humesnew2@hotmail.com

Life Enrichment Coordinator
Waltonwood at Carriage Park is seeking a Life Enrichment Coordinator for their Assisted Senior Apartment community in Canton. Responsibilities include planning and implementation of all program activities. Must have experience working with seniors. Company offers competitive wages and benefits. E O E. Please fax resumes to 734-844 8090 attn Dianne or Pat

5000-5980
Employment
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ASSISTANT HEAD CASHIER
A Southeast retail market has an Assistant Head Cashier position available. This fulltime position would include week ends & a couple nights closing. Previous supervisory exp & enjoy working with the public are a prerequisite. Send your cover letter w/resume to Joe S. Procter 33152 7 Mile Rd Livonia MI 48152 Attn Harvey

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WHAT'S BEHIND THE NEW HIRE NO-SHOW



WORKWISE
by Mildred L. Culp

If you haven't had a new employee AWOL on his first day of work, you're bound to now. An improved job market

conspires for this to happen, according to sources in the workplace.

Scott Testa, COO at intranet software developer Mindbridge Software in Norristown, Pa., attributes incidents he's observed at a number of companies "to be a reflection of the strength of the job market. When the unemployment rate is super low, candidates seem to take more liberties. When it's higher, there seems to be less of this."

Brian Drum, CEO of New York City's Drum and Associates, an executive search firm, concurs. "There has been an increase this year," he says. "It's coming back because the job market favors the employee more than two to four years ago. After 9/11 it changed dramatically. Now, people may have multiple offers. A lot of students will accept more than one job (in large companies) and not tell anyone they're not showing."

INCIDENTS

Testa recalls new hires in several companies getting lost on the way to work, misunderstanding that they were expected to come on board that day or just not showing. Drum has also

observed this phenomenon at several levels in his company. "One administrative person called that day and had another job," he remarks. "That set us back a couple of weeks." A person in business development at a competitor's firm accepted a position, then called a week later, happy with a competing offer at his current company. One office manager withdrew a week prior to starting because of a death in the family. In each case, he says, "We had to start (over) from scratch."

Cynde Bock, who handles HR at Kocina Marketing Cos. in Minneapolis, remembers the new grad who never surfaced after grasping the fact that Minneapolis is 800 miles from her relatives in North Dakota.

Then there's the disingenuous new hire who claims cancer surgery prior to hiring, promising to call when she's improving. He waits and waits. She doesn't call. **'LIFE HAPPENS'**

When these incidents recur, Bock ostensibly keeps an even keel. "I try to approach them from the perspective that something happened," she states. "Life happens to people. No one gets all bent out of shape. We just continue the process as planned."

Others have more overtly negative reactions. Testa describes the situation as "very unsettling. When they don't show up, you go to Plan B -- filling gaps by calling some other candidates or finding internal people who could fill the slot."



Cynde Bock meets with new employee Lizz Stendera for training.

Reactions vary depending upon the type of position, department to be filled and plans that were made. "There are some positions that are truly mission-critical," he notes. "The complications sometimes ripple throughout the company."

Drum mentions that the problem is particularly difficult in a small company, where all positions are critical. "I had to stretch current employees thinner, and no one's happy about that," he recalls. "Also, there's a bit of frustration. It's almost a slap in the face when a person who agreed to come doesn't."

In some cases, there can be real repeated psychic toll. "Every night before a new employee training session," Bock discloses, "I have the same nightmare -- nobody comes! Thank goodness that has never happened. Since the first time I had this nightmare, I've made a point of contacting new hires the

previous week to remind them of training times, materials for taking notes, dress code, etc. This helps increase the probability that all new employees are present at training -- and it definitely helps me sleep much better the night before." Bock endorses the personal touch to help assure new hires that a company remembers them.

Other companies are more insistent. A person in HR at Mindbridge Software "sends an e-mail, calls the day before and confirms to make sure there's no miscommunication." Drum's company makes telephone calls every three days, "staggering questions about information we need and ask(ing) how it's going with the current boss."

(Dr. Mildred L. Culp comments upon the workplace in national media. Copyright 2006 Passage Media.)

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Senior Living Counselor
Assisted Living Facility in
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Canton MI 48188.
Applications may also be
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Administration Building
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website. A Canton Town-
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be completed in its entirety
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Faxed or e mailed applica-
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The Charter Township of
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qualified take charge highly
motivated dependable person
to manage the office. Must
have excellent phone and
written communication skills.
Must be computer skilled in
Quickbooks Prc Excel Word
etc. Fax resume to
248 353 0487 or email to
condomgt@yahoo.com

FILE CLERK
Wanted for Southfield law
firm. Fax resume to
248 355 2079

FRONT OFFICE
Mon-Fri 2-8pm Office exp
Word Excel a must! Non
smoking office. Canton
area (734) 455 8230

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

LEGAL SECRETARY WE NEED A LITIGATION SUPERSTAR!
Full time position for busy
Bingham Farms law firm
specializing in Condominium
and Real Estate Law. Must be
proficient in Word Perfect
Willing to compensate for
EXTENSIVE experience. Send
resume references and
salary requirements to
Miesner & Associates PC AD
30200 Telegraph Rd #467
Bingham Farms MI 48025

LEGAL ASSISTANT
Full time for Southfield law
firm. Strong typing (50-60
wpm) dictation telephone
faxing copyng filing &
internet skills. Experience
with Word Perfect Times ps
and bankruptcy programs.
Fax resume to 248 352 4488

LEGAL SECRETARY
Part time 2-3 days per week
Word Perfect Livonia area
Fax resume 734 762 0707

LEGAL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Northville law firm seeking
full time individual. Candidate
must be highly pro active with
excellent organizational and
computer skills the ability to
multi task. A minimum of 3
years office exp preferable.
Exp in trust administration
and probate a plus. Responsi-
bilities include document
preparation research client
data tracking and follow up.
Please list salary requirements.
Send or fax resume to
Callie A Damski
Thompson Morella PC
4100 W Seven Mile Rd
Suite 200
Northville MI 48167
(248) 347 2999

LEGAL SECRETARY & RECEPTIONIST
Openings for Southfield PI
law firm. Must be exp per-
sonable & organized. Fax
resume w/salary history to
248 355 2079

OFFICE ASSISTANT
Premier Bathrooms of Livonia
20-30 hrs/wk (734) 542 1368

OFFICE MANAGER Busy
home office needs a self moti-
vated detail oriented highly
organized office manager.
Must have knowledge of Word
Excel Quickbooks & Internet
Mack exp a plus. Hours &
benefits negotiable. Please fax
resume to 248 932 3496

RECEPTIONIST
Busy Southfield Law Firm
seeks Receptionist. Full
Time. Must be experienced
in multi line phone sys-
tems have excellent cus-
tomer service skills dem-
onstrate ability to use com-
puter on Excel and data
entry programs. Ideal can-
didate must display excep-
tional professionalism. Fax
Resume to 248 208 0732
or E mail to
clb@maddinhouser.com
Maddinhouser Wiertel
Roth & Heller PC
28400 Northwestern
Highway 3rd Floor
Southfield MI 48034

SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Rapidly growing law firm in
White Lake has an excellent
opportunity for the right
individual. Must be self
motivated intelligent typing
speed min of 70 wpm.
PLEASE FAX SALARY
REQUIREMENTS along
with resume attn SUSAN
248 886 8652

"We Work For You!"
hometownlife.com

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

RECEPTIONIST/SECRETARY
Full time needed for fast
paced Livonia Real Estate
Office. Excellent phone
skills a must! Light typ-
ing & general office
duties. Some knowledge
of computers helpful.
TOM LEVARNÉ
(313) 670 3500

When seeking
out the best
deal check out
the Observer
& Eccentric Classifieds!
1 800 579 7355

RECEPTIONIST
Plymouth Real Estate
Office. Part Time Flexible
schedule including
weekends a must!
Exceptional phone skills
well organized multi
tasker positive attitude
professional and
computer skills required.
Please email resume to
msampson@kw.com

DENTAL ASSISTANT
For state of the art office in
Livonia. Experienced and X ray
certified. Full time with bene-
fits. Fax resume 734 464 8762

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Contemporary Farmington
Hills dental office is looking for
a friendly take charge dental
assistant to join our team. RDA
preferred. Full or part time.
Please call 248 855 3655

DENTAL FRONT DESK
We are a large high quality
fee for service office looking
for an EXPERIENCED Dental
Receptionist. Work with a
team of administrative per-
sonnel to provide outstanding
patient satisfaction. You must
be accurate personable flexi-
ble take direction well and
have good phone skills. Fax
resume 734 981 2683

DENTAL HYGIENIST
We are looking for an outgo-
ing friendly and energetic
person to compliment our
Canton team. Fax signed
resume to 734 207 2266

Dental Receptionist
With basic assisting skills
needed to grow small practice
in Farmington Hills/Southfield
area. Tues & Thurs and 1-2
Saturdays per mo. Fax
resume to 248 354 6883

DENTAL RECEPTIONIST
Dearborn Heights office. Need
bright energetic individual
who has good patient man-
agement skills which include
scheduling recording dental
benefits filing benefits
organizing billing & collecting
fees. Good phone skills a
must. Experience preferred.
Some computer skills are
needed. 40 hour work week
with benefits. Fax resume to
Dr Vertin at 313 561 3030

Dental Receptionist/ Business Position
Full Time Comprehensive res-
ponsibilities. Exc compensa-
tion. Resume 734 464 4778

Help Wanted-Medical 5080

FOR MORE
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JOB LISTINGS
AT
careerbuilder.com

HOME HEALTH AIDE
Experienced in ADL's Clean
driving record Good refer-
ences and/or evaluations
required. Mad students wel-
come. Fax 248 588 2828 or
Email resumes@ahslc.com

Help Wanted-Medical 5080

MEDICAL BILLERS
Billing service positions
Experienced Only Please
•Medical Biller
•Rejection Analyst
•Insurance Payment
Posting
Fax resume to Lori
313-240-4988
or Email
lomeara
@ppmcorp.com

MEDICAL POSITIONS
Large cardiology practice
in Wayne & Oakland
Counties seeking the
following positions:
•FRONT DESK STAFF
1-2 yrs medical office &
records exp
•CARDIAC SONOGRAPHER
1 yr exp Stress Echo exp
a plus. Must be registered
or registry eligible
•MEDICAL ASSISTANT
1-2 yrs Medical Office Exp
Exc benefit package
includes medical dental
401K & more
For immediate considera-
tion send or fax resume to

Human Resources
28089 Grand River Ave
Suite 300 W
Farmington Hills MI 48336
Fax (248) 476 0967

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
With dermatology exp for
Dearborn office. Fax resume
(313) 563 5517

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Livonia Dermatology full time
exp preferred organized
dependable Mon-Fri paid hol-
idays no weekends benefits
Fax resume 734 542 8168
Or call 734 542 8100

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

STILL SEARCHING?
LOOK
For Career MarketPlace on the front cover of the Employment section for more careers!
Observer & Eccentric

X RAY TECHNICIAN
Registered Full/part time for busy Livonia Dr s office Please call 734 261 3650 or fax resume 734 261 0775

Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080

Accepting Applications
**Line Chefs, Dish Staff
Breakfast & Dinner**
Health Ins / 401K
Beverly Hills Grill
31471 Southfield Road

AMY S CAFE
Now Hiring Short Order Cook Grand River & Haggerty 248 426 0665

ASSISTANT PASTRY CHEF
Some exp required Apply at it's a Matter of Taste 2323 Un on Lake Rd W Bloomfield or fax 248 360 6481

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GOLF COURSE SERVERS**
Seasonal or full time Bartending experience a plus Call 248 689 2494

BAR & WAIT STAFF
Full or part time Days & Nights Swim wear attire required (734) 421 7744

BARTENDERS SERVERS & HOSTESS
Hiring Now
CALL 248 446 9670

COOK & WAIT STAFF
Full & part time nights Apply Starting Gate Saloon 135 N Center St Northville

COOKS
Experienced full time permanent position Nights & week ends Apply within Mon Fri 2-4 Four Friends 44282 Warren Rd Canton

COOKS
Golf Course/Banquet Full & Part Time Troy Call 248 689 2494

DAY HOSTESS & BARTENDER S NEEDED
Apply in person at the 50X BAR & GRILL 777 W Ann Arbor Trail Plymouth See Colleen

DON'T MISS
Career MarketPlace on the front cover of the Employment section for more careers!
Observer & Eccentric

Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080

Hotel
Hilton Garden Inn
Plymouth
is now accepting applications for the following positions:
• Part time Night Auditor (Fr/Sat)
• Front Desk Agent part/full time
• Maintenance Staff
Experienced Preferred
Apply in person at 14600 Sheldon Rd Plymouth MI Email Resumes Dav d Hotycki@hilton.com Ph 734 354 0001 Fax 734 354 5121

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Observer & Eccentric

SERVERS & COOKS
Experienced Apply in person
Station 885
885 Starkweather Plymouth 734 459 0885

Help Wanted-Health & Fitness 5100

Senior Living Counselor
Assisted Living Facility in the Canton area s seeking an EXP Leasing Consultant to fill a part time position working with seniors Must be able to work some weekends and have good computer skills We offer competitive wages and commissions
Please fax resume to 248 865 1630 Attn LM

Help Wanted-Sales 5120

\$1 000 + PER WEEK
Business to Business sales Get Paid what you re worth Call Monday 586 822 4421

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COLDWELL BANKER
PREFERRED REALTORS

Help Wanted-Sales 5120

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Are you ready to bring your Real Estate career to the next level?
CENTURY 21 Town and Country the #1 CENTURY 21 firm in Michigan offers new and experienced self motivating agents the very best marketing program training and web presence Visit our downtown Plymouth office Tour our large private offices Join the elite! Call Christine Patrick (734) 737 2901 for an appointment

SALES ASSISTANT
Full time Sales Assistant needed for large landscaping company in Ann Arbor area Fax resume to 734 482 0400 or e mail to lon@arborgreenlandscaping.com

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Real Estate just may be your answer Comprehensive training and support provided so you can reach your goals 734 455 6000
Weir Manuel Snyder & Ranke
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Friendly outgoing comm ss on sales associates and sales manager needed Great opportunity! Apply in person The Great Indoors Nov MI EOE/AA

SALES & MARKETING
Guard an Plumbing & Heating a Livonia based contractor s looking for a highly motivated se viced oriented plumbing and heating salesperson Send resume Guardian Plumbing & Heating 34400 Glendale Ave Livonia MI 48150 1302 Attention Sales Department or email to sales@guardianplumbing.com

Help Wanted-Sales 5120

SALES PROFESSIONAL
Part time work from home six figure income potential sales exp preferred marketing & promotional exp a plus Become part of a winning team Email information to salesdepartment@brandpro.com or call Blake at 248 324 5555 ext 401

Want To Join the Most Successful Lawn Care Company in North America

We need non motivated lazy disorganized sales reps that couldn t sell cold water in a hot dessert!! Sense of humor required!!

Work Monday Thursday 6-9pm & Saturday 9-1pm Earn up to \$13/hour!
Join our winning team!
Call us now at 248 477-4880
Web Man

Oh Yeah!
Make your life easier find it in your classifieds!

CHANGE YOUR LIFE!
Michigan s #1 Home Seller has openings for sales staff
We are seeking career-minded, ambitious people
We offer training, 100% commission plans, unlimited earning potential
CALL PAM AT 734-455-7000
Real Estate Inc.
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Help Wanted-Sales 5120

Senior Living Counselor
Assisted Living Facility in the Canton area is seeking an EXP Leasing Consultant to fill a part time position working with seniors Must be able to work some weekends and have good computer skills We offer competitive wages and commissions
Please fax resume to 248 865 1630 Attn LM

Help Wanted-Part-Time 5200

AVON NEEDS
Representatives Now!
Call 734 425 1947

A word to the wise when looking for a great deal check the
Observer & Eccentric Classifieds!

YARD WORK
Part time for sen or Rak ng mulching plant ng \$11/hr Livonia Area 734 421 8573

Help Wanted-Domestic 5240

CARE GIVER WANTED
For nice elderly couple in Livonia Live in or possible split shift Must be able care for a woman with a disability Call Barb 810 229 7246 before 6 pm

Help Wanted-Domestic 5240

DOMESTIC HELP
Needed in Northville Intelligent well organized non smoking female needed for light domestic chores Cooking and transportation for high school student 15-30 hours per week Excellent hourly pay Cal 586 246 1092

HOUSEKEEPER / NANNY
For home in Northville References needed
248 207 9717

HOUSEKEEPER WANTED
Days Part time days \$3 \$12/hr
(734) 394 0864

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3 positions W Bloomfield Exp Ref req 1 800 436 2193

Position Wanted 5340

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To your specificat ons 20 yrs exp Exc ref Call Sharon 734 254 9527

Childcare/Baby-Sitting Services 5370

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Livonia Infants to preschool only References upon request (734) 422 2445

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NANNIES' FAMILIES!
Find each other (FT/PT) Nannies Nannies is a referral service in Metro Detroit Call 313 583 0353

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Has openings for 2 children Full/Part time Call Jodie 734 513 2262

Childcare Needed 5380

CANTON
Looking for someone to watch my 3 yr old son Flexible night shift (6pm-3am Sat & Sun a must!) No smoking in house! Must have references 734 323 2140

Childcare Needed 5380

Governess/Au Pair
Ann Arbor Michigan Family is in need of an English / Spanish Governess for three children Must be able to work 6 days a week (Tuesday Sunday) during the school year Bachelor s degree or equivalent and Michigan Driver s License required Must be able to travel Compensation based on experience (7-10 years preferred) Living accommodations available Please contact Christy at 734 657 0356 for an interview Principals only please

NANNY WANTED
Full time Mon-Fri 45 hrs per week 19 month old twin girls Previous experience required Northville 248 224 9145

NORTHVILLE Nanny needed for sweet energetic 3 & 1 year old Tues Thurs References required Call Jerrianna 248 980 8898

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American Laser Centers
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Accounts Payable Accounting Clerk
Looking for detail-oriented reliable person for full time position with rapidly growing business with multiple locations Position involves high volume processing inter company activity must be a problem solver and a team player Experience with A/P invoice processing & basic knowledge of Windows required Must have strong computer and organizational skills
Fax resume to: 248.426.0129 or email: careers@alcpartner.com

CORT Furniture Rental
Warehouse Associates
CORT Furniture Rental is looking for an Inside Warehouse Associate for their Ferndale Distribution Center Individual will have main responsibilities of
Staging product for loading
Assist in the loading of the product
Return product to system and rack following pickup
Clean and repair furniture as need to ensure quality product
Pull orders and download product into the racks
The ideal candidate for this position will be able to work Monday through Friday 8am-5pm will be aggressive self motivated will be able to speak English will be able to pass the pre-employment background check drug screen and agility test
CORT offers steady hours competitive wages and excellent benefits Interested individuals should apply in person with Lorenzo Gladney at 1310 Academy Dr Ferndale MI 48220 248-543-3776
EEO/AAP/M/F/D/V

Human Resources Generalist
Established Beverage Company in Plymouth has an immediate position available for an experienced HR Generalist Requirements for this position include hands on experience recruiting for salary and hourly positions payroll administration benefits administration and previous HR experience in a manufacturing environment Experience with regulatory management OSHA and DOT a plus Experience with SAP and Kronos a plus Education in related field required Travel will be required for this position We offer a competitive benefits package
Qualified candidates submit resume to Attn: HR.Generalist, P.O. BOX 701246, PLYMOUTH, MI 48170. Fax 734-416-3910 or email hr_manufacturing@hotmail.com. P O F

WE MAKE IT EASY.
When Joe's Produce in Livonia needed a cashier, Donna Kuhn called us to place a help wanted ad.
Donna let us know about her results...
"We had a fantastic response from our ad, probably 75 people came in to apply and we had several phone calls (and the phone number wasn't even advertised!)"
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Forget The Big Guy's Overhead! Licensed
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Paving seal coating & patch
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McCullough Contracting LLC
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Additions & Renovations 25 Yrs Experience Design/Build Services (313) 274 7801

Carpentry **0410**

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30 yrs exp Lic/Ins Call John 734 522 5401

FINISH CARPENTRY
Crown Trim Doors Railings Straight or Bent Lic 32 yrs exp 734 927 4479

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BEST CHIMNEY & Roofing Co
New & repairs Sr citizen discount Lic & Ins 248 557 5595 313 292 7722

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Professional Affordable Home & Office Cleaning LIC/SA Lic & bonded 734 837 6477

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BERKSHIRE CONSTRUCTION
See 2x2 display ad in today's paper 313 715 4727

CONSTRUCTION ALL PHASES
New roofs Kitchens bath rooms & basements Handyman services Free est 248 489 5955

PRO BUILT CUSTOM CONSTRUCTION
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Affordable Custom Decks Lic & Ins 22 yrs exp Free Estimates
734 261 1614/248 442 2744

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FAMILY ELECTRICAL City cert Violat ons corrected Service changes or any small job Free est 734 422 8080

Electrical **0700**

LIGHTHOUSE ELECTRIC
See our 2x2 d splay ad Section 0700 today's paper Tom 734 748 5554

LIGHTHOUSE ELECTRIC
Total electrical repair remodel upgrades & new work 21 years n business L censed & insured Free est mates Tom 734 748 5554

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Spring Clean Specials Call Tim @ 734 464 1775

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ABSOLUTELY DU IT ALL Lic & Ins
We also do complete bsmts & all other interior work incl electrical plumbing & painting etc Call Call 248 891 7072

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Landlord & Senior discount Small Jobs welcome Fast & Reliable 30 years exp
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★ Basements ★ Plumbing
★ Electrical ★ Painting
★ Drywall ★ Sid ng
★ Gutters ★ Roof ng
★ Windows
(734) 223 6769

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DESPERATE HOUSEHIVES (or Singles) Who need a Handy MAN I can organize clean or fix just about anything Call Joe (586) 978 0058

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Trusted National Brand Small Medium Size Repairs Lic/Ins • Guaranteed 734 451 9888

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Move scrap metal clean basements garages stores etc Lowest prices in town Quick service Free est Wayne/Oak and Central loca ton 547 2764 or 559 8138

AFFORDABLE Personal Hauling Service
We clean out homes attics basements garages offices warehouses & anything else Handyman services available Complete demolition from start to finish Free est 248 489 5955 248 521 8818

Home Improvement **1060**

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Custom Homes • Restorations Master Builder-Carpenter DeGuse Construction 248 543 8749

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Specializing in Additions and Dormers Free estimates (734) 261-9612

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Specializing in Additions and Dormers Free estimates (734) 261-9612

HANDYMAN SERVICE
Repair Replace Remodel Free Estimate 734 250 0609

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Quality work on your home project (248) 506 6011

TOTAL HOME SERVICES
Home Cleaning Experts Exp Ref Call 248 629 4344

Housecleaning **1080**

HOUSECLEANING
Reliable & trustworthy cleaners w/ excel ref Oksana 586 489 6797

NEED SOMEONE TO CLEAN YOUR HOUSE? I have exp good ref & own transportation Leydiana 734 560 3278

POLISH LADIES WILL CLEAN YOUR HOUSE
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Housecleaning **1080**

RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL CLEANING
15 yrs exp Lic & Bonded Andrea 734 578 9266

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COMPLETE LANDSCAPING BY LAPOURE SERVICES
Spring clean ups re land scaping & new landscap ng grading sodding hydro seed ng all types retain ng walls installed brick walks & patios Drainage systems lawn ir gation systems low foundations built up Weekly lawn maintenance Comm/Res 33 yrs exp Lic & Ins Free Est 248 489 5955 313 868 7711

MULCH, TOPSOIL & LANDSCAPE SUPPLIES
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AERATION DETHATCHING
Clean Ups Full Service Lawn Care Free Est J & J Lawn Care (734) 427 0704

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AROUND THE YARD SERVICE
CO Rototilling Large & Small Lawnmowing Large & Small (734) 485 32341

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Redford area Complete mow ng edging trimming etc Great rates 248 529 6064

FOR LAWN CARE
Contact Steve for a FREE ESTIMATE 734 673 2777 I'll Do Good Work!

HIGHER STANDARD LAWN CARE L L C
Lawn Maint Landscaping 734 502 7210/ 734 658 4877

J & M HOME MANAGEMENT
Grass cutting spring and fall clean ups planting etc Free Estimates John 313 999 6610

Lawn, Gardening Maintenance Service **1230**

LAWN MAINTENANCE
Excellent service with compet it ve prices Offer ng mowing weed whipping & edg ng Free cut w/ contract 734 891 0580

OASIS GREEN Inc
Spring Cleanup • Aerat on • De thatching • Grass Cutting Call Now! 248 396 7473

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Weekly Cuttings Total Lawn Care Fully Insured Let Us Earn Your Business! Free Est mates 248 559 4647

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A1 ROTOTILLING
New & previous gardens \$30 & up Troy Built equip 26 yrs exp Call Ray 248 477 2168

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• Int/Ext • Book now for exp d prof painting Free Est Ref/Ins Vasko 248 733 4284

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Alum Siding Ref n shng 20 yrs exp Ins Prof Ref Shot Painting 734 765 6728

J POND PAINTING
Lic ns Ref Profess onal Father & Sons 40 yrs exp 248 755 2026 734 462 1310

MASTERWORK PAINTING
See our 2x2 display ad in today's paper Call 734 523 1964

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Int/Ext Cert master painter Wallpaper remove Ref & Insured (734) 354 9771

• PAINTING BY MICHAEL • HIGHEST QUALITY 30 Yrs Experience
• Res • Coml • Inter or • Staining • Textured Ceilings • Faux Finishes • Plaster/ Drywall Repair • Wallpaper Removal • Free Est • References 248 348 7499 • 734 464 8147

PETERSON PAINTING
Custom colors are our specialty Wallpaper Removal Drywall Repair 30+ yrs exp 734 748 2017 734 414 0154

Painting/Decorating Paperhangers **1420**

QUALITY PAINTING
20 Years Experience Interior/ Exterior Reasonable Rates (248) 676 9491

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Work Myself since 1967 FRANK C FARRUGIA Call Now! 248 396 7473

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• Roofing • Siding • Gutters Lic Ins BBB 734-513 0099

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Quality work completed with pride Family owned Lic Ins For honesty & integrity 248 478 6884 248 855 7223

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7868 Chubb Road Northville Landscape & Building Supplies Top Soil • Peat • Sand • Gravel • Decorat ve Stone • Natural Stones • Driveway Stones • Shredded Bark • Dyed Chips • Sod & Seed • Garden Wall • Brick Pavers and Much Much more Pick Up • Delivery Contractors Welcome Residential • Commercial Landscapers (248) 348-3150

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Affordable Res Removals & Trim We beat written est Fully Ins Ramo & Servello 248 939 7420 248 939 7416

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Free Estimates Booking Up Fast! (586) 739 8580

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Spring Clean Up **15% Off**
Lawn, Maintenance Cutting, Trimming, Edging
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36500 Ford Rd, #213 Westland MI 48185
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COMPLETE HOME AND OFFICE REMODELING
• Decks
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Licensed & Insured

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LICENSED & INSURED
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WET BASEMENT?
Betcha didn't know your drain tiles are clogged!
In nine times out of ten basement walls leak because the outside drain tiles are clogged We unplug them under high pressure avoiding the need to jackhammer your basement floor which can compromise its structural integrity
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Total electrical repair, remodel, upgrades, and new work.
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PERSONALS 6000
THREE YEARS AGO
WERE YOU INTERESTED IN
A RED HOUSE IN
SHELBY TWP??

ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTICES 6200
MILFORD Garage Sale! Sun
Room furniture tables
toys purses clothes hot
water tanks Thurs & Fri
9-9pm 2601 W Buno
248 770 9502

LOST & FOUND - GOODS 6360
LOST
ENGAGEMENT RING
White gold REWARD! Call
(248) 474 2957

7000-7740
Merchandise

ABSOLUTELY FREE 7000
FREE wooden play set
12x7 with four rings bar
Needs swing You move
248 651 4062

FREE FIREWOOD!
Must cut down large tree!
Call 313 565 6750

SWING SET
Free to a good home under
loved You take
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SWING SET CEDAR
You haul and it's free!
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TV Mitsubishi 45 Rear
Projection Television (model
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included Free for repair or
parts You Haul 517 404 0615

ANTIQUE/COLLECTIBLES 7020
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MODERNISM
EXPOSITION

Southfield Civic Center
Evergreen at Civic Center
(1696 to Evergreen
exit South)
APR. 22 & 23
Sat 11-9 Sun 12-5
ART DECO ART
NOUVEAU ARTS &
CRAFTS 50s 60s
and MUCH MUCH
MORE!
www.antique.com/M&M
\$1 off with ad

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES SALE
St Valentine school gym
Sun April 23 9am-5pm
5 mile and Beech Daily Redford
313 538 8465

DEL GIUDICE ANTIQUES
We make house calls estate
and private sales and internet
sales Insurance and Estate
appraisals We are also looking
to purchase Fine china crys-
tal silver oil paintings furni-
ture costume and fine jewelry
Member of ISA
515 S Lafayette Royal Oak
Mon Sat 11-6 248 389 2608
Visit our website
www.delgiudiceantiques.com

ROLL TOP OAK DESK
1902 Thomas Turner Early
1900s dining room table w/ 6
chairs incl wall cabinet all
hand carved Antique swivel
desk chair oak 1900 solid
oak wheel chair Take any
offers moving must sell!
Call 313 255 4928

ESTATE AUCTION
Sat - April 22 - 7pm
Cultural Center
525 Farmer
Plymouth MI
Collectibles/Antiques
Furniture/Tools
Glassware
Household items
Cash/NC/Visa
AmEx/Discover
Bank Debit Cards
No Checks
Doors Open 6pm
J C Auction Services
734-451-7444
jcauctionservices.com

Auction Sales 7060
IRS AUCTION 3 Bdrm ranch
18415 New Hampshire St
Southfield April 27th 11:30
am at Southfield Municipal
Complex (330) 284 5493 or
www.irssaes.gov

Rummage Sale/ Flea Market 7080
LIVONIA Rummage sale Sat
April 22 9-4pm At
Lighthouse Worship Center
19827 Middlebelt Rd

PLYMOUTH METHODIST CHURCH
45201 N Territorial Tues
4/25 12-7pm Wed 4/26
9-3pm \$4 bag sale 3-5pm

ROCHESTER FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
1315 N Pine 2 blks S of
Tienken 1 blk W of Mam
St Great bargains visit our
Royal Rummage Room Fri
April 28 9am-5pm Early
birds admitted at 8:30am
\$3 a brown bag
large items 1/2 price

St Catherine Rummage Sale
April 21 9-6pm April 22 9-
noon at school 13550 Virgil
E of Telegraph S of I 96

THE ANNUAL SPRING RUMMAGE SALE
Hosanna Tabor Lutheran
Church 9600 Levarne
Redford (E of Inksater N of
W Chicago) Sat April 22
9-3pm Snack Bar

7100 Estate Sales 7100

ANOTHER LOADED ESTATE SALE BY DECORATIVE ANTIQUES

Fri Sat April 7 & 8
7:00am-10:00am
7000 MEADOWHIDE CIRCLE
GREENPONDWOODS
(On the corner of 1 1/2 mile
Road & Westfield - enter from
right at stop sign follow
around to the back)
FULL LARGE COUCH
CONTENTS 1980's Lionel
train set & extras Old rugs
Lamp Crystal Porcelain
Fab antique figurine lamps
Polka art Great old mirrors
Old eye glasses Lots of
records Chinese items
Glass animals Old prints
China & modern framed
pictures & shoe shine set
set of stereo equipment 8
TV's Large plaster vases
Books
PLUS 2 sectional couches
small old leather top desk
Black dining room set Queen
white bedroom set New mat-
tress set Wicker chairs
Modern cocktail tables 4 floor
lamps pair side chairs 2
w/units Armchair & dresser
2 tan computer desk units
Chair & table chairs Fax
scanner & printer Salsarita
sample cases Outdoor furni-
ture grill & tools Lots of
household items & col-
lectibles Loaded kitchen &
finished basement
PLUS PLUS 9 fur seats
Lots of women's clothing
Dresses & shoes Fine gold &
diamond jewelry Some
trifony items Costume jewel-
ry & much more!
GIVE THE BEST DEALS!

ANOTHER ESTATE SALE BY ENCORE
April 21 22 Fri Sat 10-4am
Allen Park 14818 Keppen 6
blks E of Outer Dr 2 blks N
of Allen Rd Antique sofa &
chair 20 pieces of wicker fur-
niture glassware lots of jew-
elry Ch na cab net & bdrm set
Wash bsm & garage caded
Ou # s at 9:30am on Fr

BIRMINGHAM
Sat & Sun 10-4 designer
clothes women's men's &
kids Barbies in boxes old
bamboo & records misc fur-
niture & household col stuff
1918 Cole (off Etan btwn
Maple & Lincoln)

DETROIT YEARS OF ACCUMULATION
Loads of records mahogany
furniture antiques lots more
Apr 21 23 9am-5pm 14325
Stansbury S of Grand River
btwn Lyndon & Intervale 1
blk W of Schoolcraft

ESTATE SALE GALLERY 3977
Fort Lincoln Park 10 000
sq ft show room Furniture
estates wanted cash or con-
signment 585 823 7270

LATHRUP VILLAGE DEL GALLERY
FINE ART AND JEWELRY
GOING OUT OF
BUSINESS SALE!
Everything
UP TO 70% OFF
28001 Southfield Rd
at 11 1/2 Mile Rd
248-569-3000

PRESTIGE ESTATE SALE
Fri & Sat April 21 22 10-4
1160 Washington
Birmingham (S off Lincoln 5
blks E of Southfield) Vic-
tonia sofa marble top table
chairs triple pedestal dining
set Jenny Lind bed pictures
books records costume
jewelry more! 586 662 7373

REDFORD 8902 Sioux
Fri Sat April 21 22 9-30
5pm This is part two includes
the garage Many tools vin-
tage 60's furniture Christmas
clothing lawn & garden big
variety of items & everything
must go! Off Joy E of Inksater

THURS 1 6pm Fri & Sat 10-3pm
6719 E Knollwood Cir
Off Maple E of Inksater Info
www.classicestate.net

TROY ESTATE/DEMOLITION SALE
Thurs Sat 9-4pm 3141
McClure off Big Beaver btwn
Crooks & Coolidge If you can
remove it we will sell it

WATERFORD 7846 MEADOW DR
Sat & Sun Apr 22 & 23
10am-5pm Cash only

Garage Sales 7110
BEVERLY HILLS Moving sale
Friday 10-6 Sat 10-3 nice
newer furniture clothes
household toys & more
17235 Birchwood 2blks S of
14 mile E of Southfield rd

7100 Estate Sales 7100
ANOTHER GOOD ESTATE SALE!
Fri.-Sat.
April 21-22
10-4PM

30333 HUNTERS DRIVE HUNTERS RIDGE APTS FARMINGTON HILLS
S off 14 Mile
W of Orchard Lake
Ask for Mrs Mandenberg
at gate house

Life time Accumulation!
Heritage modern dining
room set custom
upholstery beautiful
Bodart Country French
master bedroom Thayer
Coggin lounge chairs
birch bookcases built at
Cranbrook art graphics
antique leather books
antique bric a brac &
collectibles cut glass
sterling flatware Wedge
wood Wildflower china
woolens linens washer
dryer plus large amount
of household & personal
misc See your there!

EDMUND FRANK & ASSOC LIQUIDATORS & APPRAISERS
313-854-6000

ANOTHER BERNARD DAVIS ESTATE SALE
313 837-1993
7476 Wykes Detroit Off of
Warren btwn Livernois and
Wyoming
Fri Sat & Sun
April 21 23 9am-4pm

The House is Loaded
Dining room furniture by
Drexel Mahogany Bdrm
Furniture Crystal Steam
Wear China Books
Kitchen Accessories Ruby
glass American Glass
Vintage Christmas Orn-
aments Decorative Acces-
sories Linens Lamps
Upholster Chairs Sewing
Machines Fabric room
Welder Costume Jewelry
Vintage Clothes Lingerie
Women's Hats Shoes
Purses and
MUCH MUCH MORE

FARMINGTON HILLS LARGEST SALE
28453 Quail Hollow 12 Mile
& Farmington Rd Fri & Sat
8-30 4:30pm Antiques col-
lectibles furniture little tykes
computers etc

GARDEN CITY HUGE Garage Sale!
Lots of stuff too much to
mention 8 am til dark April
21 23 32259 Sheridan (Btwn
Venoy & Merriman)

HOWELL/HARTLAND April
20 22 Thursday & Friday
9:00 4:00 pm Saturday 9-3
pm At 9106 Leyland Ct in
Autumn Woods Subdivision
South side of M 59 & 1 mile
west of 23 Huge garage sale
computer desk kids clothes
& toys home & holiday deco-
rating items Computer hard
ware & a lot more!

LATHRUP VILLAGE
Multi family sale Baseball
Furn Raiser Two days only!
Fri Sat 9-4pm 27270 West
Golden Gate Drive

LIVONIA
Multi Member Garage Sale
Saturday April 22 9:00 to 3:00
pm at the Chi Center 38121
Ann Arbor Road Livonia

LIVONIA 3 family sale! 14271
Stonehouse Apr 21 & 22
9am-5pm Home goods boys
clothing baby items books
misc items

LIVONIA 17260 Levan April
20 23 10am-5pm Antiques
collectibles Avon Elvis jew-
elry post cards old sports
cards toys & household misc

LIVONIA Garage sale
Mostly furniture household
and miscellaneous items
Friday 9-4:00 Saturday 9-
4:00 14481 Ellen Drive

LIVONIA 9pm Moving Sale
Thurs Sat 9-5pm Lawn trac-
tor twin beds dressers lots
of misc 15256 Adams S of
5 Mile E of Haggerty

LIVONIA 17871 Levan Books sofa
clothes collectibles and misc
Starts Saturday at 9 am

LIVONIA
2 family sale! 9331 Colorado
Thurs & Fri 9am-4pm
Household goods toys bikes
Clothes (kids & adults)

LIVONIA MOVING SALE
Fri Sat April 21 22 10-5pm
Sun April 23 1-5pm
19758 Weyner NE area
of 7 Mile & Middlebelt

LIVONIA 17334 Francavilla
(off 6 mile & Farmington)
April 22 23 10-5pm Once in
life time sale ALL GOES!
GOOD STUFF!

MILFORD
Fri Sun 4/21 4/23 8-
4pm 1380 Balsam Way
runs W off Milford Rd 1 5
MI N of I 96 HUGE
GREAT STUFF Priced TO
SELL!! Furniture Toys
Dishes Clothes Books
Tools Toys Lots More!

PLYMOUTH 595 Ann St April
21 22 9-4pm Antiques
clothes sports equip toys
furniture books dishes
household plants & more

PLYMOUTH Big Sale! Anti-
ques toys household furni-
ture old guns & misc Fri &
Sat 9-5pm 8885 Ball St Ann
Arbor Rd & Main follow signs

Garage Sales 7110
BEVERLY HILLS
Lots of nice clothing & many
household items 16224
Locherbie S of 14 E of
Southfield Sat April 22nd 9-?

BIRMINGHAM Estate Sale
471 Smith April 22 23
Moving to Germany Every-
thing must go! Furniture
electronics appliances plans
and tools

BIRMINGHAM EVERYTHING GOES! 1301 W Lincoln 1 blk
W Southfield Rd bdrm living
room kitchen den patio fur-
niture tv stereo pics mir-
rors ladies clothes sizes
2-6 Thurs Sun 9-5pm

BIRMINGHAM A little bit of
everything! Art linens
clothes & much more! 709
Ann St W of Woodward W
of 14 Sun April 23 10am?

CANTON Thurs Sat
Apr 20 21 22 6-7pm
Marshall Sunflower Sub
Big screen TV loft bed
refrigerator ping pong
table exercise equip
lots of household

CANTON Huge sale! Furniture
appliances many new and
good household items priced
to sell April 20 21 9-6pm
43823 Proctor Look for signs

FARMINGTON Large moving sale
Fri April 21 9-3pm Sat
April 22 10-2pm 34041 State
St W of Farmington S of
Grand River E of Gill

FARMINGTON HILLS 1 day
only Sat 8-1pm Great bar-
nains too much to list! 28204
Belcrest St S of 12 btwn
Inkster & Middlebelt

FARMINGTON HILLS LARGEST SALE
28453 Quail Hollow 12 Mile
& Farmington Rd Fri & Sat
8-30 4:30pm Antiques col-
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computers etc

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MI N of I 96 HUGE
GREAT STUFF Priced TO
SELL!! Furniture Toys
Dishes Clothes Books
Tools Toys Lots More!

Garage Sales 7110
ROYAL OAK
Fr Sat April 28 29 9-5pm
1013 East 2nd Street Vesta
scoutor household items fur-
niture baby cribs & baby items

ROCHESTER GARAGE SALE!
Three Families' Clothes
Furniture Couches Chairs
Oak Tables & Entertainment
Center Household 199
Bellshire (Harmin & Roch
Rds) THURS 4/20 9am-5pm

SOUTHFIELD 4 Family
Garage Sale Sat Sun April
22 23 9-30 5 19111 Hilton
N of 10 Mile W of Southfield
Rd Kids items household etc

SOUTHFIELD Estate items
furniture and misc household
items April 21 22 10-6pm
24523 Pierce S of 10 mile
btwn Southfield & Greenfield

TROY Fri/Sat 4/21 & 22 9-
3pm Many different house-
hold items chairs good con-
dition 2971 Binbrooke Dr S
of Watles E of Adams

WEST BLOOMFIELD
Huge Moving Sale! Sat Sun
April 22 23 10-2pm 5223
Park Ridge Court N of
Pontiac Trail E of Haggerty

WEST BLOOMFIELD Thurs
Sat 9-5pm Dining room
table books baby items lots
of misc 5813 Kingsfield Dr
Farmington Rd & 15 Mile

WESTLAND 50 years same
housewares bar items
Apr 20 21 22 10am-4pm
7650 August 3 blocks W
of Middlebelt S of Ann
Arbor Trail

WESTLAND 1 STOP! Big Sale!
5 families Quality
Collectibles furniture elec-
tronics household tools too
much to list! Priced to sell
Sat Mon Apr 22 24 10am
6pm 7018 Bison

WESTLAND 32216
SALE Parkwood Venoy &
Palmer Thurs Sun
9am-7pm Lots of kids clothes
dirt press household items
freezer & misc

BLOOMFIELD HILLS Moving/Post Estate Sale
Electronics computers furni-
ture designer & regular
housewares toys sporting
goods unique costume jewel-
ry & more Fri Sat & Sun
April 21 23 10-4pm 3755
Lincoln Drive N of 14 Mile
Road E of Telegraph

CANTON MOVING SALE
Furniture accessories &
household goods Fri April
21 9-6p 43285 Oakbrook Ct
E of Morton Taylor S of Joy

CANTON MOVING SALE
Hampton Ridge So 50173
Heron April 20 21 22 9-
4pm Lots of everything fur-
niture and household items

FARMINGTON 34240 Conroy
Ct Sat Apr 22 9-4pm N of
Freedom & W of Farmington
Rd Everything Must Go

FARMINGTON HILLS 1985
Corvette Furniture pool table
new generator etc Apr 22 &
23 10 4 28828 Kendallwood
S of 13 E of Farmington

LIVONIA 9281 California W
Chicago & Farm Household
Flexsteel Sofa IRONRITE 6
pato chairs/cushions misc
LAST DAY Sat 4/22 10a-2p

LIVONIA April 17 23 Eight
Mile Rd & Merriman Lots
of items Panasonic fax/phone
portable stereo VCR DVD
radios Fisher TV men's
sportsweat (XL) bowling
balls some furniture wall
decor items Kitchen items
George Forman grill 35mm
camera movie projector
Playboy mags auto coin
counter Call Alvin at
734 788 0045

LIVONIA MOVING SALE Fri
Sat 9-4pm Plano table sets
dressers furniture craft sup-
plies tools 14845 Melrose 2
blks S of 5 mi W of
Merriman

SLYVAN LAKE Moving must
sell wide variety Couches
recliner tables dishes can-
gras tvs books cd's tools
movies & more April 21
3pm-6pm April 22 23 9am-
6pm 1385 Avondale For info
call 248 943 5325

WESTLAND MOVING/ GARAGE SALE Apr 22 & 23
10am-6pm 34151 Toma-
hawk Collectibles sports
cards (\$650 for all)

WESTLAND MOVING SALE
Furniture tools holiday
items misc April 21 23 10-
5pm 523 N Byfield Cherry
Hill/Wildwood

Clothing 7140
PROM DRESSES
Size 4 navy blue \$50 Size 6
pink \$100 Both worn once
248 348 1752 after 5:00pm

Household Goods 7160
BED A BRAND NEW
King mattress set in plastic
with warranty \$175 Must sell!
Can deliver 734 231 6622

BED A QUEEN PILLOW TOP MATTRESS SET
New n plastic sell \$150
734 891 8481 Can Delver

BEDROOM SET 7 PIECE
Solid wood still in box \$975
Call 734 891 8481

FURNITURE Stanley maple
twin canopy bed dresser &
mirror like new \$800 Stanley
crib \$100 734 981 9107

FURNITURE Hutch Antique
Gate Leg table with 4 side
chairs White and brass twins
beds Queen Sleigh Back bed
& 2 side tables Tall chest 2
lamps 734 420 3239

FURNITURE 2 contemporary
oak end tables w/glass tops &
matching coffee table \$275
Custom made 4x6 accent rug
gray/white w/4 black squares
\$60 Brass & crystal chande-
lier \$40 NordicTrack exercise
skis \$100 Tiny Tot Play
Garden \$25 (248) 474 0018

FURNITURE & APPLIANCES MOVING SALE
Call 734 237-4284

BED A BRAND NEW
Queen mattress set in plastic
with warranty \$185 Must sell!
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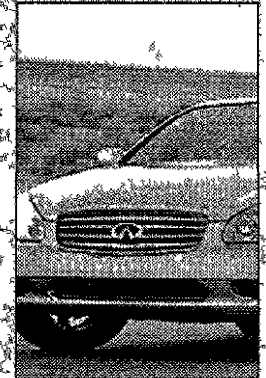
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Thursday DriveTime



BY DALE BUSS

Lexus has made its web site the most useful for new-vehicle shopping among all auto manufacturers, with Pontiac and Suzuki finishing in second place, according to a semi-annual survey by J D Power and Associates.

The other top performers in order were Hummer, BMW, Kia, Saab, Mazda, Subaru and Mercury. The worst rankings were achieved by Volkswagen, then Audi, third-worst was Mercedes-Benz, then Chrysler, Saturn, Infiniti, Volvo, Nissan, Mini and Jeep rounded out the bottom ten makes, in reverse order, in J D Power's research.

At a time when 57% of new-vehicle buyers visit at least one manufacturer web site before buying a new vehicle - and most visit several manufacturer sites - how an auto maker performs online is more important than ever. In marketing terms these days, you could almost say it's crucial.

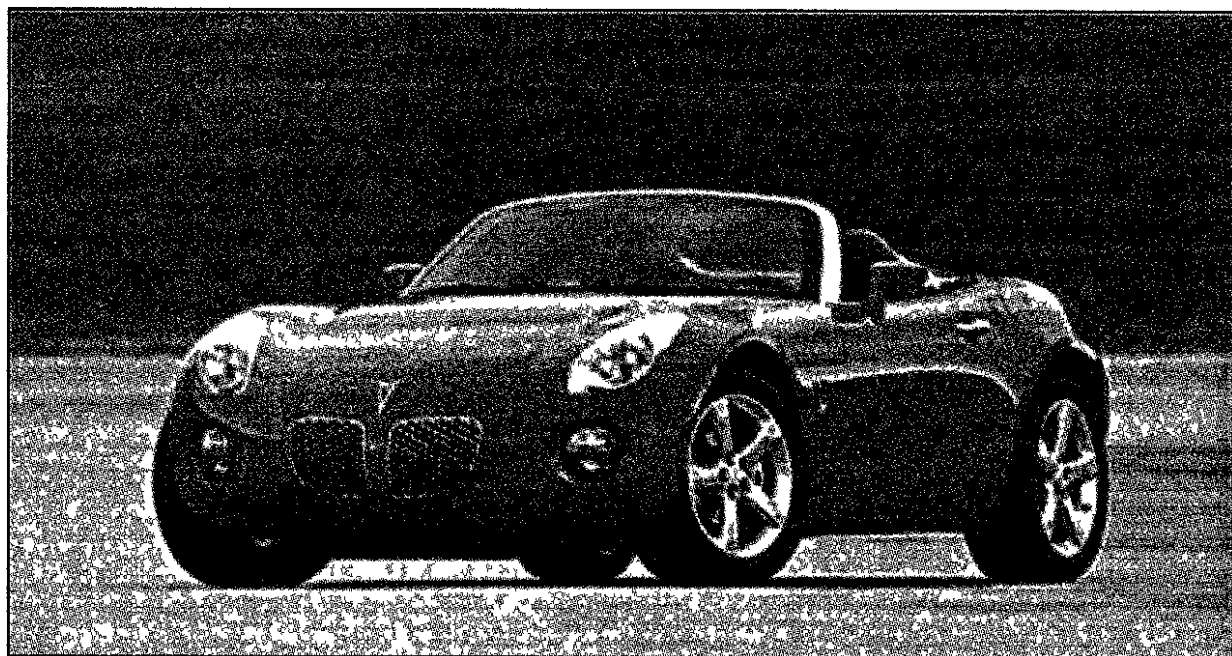
"Our improving performance is part of a dedicated philosophy and focus that's simple. When the majority of auto shopping is happening on the web, you'd better make sure that your web site is built to facilitate that the best way you can," said Mark-Hans Richer, marketing director for Pontiac.

Lexus, the Toyota luxury brand, "scores at the top by upsetting the fewest shoppers," says Dennis Galbraith, senior director of digital marketing for Westlake Village, Calif.-based J D Power. Only 6% of Lexus.com visitors in this survey rated it poorly, the strongest result ever noted for lack of disappointment in any site.

On the other hand, the lowest finishers in the survey were troubled by slow speeds, Galbraith said.

Lexus provides information at quick speeds for users whether they're on a broadband or a dial-up connection, Galbraith noted. "Fundamental for us since the beginning has been to try to make the site as robust as possible but not limit the average consumer's ability to get information quickly," says Robin Pisz, national interactive and relationship-marketing manager for Lexus. "We'll be serving up a lot more multi-media on the site in the future, such as videos. And with our audience being predominantly broadband, we can provide them with more of that type of experience."

The brand also strives for 'simple, straightforward



The 2006 Pontiac Solstice.

web design" that is friendly to its market of mostly boomer and older consumers,' Inouye said. That includes larger vehicle images, better fonts and other improvements to optimize the fact that the resolution of computer screens is improving. "Older consumers want to see details," she said.

Galbraith also complimented Lexus's decision to provide ample definition of technical terms. "It's like reading something complex with an imbedded dictionary to help you," he said.

Pontiac.com's strength is "easy navigation," Galbraith said, including a 'flyout' design that allows visitors to delve into model details directly from the home page. "We think through the site the way a shopper would," said Richer.

For example, the site recently moved to the home page its link to information about trade-in appraisals. "In the past we buried it somewhere in the site because it didn't seem as sexy as other things," he said. "But we've found that it's very important to consumers to know what their current car is worth, and it facilitates the online-shopping process."

Richer conceded that, 'not long ago, marketers were trying to add more steak than sizzle online. We still believe in sizzle," he said. (And the fact that Pontiac.com can feature a model as intriguing as the new Solstice roadster on its site helps a lot in the sizzle department.) "But first and foremost, web-site activity

is about shopping. You have to take care of that before anything else.

Pontiac's greater focus on the web is underscored these days by its partnership with Google. In a promotion that's been going on about a month now, Pontiac refers to Google in its TV ads, making it the first major marketer to refer to the king of search engines in its mainstream advertising, Richer said. And in local advertising, dealer groups urge viewers to "Google Pontiac."

"It's already driving a certain level of behavior and comparisons that work in our favor," Richer said. "Leads are up 50% and search queries are up 100% because of it."

Saturn's showing in the study underscored the fact that ease of web use and a brand's larger marketing purposes don't always completely coincide. Saturn ranked fifth from the bottom, Galbraith said, in part because the Skye model that it featured on the home page during early November, when the survey was conducted, ran small. Saturn instead focused on a large image of a Christmas package from Target Stores.

But the brand's promotion with Target - to provide a \$500 gift card for the store as a bonus with a vehicle purchase - was a very effective promotion," said a Saturn spokesman. "We had a year-over-year sales increase. Moreover, he said, Saturn went back to a larger vehicle picture after the holidays."

Observer & Eccentric



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MAZDA 6 2005 4 dr auto great guy 2 available \$14,995 (248) 353 1300
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Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030

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GRAND MARQUIS 2001 Stunning blue rich leather low miles Euro custom roof \$11,900 Crissman Lincoln Mercury (248) 652 4200

GRAND MARQUIS GS 2003 18,200 miles excel cond loaded w/ remote start Asking \$14,495 313 532 4585

GRAND MARQUIS LS 2000 White 122K very clean well maintained runs great! \$6,000 734 330 9657

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GRAND PRIX GT 2001 4 dr leather loaded great shape \$9,995 (248) 353 1300
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GRAND AM 2002 GT1 55K white \$10,500 Dealer Ask for Ron (734) 744 2184

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SATURN 2002 Auto Air \$3850 TYME (734) 455 5566

VUE 2004 Awd V 6 loaded moonroof 16,000 miles warranty Like new \$18,900 (248) 588 5829

Toyota (8720)

SCION XA 2006 Burgundy loaded! 31 city/38 Highway Gap Ins \$14,500 or take over pmts w/app (586) 977 2613

TOYOTA RAV 4 2002 Silver like new excel cond 1 owner 50,000 miles \$10,900 734 326 8351

Volkswagen (8740)

BEETLE GLS 2001 Yellow manual moonroof cold weather package good condition one owner \$8000 (734) 612 5002

GOLF GL 2003 TDI 51K silver \$16,900 Dealer Ask for Kevin (734) 744 2179

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Saturn (8700)

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SATURN 2002 Auto Air \$3850 TYME (734) 455 5566

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Volkswagen (8740)

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GOLF GL 2003 TDI 51K silver \$16,900 Dealer Ask for Kevin (734) 744 2179

Volkswagen (8740)

JETTA GLS 2002 TDI 35K green \$17,900 Dealer Ask for Kevin (734) 744 2179

JETTA GLS 2002 1 8T 47K silver \$14,800 Dealer Ask for Ron (734) 744 2184

JETTA GLS 2002 TDI 48K silver \$17,600 Dealer Ask for Kevin (734) 744 2179

JETTA GLS 2002 1 8T 42K wagon silver \$15,600 Dealer Ask for Kevin (734) 744 2179

JETTA 2001 Power moon auto \$6500 No co signer needed TYME (734) 455 5566

Volvo (8750)

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Thursday April 20 2006

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Mary Klemic, editor (248) 901 2569 mklemic@hometownlife.com

www.hometownlife.com

They're gr-r-r-eat!

Wines, foods take the table at OCC fund-raiser

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

The corks and caps will be removed from bottles of riesling, gewurztraminer and cabernet franc

Visitors can enjoy merlot, cabernet sauvignon and vidal blanc, also known as ice wines

The event is also the biggest annual fund-raiser at Oakland Community College for money toward scholarships and trips to competitions for culinary students

The Great Lakes Great Wines Walk Around Wine Tasting returns to the campus of Oakland Community College on May 11

More than \$80,000 has been raised over the past 10 years, said Darlene Levinson, organizer of the event and OCC instructor. Much of that money helps OCC's diverse student population people laid off from their jobs and now working on a second career, single mothers, retirees who want a second career and "special needs" students

That money comes in handy," Levinson said. It's a population that would not go to college without assistance. They would just not be able to do it.

The money also will help students travel to competitions, such as Tammy Gauthier, a second-year student who won the Midwest region of the American Chefs Federation individual food competition in Minneapolis in late March. She advanced to a national ACF competition scheduled for July.

More than 500 wines from



LAWRENCE MCKEE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Patrons enjoyed last year's Great Lakes Great Wine Walk Around Tasting event at Oakland Community College in Farmington Hills

wineries in seven Great Lakes states and one Canadian province (Ontario) will be available, Levinson said. Levinson estimates that 24-30 judges will taste the wines before the event and judge them for awards.

Among the expected judges are Joe Borrello, president of the International Wine Tasters Guild and author of *Wineries of the Great Lakes and Recipes*

from the *Wineries of the Great Lakes*, Stan Howell, professor in the Horticulture Department at Michigan State University, and winemakers Chas Catherman from St Julian's Winery in Paw Paw, Lee Lutes from Black Star Farms in the Leelanau Peninsula, and Mark Johnson from Chateau Chantal. Master wine sommelier Madeline Trifon of the Matt Prentice

Restaurant Group has served as a judge in previous years, Levinson said.

"We pick them to lend credibility to the event," Levinson said. "We have to have people who know how to judge them."

And that's just a preview of the wine. Then there's the food.

Many of the food booths will be staffed by talented OCC graduates such as chef

Andrew Sayes of The Grill at the Ritz-Carlton in Dearborn, Ted Teeter, executive chef at P F Chang's in Troy, Randy Emert, executive chef at Great Oaks Country Club in Rochester, Steven Allen and Chuck "Rocky" Rachwitz, chefs and owners of Steve & Rocky's in Novi, Denise Caurdy, chef at Traverse Pointe Country Club in Ann Arbor, Tariq Hanna, pastry

GREAT LAKES

GREAT WINES

What: More than 500 wines will be offered at the 11th Annual Great Lakes Great Wine Walk Around Tasting

When: 6-8 p.m. Thursday, May 11

Where: Third floor of J Building at the Orchard Ridge campus of Oakland Community College, 27055 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills

Tickets: \$45, proceeds used for student scholarships and competition travel funds

For information, call (248) 522-3700

chef at Motor City Casino and part-time instructor at OCC, and Eric Voight, pastry chef at Tribute in Farmington Hills

The OCC Culinary Studies Institute will put its own imprint on the event as instructors and students prepare two tables of pastries and Asian foods and another table full of food.

Levinson estimates that 300 people will be in attendance. This year, the Culinary Studies Institute has expanded the event from the traditional third floor to include food booths on the fourth floor.

kabramcz@hometownlife.com | (734) 953 2107

Use this guide to help you buy a better notebook

For many of us, the next computer we buy will be a notebook.

And why not? They consume relatively little of the prized real estate that is your desk, and they're mobile.

Notebooks (only the tragically unhip still call them laptops) travel easily from home to work to Panera Bread to coach class.

Well, some do. You may have noticed that some of the latest laptops are downright huge, with screens rivaling the size of standalone LCDs. If you've ever seen a fellow passenger try to wrangle one of these onto a tray table, well, it ain't pretty.

SIZE MATTERS

So, when shopping for a new notebook, consider size first. If you prize mobility above all else, look for a model with a screen smaller than 15 inches and a weight below six pounds. If the machine is earmarked for desk duty, you may want to splurge on a so-called desktop replacement.

These bulky, travel-challenged powerhouses have big screens (usually 15-



Tech Savvy

Rick Broida

17 inches) and entertainment-oriented features (often including TV tuners and DVR software), making them ideal for dens, dorm rooms and other habitats.

BASIC SPECS

Whatever your size preference, your notebook should meet a few basic requirements.

First, I recommend avoiding horse-and-buggy-speed processors like the AMD Sempron and Intel Celeron. These are the chips you'll find in those enticing \$500-\$600 models, but they're too slow for anything beyond the basics, like e-mail and word processing.

I also urge you to get at least 512MB of RAM. Anything less and

Windows will run like molasses.

As for the hard drive, bigger is always better, of course. A 40GB drive may sound plenty roomy, but once you start filling it with photos, digital music and, in the case of Media Center notebooks, TV shows, that space will fill up fast.

Fortunately, it's easy to add more storage later, courtesy of capacious external hard drives. I recently spotted a 300GB drive selling online for just \$113.

If you want to watch movies on your notebook, a DVD-ROM drive is essential. Step up to a DVD burner (also known as a DVD+-RW drive) if you want to author your own discs.

Don't worry about numbers like "8X," which pertain to the drive's speed. They're all plenty fast.

ESSENTIAL EXTRAS

I wouldn't touch a notebook that didn't have a built-in Wi-Fi antenna, which is mandatory for connecting to wireless networks. Fortunately, it's standard equipment on most models. The 802.11g variety is fine for most



If you're not too concerned about mobility, Dell's XPS M170 notebook offers all the power of a desktop PC.

home and small-business users.

I also insist on a media card reader, preferably one that supports all the most popular formats (Compact Flash, Secure Digital, etc.).

If you plan to edit video on your notebook, look for a FireWire port so you can connect your camcorder. (It's a common misconception that video can be transferred over USB. Most

camcorders require a FireWire connection.)

Spend a few bucks on a mouse—even the best notebook touchpad is no substitute. Consider a full-size mouse for desk duty (Logitech's wireless, rechargeable MX 1000 can't be beat) and a smaller one for travel.

Spend a few bucks more on a USB flash drive, which comes in handy for moving documents between your notebook and other PCs.

And speaking of other PCs, if you're migrating from an older machine to your new notebook, consider deploying a program like Alohobob PC Relocator Ultra Control (alohobob.com). It greatly simplifies moving the contents and settings of one PC to another.

Rick Broida writes about computers and technology for the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers' Broida of Commerce Township* is the co-author of numerous books, including *How To Do Everything with Your Palm Handheld 5th Edition* and *101 Killer Apps for Pocket PC*. He welcomes questions sent to rick.broida@gmail.com.

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Baking with the CIA: wake up to waffles

BY THE CULINARY INSTITUTE OF AMERICA FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

HYDE PARK, N.Y. (AP)— A day that begins with a crisp, golden waffle is destined to be good. The aroma alone has the power to perk up the sleepest of mornings.

The Culinary Institute of America's ultra-light waffles, made from a few basic ingredients, are equally delicious hot off the iron or made ahead and frozen for a quick weekday breakfast. Just store them in the freezer in zip-lock bags and pop them in the toaster whenever you like.

Waffles are no more difficult to make than any other griddlecake. Like pancakes, they benefit from minimal mixing because of the proteins in the flour. When flour is moistened and repeatedly stretched by mixing, the proteins turn into strands of gluten.

The longer the gluten is worked, the tighter the strands become, resulting in a tough, rubbery waffle. Using a gentle hand to stir the wet and dry ingredients together helps to keep them tender.

Bruce Mattel, associate professor in culinary arts at The Culinary Institute of America, suggests taking an additional step to ensure an airy waffle: "Rather than adding whole eggs to the batter, separate the eggs, whip the whites to a soft peak consistency, and fold them in at the end."

Without the characteristic grid-like pattern to cradle hot syrup and melting butter, a waffle wouldn't be a waffle. That is why a waffle iron is essential for making this type of griddlecake.

Available in a variety of shapes, sizes and depths, waffle irons range in cost from \$20 to \$300. Most varieties have nonstick surfaces (a must for trouble-free waffle making) and a sensor light to indicate that the iron is preheated and ready to use.

Higher-end models include features such as dial thermometers, digital countdowns and removable dishwasher-safe plates. The additional "bells and whistles" are nice, but not necessary for producing a good waffle.

Before using a new waffle iron, refer to the manufacturer's directions — each one works differently. Most take about 4 to 5 minutes to bake a waffle. The amount of batter needed for each waffle depends on the shape and size of your iron.

The CIA's recipe using a standard 7-inch round iron is enough to make 8 waffles. Start by making a sample waffle to determine how much batter you need and how long it takes to bake.

Be sure not to lift the lid during the first few minutes of baking, or while it is steaming, a steaming iron is the best indicator that the waffle hasn't finished baking. Also, if you have

to force the waffle iron open, you can rest assured that the batter still needs time to bake.

To keep finished waffles warm, place them in a single layer directly on the rack of a 200° F preheated oven.

This recipe is from *The Culinary Institute of America's Breakfasts and Brunches* cookbook (Lebhar-Freidman, 2005, \$35).

WAFFLES

3/₄ cups all purpose flour
2 teaspoons salt
1/2 cup sugar
2 tablespoons baking powder
8 large eggs separated
3 cups milk
1 cup butter melted
2 cups Hot Raspberry Sauce (recipe follows)

Sift together the flour, salt, sugar and baking powder into a large mixing bowl. Make a well in the center of the dry ingredients.

Whisk together the egg yolks, milk and melted butter in a separate bowl. Pour the wet ingredients into the well of the dry ingredients, stirring until just combined. The batter will be slightly lumpy. Do not overmix.

Preheat the waffle iron.

Whip the egg whites to soft peaks and fold into the batter in two additions. Ladle about 3/4 cup batter into the waffle iron. Cook the waffles until they are crisp, golden and cooked through, about 3 to 6 minutes per waffle. Serve at once with the raspberry syrup.

Makes 8 servings

Nutrition information per waffle: 580 cal, 15 g pro, 60 g carbo, 32 g fat, 870 mg sodium, 285 mg chol, 1 g fiber.

HOT RASPBERRY SAUCE

7 cups raspberries fresh or frozen (thaw slightly)
1/4 cups sugar
2/4 cups water
1/2 vanilla bean split or scraped or 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/2 cup lemon juice

Combine the raspberries, sugar and water in a saucepan and bring to a simmer over medium heat. Cook until raspberries are soft, about 15 minutes.

Strain the raspberry mixture through a fine-mesh sieve, pressing against the solids with the back of a ladle. Discard the raspberry seeds and pour the extracted juices into a saucepan, add the vanilla bean, its seeds and the lemon juice. Simmer until reduced by one-half over medium-low heat or to the consistency of syrup, 20 to 25 minutes.

Serve warm, or cool and store in the refrigerator for up to 10 days. Makes 2 cups.

Nutrition information per 3-ounce serving: 110 cal, 1 g pro, 29 g carbo, 0 g fat, 0 mg sodium, 0 mg chol, 4 g fiber.

This recipe along with more than 175 others, is explained and illustrated in *The Culinary Institute of America's Breakfasts and Brunches* cookbook (Lebhar-Freidman 2005, \$35) available at bookstores nationwide or at <http://www.ciachef.edu/enthusiasts/cookbooks/>

CALENDAR

If you have an item for the Taste calendar please submit at least two weeks prior to your event to Ken Abramczyk, Taste editor Observer & Eccentric Newspapers 36251 Schoolcraft Livonia MI 48150 e-mail kabramcz@hometownlife.com or fax (734) 591 7279

Book signing

Chef Craig Common of the Common Grill in Chelsea will be signing copies of his two cookbooks *The Common Grill Cookbook* and *Return to the Common Grill* at Barnes & Noble 17111 Haggerty Road Northville 730 p.m. Thursday April 20.

Grapevine

Here is a schedule of classes from the Grapevine School of Wine. Introduction to Wine 7 p.m. April 20. The Hill Seafood & Chop House 123 Kercheval Grosse Pointe Farms \$29. Fabulous but Forgotten Germany 7 p.m. April 24. Pampas Old Woodward north of Maple Birmingham \$45. Summer Barbecue Wines 7 p.m. June 20. Station 885 885 Starkweather Plymouth \$32. Register on line for any of these events at www.grapevine-neshoolofwine.com. For additional information call (248) 990 4613.

Indian Cooking

Incorporate the principles of Ayurveda an ancient Indian science of health and well being at the following classes at 630 930 p.m. Exquisite Daal Curries April 27. Heavenly Vegetarian Curries May 4. Delectable Chicken Curries May 18 and Vegetables the Indian Way June 1 (248) 203 3800 or online at www.communited.net.

Who Has Time To Cook?

Learn a system that will teach you how you can prepare a month's worth of meals in one day a process that will allow you quicker time in the kitchen a way to organize your meal plans that will yield lower grocery bills less stress and less time in the kitchen. Instructor Lynn Jarrett is a busy mom of three girls who decided after her second child to end the stress of meal planning and establish a much less stressed household. Class is 730 930 p.m. Thursday April 20 and costs \$25. To register for classes contact The Community House 380 South Bates Street Birmingham (248) 644 5832 or online at www.communityhouse.com.

Eastern Market Tour

Enjoy a weekend morning of fun down at one of Detroit's most famous landmarks - Eastern Market 811 a.m.

Saturday April 22 or Saturday April 29 (\$30) Freeman Gunnell will meet the class at Eastern Market for the tour. Look for a sign for The Community House Tour. To register for classes contact The Community House 380 South Bates Street Birmingham (248) 644 5832 or online at www.communityhouse.com.

Schoolcraft classes

Culinary Seminars are offered through Schoolcraft College Continuing Education and Professional Development for winter 2006. The campus is located at 18600 Haggerty in Livonia. Call (734) 462 4448 for information or visit webadvisor.schoolcraft.edu. Here are some of the classes. Hands On These classes require Cooking 101 or chef's approval to register. Wear a white chef's jacket dark pants and comfortable shoes for all hands on classes. You'll need a tool kit consisting of a set of knives peeler spatula dough cutter thermometer and measuring spoons. The following classes instructed by certified master chef Jeff Gabriel are scheduled. Outdoor Grilling 5 9 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday April 25 and 27. Class fees range from \$109-\$139.

Party planning secrets

Learn Manhattan event planning techniques on a budget from a New York City party planner 7 9 p.m. Monday April 24. Room 6110 Seaholm High School 2436 W Lincoln Birmingham (248) 203 3800 or visit www.communited.net.

Mini Business Expo and Taste of Plymouth

Over 20 restaurants and 75 booths showcasing businesses 5 730 p.m. May 1. Inn at St. John's Five Mile and Sheldon roads \$10 (734) 453 1540 www.plymouthchamber.org

Taste of Two Cities

Sample menu items from 10 different restaurants in Farmington and Farmington Hills 6 10 p.m. Tuesday May 9 \$25 must be 21 or over (248) 474 3440 www.fhchamber.com

Great Lakes Great Wine Walk

More than 500 wines will be offered to sample including ice wines at the 11th Annual Great Lakes Great Wine Walk. Around Tasting 6 8 p.m. Thursday May 11 in the J Building at the Orchard Ridge campus of Oakland Community College 27055 Orchard Lake Road Farmington Hills. Tickets are \$45 proceeds used for student scholarships and competition travel funds. Call (248) 522 3700.

Potato crust anchors tasty pizza

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bev Jones of Brunswick, Mo., won first prize in a recent recipe contest organized by the Idaho Potato Commission.

IDAHO POTATO CRUSTED PIZZA

1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon freshly cracked black pepper
4 tablespoons cornstarch
1/2 pounds Idaho potatoes (about 4 medium) scrubbed
3 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil

1/4 cup beef or chicken broth
1/2 cup prepared basil pesto
1 cup cooked shredded chicken
1 red bell pepper seeded and cut into rings
4 ounces crumbled feta cheese
1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese
8 to 10 fresh basil leaves torn into pieces

Preheat oven to 400° F

In a small bowl, stir together the salt, pepper and cornstarch, set aside. Using a food processor or mandoline, slice potatoes very thinly and place them in a large

mixing bowl. Sprinkle half of the cornstarch mixture over the potato slices, toss the potatoes, then sprinkle them with the remaining cornstarch mixture, and toss again.

Brush 1 tablespoon of the olive oil over a 12-inch round pizza pan. Layer the potatoes on the pan, overlapping the slices in concentric circles (cover the pan completely). Sprinkle the potatoes with the broth, brush them with the remaining oil, then press the potatoes down firmly with your clean hands to compact them into a crust. Move the

oven rack to its lowest position, and bake the potato crust for 20 to 30 minutes, or until edges are browned and potatoes are tender.

Remove the potato crust from the oven and spread the pesto over the potatoes using a rubber spatula. Top the pizza with the cooked chicken, pepper rings, feta and Parmesan cheese. Return the pizza to the oven for another 10 minutes, or until feta is softened and the pizza is heated through. Remove from the oven, sprinkle with basil and cut into wedges. Use a spatula to loosen the potato crust from the pan.

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Home Décor Secrets

Professional Decorators Know Where to Look

Designers always seem to know where to find the best selection of items for the home. This is what you pay them for - to help you make your home uniquely yours. So where do designers begin their search? One place that is a "must stop" is Recherché. Nestled in Farmington's downtown this store is on the list of professional secrets of designers.

Why shouldn't you be in on what Interior Decorators know?

Recherché is the place you start! Whether you're looking for a new dining set, or an original oil on canvas. Recherché will likely have something for you to consider. How about a 72" round table made from a rare mahogany with a unique ribbon grain? Or if your dining area is better suited for a traditional extension table - how about one made with satin banding. These are just a couple of samples.

Need a breakfront or a china cabinet to compliment your existing table? Recherché is the place to look first. Do you like the rich look of the Chippendale chairs pictured in this ad? Don't place an order anywhere until you check out what Recherché has to offer. Do you prefer contemporary? Check out the glass on glass dining table made by Fox Fire before you over pay for one that would pale by comparison.

Whether you're searching for a vintage

These original oil paintings provide a breathtaking backdrop for this antique walnut chair. Also features is an antique mahogany server - part of a beautiful Jacobean dining set with table, china cabinet & 6 chairs (not pictured).



dining table or you prefer new Recherché is no ordinary store. When it comes to previously owned furniture, Recherché is meticulous about the condition, uniqueness and quality. They are very selective so that you don't have to spend your time rummaging through estate sales, thrift stores, or the internet, looking for a 'diamond in the rough.' Even better, Recherché carries both new and used items, and most home projects need both.

Find beautiful art and accessories to compliment your furniture selections. Lamps,

The beautiful 72" round table features the striking ribbon grain of Sepele mahogany on a Duncan Phyfe pedestal. The chairs are mahogany. In the background is a vintage mahogany breakfront with curved glass.



glassware, candles, and unique accent pieces can be found. Why settle for the same accessories that everyone else has. At Recherché you will find a unique selection at affordable prices.

If you have furniture that no longer suits your need and you want to find out if it meets Recherché standards to be sold in their store, email pictures to Farmington@rechercheffurniture.com. Stop by and visit Tom & Linda in the Downtown Farmington Center. Also, be sure to take advantage of the special offer in today's ad.



This beautifully carved ball & claw mahogany extension table is perfect for entertaining family and guests. It has satin wood banding & a garoon edge for a perfect finish. In the background is a Berkey & Gay Server, Circa 1909. Of course, no scene is complete without original oil paintings in the perfect frame.



This glass on glass dining table by Fox Fire is perfect for the contemporary home. Parsons chairs compliment this one of a kind table beautifully. The top is finely beveled and is adorned with a cobalt blue vase.



This lovely triple dresser was hand painted by Michigan artist, Anne McDonald. The artist started with a French Wash Faux finish, but it is the fine detail of the Hydrangeas that make this item one of a kind. This dresser can be complimented with matching pieces.

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Spring into steamed fish

When you are tired of the heavy cooking of the cold months but it is too early for the outdoor grilling of summer, steaming is a good cooking transition as spring evolves.

Steaming is a traditional Chinese cooking technique that uses gentle heat instead of oil to cook foods. So it is a good way to make low-fat, low-calorie entrées.

Steaming keeps vegetables crunchy and brightly colored, and helps avoid overcooking fish. It also protects water-soluble nutrients that would otherwise be lost during boiling.

All you need to steam fish is a deep saucepan, Dutch oven, pressure cooker, roasting pan, or wok. The pot should be wide enough to hold a heat-proof plate on which all the ingredients can be placed in a single layer, and deep enough so that the plate is elevated at least an inch above enough water to summer until the food is cooked.

Both the American Institute for Cancer Research and other health experts recommend fish as the best animal protein alternative to red meat. It is an important source of omega-3 fatty acids, which are so important to our health.

Numerous studies suggest that a predominantly plant-based diet is linked to long-term health. The phytochemicals, minerals and vitamins in plant foods seem to bolster the body's defenses against can-



AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

Have a spring dinner of steamed fish with yogurt dill sauce

cer, heart disease and stroke. And to go with your steamed fish, why not steam a variety of colorful and healthful vegetables?

AICR recommends gradually making the transition to a plate that contains 1/3 (or more) vegetables, fruits, whole grains and beans to one-third (or less) animal protein.

A spring dinner of steamed fish with yogurt dill sauce is a good place to start.

STEAMED FISH WITH YOGURT DILL SAUCE

- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 1 tablespoon finely chopped fresh chives
- 1 teaspoon finely chopped fresh basil

- 1 tablespoon fresh dill divided
- 1 1/2 pound firm fleshed fish fillet (e.g. halibut, cod or salmon) cut in 4 pieces
- Salt and freshly ground pepper
- 1/2 cup low fat plain yogurt
- 2 red bell peppers thinly sliced
- 2 orange or yellow bell peppers thinly sliced
- 1 scallion finely chopped (green part included)
- 1 large lemon thinly sliced
- 1/2 cup fat free reduced sodium chicken broth
- 4 sprigs fresh dill for garnish (optional)

In a small bowl, mix together oil, chives, basil and half the dill. Rub mixture into both sides of fish, then sprinkle with salt and pepper. Set aside.

Mix remaining dill with yogurt and set sauce aside.

In a deep-rimmed serving dish large enough to hold the fish and broth, arrange bell peppers and scallions evenly along bottom. Place fish on top. Arrange lemon slices on top of fish. Add broth. Place in microwave and cook at medium power, checking every few minutes, until fish flakes with a fork.

Remove from microwave and garnish with remaining dill. Serve with yogurt-dill sauce.

Makes 4 servings. Per serving: 293 calories, 11 g total fat (2 g saturated fat), 9 g carbohydrate, 38 g protein, 2 g dietary fiber, 176 mg sodium.

Recipe courtesy of the American Institute for Cancer Research.

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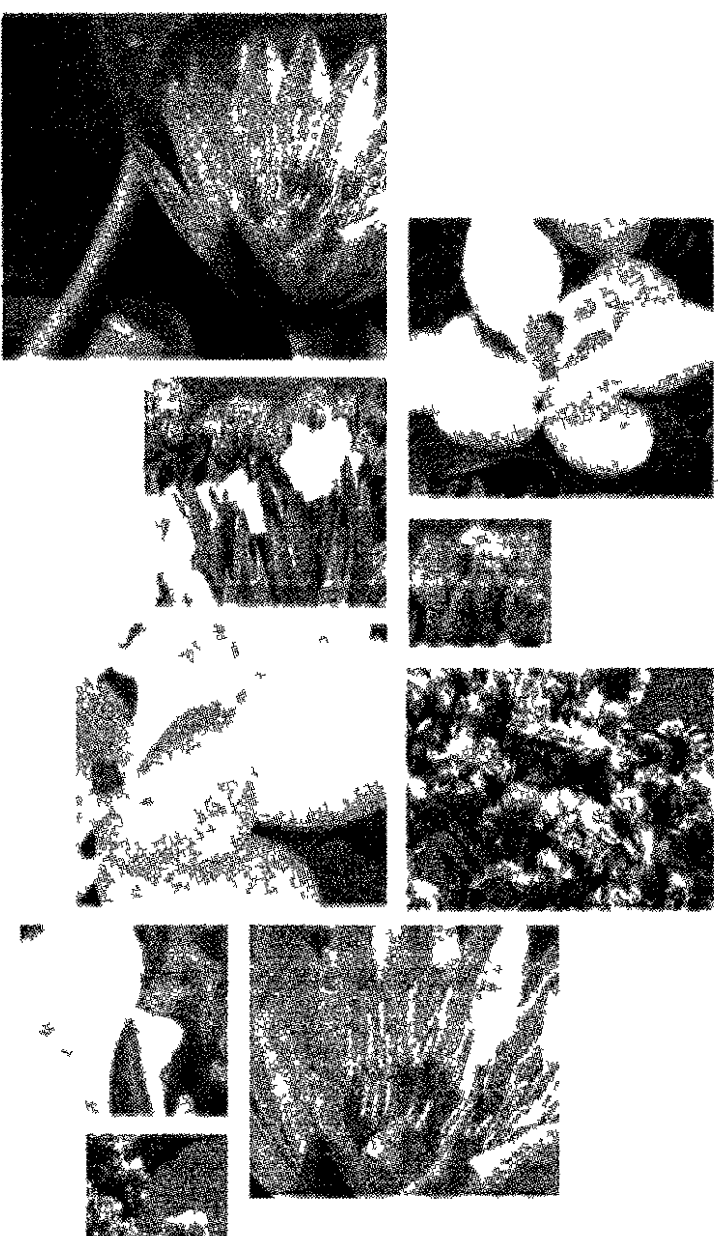
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GARDEN CALENDAR

Hill & Dale Garden Club
The Hill & Dale Garden Club will have a general meeting 7 p.m. Thursday April 20 at the Heritage Park Visitors Center on Farmington Road between 10 and 11 Mile.

For more information call (248) 524 0227
Free lectures
Saguaro Plants 470 W. Five Mile in Whitmore Lake presents free lectures 1 p.m. Sundays at the nursery.

Detroit Rose Society
The Detroit Rose Society will meet at 7:30 p.m. Friday April 21 at the Pleasant Ridge Community Center 4 Ridge Road.

Gardening
Gardening classes offered by Henry Ford Community College's Center for Lifelong Learning (CL2) include Color Your Garden with Annuals (Tuesday April 25) and Plant on the Shady Side (Thursday May 4).

MBH Garden Club
Oakland University's Meadow Brook Hall Garden Club will meet 10 a.m. Friday April 28 in the Coach House adjacent to Meadow Brook Hall on the OU campus off Adams in Rochester.

Landscape magic
The Edsel & Eleanor Ford House lecture series will teach gardeners of all talents this season's new and improved techniques.

Rose programs
Roger and Nancy Lindley owners of Great Lakes Roses present a series of educational programs for the public now through mid-October.

Luncheon, boutique
Vendors will offer unusual items for the yard and garden at the Spring Luncheon and Garden Boutique that will benefit the Women's Division for Project HOPE.

Opening garden
Gardenviews in Northville will present a free seminar Opening the Garden 10:15-11:30 a.m. Saturday April 22 at the Northville Senior Center at 303 W. Main diagonally from Gardenviews.

Eco-Yardening
Learn how to establish an environmentally beneficial landscape in Eco Yardening one of the offerings in Birmingham Community Education spring classes.

Ontario trip
The Michigan Cactus and Succulent Society will have a field trip to Sorenson's Greenhouses 1397 Road 3 East in Ruthven Ontario on Sunday April 23.

Downriver Rose Society
The Downriver Rose Society will meet 7-9 p.m. Wednesday May 3 at the Brownstown Community Center 21311 Telegraph between Sibley and West.

Quilt celebration
More than 150 beautiful quilts will be on display when the Oakland County Quilt Guild presents Quilt Celebration 2006 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday April 21 and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday April 22.

Home decor
Haberman Fabrics 905 S. Main in Royal Oak offers a variety of home decor classes for different sewing skill levels.

Gala preview
The Gala Preview Party for the Michigan Modernism Exposition will take place 7:10 p.m. Friday April 21 at the Southfield Civic Center Evergreen at Civic Center Drive.

Pet first aid
Sheehy Animal Hospital 18790 Middlebelt in Livonia will offer a free Pet First Aid Class Wednesday May 3 beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Depression glass
The Great Lakes Depression Glass Club's 32nd annual Show and Sale will take place Saturday-Sunday April 22-23 at the United Food & Commercial Workers Union Building 876 Horace Brown Drive south off 13 Mile between I-75 and John R in Madison Heights.

Plant exchange
The Royal Oak Garden Club will host the Community Perennial Plant Exchange 9-11 a.m. Saturday May 6 at the Mahany/Meininger Community Center 3500 Marais in Royal Oak.

Subscribe to the Observer & Eccentric — call (866) 88-PAPER

Send calendar items at least two weeks ahead of the event to Mary Klemic At Home Editor Observer & Eccentric Newspapers 805 E. Maple Birmingham 48009 e-mail mklemic@hometownlife.com fax (734) 591 7279 or (248) 644 1314

Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday Donation \$5 An identification booth with qualified members to help with glass identification and expert glass repair will be featured. Lunch will be available.

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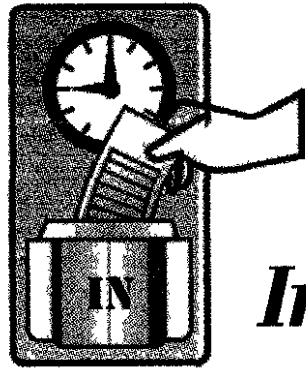
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Trees still available for spring planting

Spring is here, so get ready to plant some beautiful trees

Global ReLeaf of Michigan suggests that trees make a great Mother's Day gift or can be planted in someone's memory

The non-profit tree organization has 3- to 6-foot (depending on species) bare root trees, and 1- to 2-foot bare root shrubs, for sale this spring

Trees available are Red Maple, Sugar Maple, Swamp White Oak, Greenspire Linden, White Spire Birch, Red Bud, White and Red Crabapple, Serviceberry, Japanese Tree Lilac,

Aristocrat Pear, Honeycrisp Apple and Crimson King Norway Maple

Shrubs available are 'Endless Summer' Hydrangea, "Blue Muffin" Arrowwood Viburnum, and "Wine and Roses" Wiegela

Trees are \$28 each, or \$25 each for six or more Shrubs are \$20 each, or \$18 each for six or more

Extra trees and shrubs will be available for sale noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 22, at eight different pickup locations in southeast Michigan

For more information, call (800) 642-7353 or visit www.globalreleaf.org

Test for radon in your home

BY JAMES AND MORRIS CAREY FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

Like carbon monoxide, you can't see, smell or taste radon, but the gas may be a problem in your home

It results from disintegrating uranium in the earth - soil, rock and water. Although radon can be found all over the United States, it is especially prevalent in the Rockies, the Midwest and New England

It can get into any type of building - home, office, school - and result in a high indoor radon level

However, most people are likely to get the greatest exposure at home, where they spend most of their time

It typically makes its way into homes through cracks in concrete floors or basement walls and floors, gaps in suspended floors, gaps around service pipes and cavities inside walls

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, radon is estimated to cause about 21,000 lung cancer deaths per year. What's more, if you smoke and your home has high radon levels, your risk of lung cancer is especially high

Nearly one out of every 15 homes in the United States is estimated to have elevated radon levels

Is radon present in your home? The only means to determine if radon is present

and to what extent is through testing

Fortunately, testing is inexpensive and easy and should only take a few minutes of your time. Low-cost, do-it-yourself radon test kits can be found at many hardware stores or home centers or obtained through the mail

If you are buying or selling a home, or you don't choose to perform the test yourself, you can hire a qualified testing firm. Contact your state radon office for a list of qualified testers

There are two general ways of testing for radon: short-term and long-term testing

As the name implies, short-term testing is the quickest way to test. The collection device - a charcoal canister or other type of system - remains in your home for two to 90 days

Since radon levels can vary from day to day and season to season, a short-term test isn't likely to produce a reliable year-round average level

A long-term test remains in your home for more than 90 days

STEPS

The EPA recommends the following testing steps

Take a short-term test. If the result is four picocuries per liter of air or higher, take a follow-up test to be sure

Follow up with either a long-term test or a second short-

term test. For a better understanding of your year-round average, take a long-term test. If you need results quickly, take a second short-term test

If tests demonstrate that your home contains levels of radon that are equal to or greater than four picocuries per liter of air, you should take action to reduce the levels

There are many methods of reducing radon levels. In general, all mitigation methods include some form of sealing or ventilation

PREVENTION

In addition, some techniques prevent radon from entering your home while others reduce radon levels after it has entered

Among the most effective preventive methods is to patch cracks and gaps using caulking and various other types of patching compounds

Another method, "soil suction," prevents radon from entering your home by drawing it from below the house and venting it through a pipe (or pipes) to the air about the house where it is quickly diluted

Some methods are "passive" and simply depend on natural ventilation, while other "active" methods involve the use of a powered exhaust fan, which should run continuously

An effective method to reduce radon levels in homes with a crawlspace involves cov-

ering the earth with a high-density plastic sheet. A vent pipe and fan are used to draw the radon from under the sheet and vent it to the outdoors.

Higher levels may require more complex measures. If such is the case, the EPA recommends hiring a qualified radon mitigation contractor

Begin by checking with your state radon office. Many states require radon mitigation professionals to be licensed, certified or registered

If you choose to perform the work yourself, get information on appropriate training courses and copies of the EPA's technical guidance documents from your state radon office

The good news is that radon reduction systems have proven to be effective. In fact, some systems can reduce radon levels by up to 99 percent

The cost for repairs necessary to reduce radon ranges from about \$800 to \$2,500 (with an average cost of \$1,200), depending upon the size and design of your home and which radon reduction methods are required

For more information on radon testing and mitigation, visit www.epa.gov/radon or call (800) 557-2366

For more home improvement tips and information, visit the Careys' Web site at www.onthehouse.com or call them at (800) 737-2474 between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturdays

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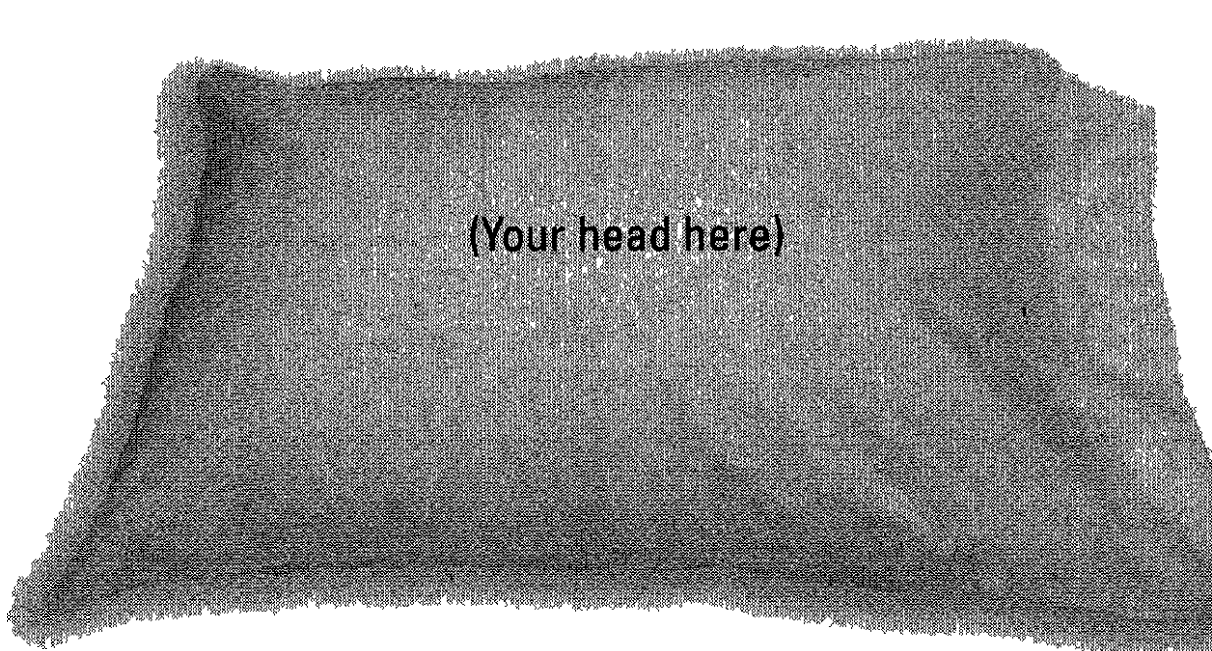
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Yard Smarts Hotline to run entire month

This year, the Yard Smarts Hotline is expanding from one week to the entire month of May to accommodate more homeowners who have yard care questions

Small-engine manufacturer Briggs & Stratton Corporation sponsors the free hotline, which provides expert advice about lawns, gardens or lawn care equipment

During May, consumers can call the toll-free hotline, (866) YARD-TIPS (927-3847), or submit an e-mail by visiting www.yardsmarts.com

All questions will be answered personally within 48 hours. Also, every Friday in May, consumers can speak directly with lawn and garden experts from noon to 7 p.m. CDT

Nationally known lawn care expert Trey Rogers, the Briggs & Stratton "Yard Doctor," and a team of university lawn and garden experts will field any questions homeowners may have related to their lawn, trees, flowers, weeds, pests, etc.

In addition, a team of 20

Briggs & Stratton experts will respond to equipment queries

In addition to getting free answers and advice from experts, hotline participants may also win prizes

Each week, the name of one caller or e-mailer will be drawn, and that person will receive his or her choice of a new lawn mower, pressure washer or string trimmer powered by a Briggs & Stratton engine

Also, one name will be drawn for the grand prize. Rogers will spend a day with the grand-prize winner to evaluate his or her lawn and garden, provide advice on improving the yard and answer any questions. The grand-prize package also includes a piece of outdoor power equipment from Briggs & Stratton and a \$500 gift certificate toward yard care improvements

Last year, hotline experts answered a variety of questions, including

- How and when should I trim my lilac bushes?
- How do I tune up my lawn mower?

■ What's an organic way to kill weeds?

■ Why doesn't my lawn mower start on the first pull?

■ How thick should a mulch application be?

■ How can I get rid of the moles that are digging holes in my lawn?

Rogers, who has more than 20 years' experience in the science of turf grass, has helped design and grow playing field grass for the Olympic Games and World Cup soccer. He's a sought-after expert by designers of golf courses and athletic fields

Yard Smarts is an educational program designed to build consumer knowledge, provide answers and expert advice, and give consumers the confidence to handle yard care activities

Briggs & Stratton Corporation is the largest manufacturer of small, air-cooled engines for lawn and garden and other outdoor power equipment

The company is also the largest producer of generators and pressure washers in the United States

These tips will help you spring into spring

Well, it looks like Old Man Winter has finally let us go

With spring here we start spending more time outside, and of course we need to look at those fix-up projects that the winter has left for us

Here are a few tips to help you get through the spring clean-up, fix-up time

■ Get the debris out of your gutters. Leaves, twigs, seed pods can hold moisture in your gutters, which can cause premature deterioration of the gutters

In addition, the added weight of the water can cause sagging of the gutters to the point where they can fall off the house

Use extreme caution while working on ladders. The most common injuries on jobs are the result of improper ladder use. Be sure you follow common sense rules when using a ladder

If you are considering buying a ladder, I strongly suggest buying the heaviest duty ladder you can afford and avoiding metal ladders

Though metal ladders are lighter in weight and usually less expensive than wood or fiberglass ladders, they are usually not as strong and they conduct electricity

All too many people have been seriously injured or killed



Ask Dad

Harry Jachym

when they have made contact with a live electric wire while using a metal ladder

■ Just about all concrete will crack at some point. If you have noticed some cracks in your drive or walks, repair them by using a high-pressure hose nozzle to clean away dirt and debris

Let them dry, and seal them with a good-quality concrete caulk such as Sika sikaflex polyurethane caulks, available at most home improvement stores

■ Visually inspect the outside of your house for any loose caulk, peeling or chipping paint and deteriorated mortar

"Tuck pointing" - pushing a thin line of mortar into the damaged area - can usually replace missing mortar. There are also several caulks available that match mortar fairly close

Before painting damaged areas, scrape or sand areas where the paint is peeling. Use a good-quality primer over the repair before adding the paint

If there is water stain on the wood, coat it with a good seal-

er-primer such as Kilz

■ Hose down the air conditioning condenser coils to remove soil, leaves and other debris. This will help your air conditioner work more efficiently

It's also a good idea to prune away any tree branches that may restrict the airflow around the condenser unit

■ Look over your deck for any loose nails. Pull them and replace them with deck screws. Replace any badly warped or cracked boards

Clean dirt and other debris from between the deck boards and wash the deck, using a good deck brightener and a power set to a LOW PRES-SURE setting

■ Replace any worn or broken parts on your lawnmower and edger, such as wheels and starter pull cords. Have the blade sharpened and change the oil

Spring is a great time to go out and get those jobs done so you can sit down and enjoy the warm weather

Harry Jachym writes Ask Dad, a column on home issues ranging from repairs and maintenance to building and remodeling projects. He is a Plymouth resident. Send any questions or comments to Jachym at askdad@comcast.net or in care of Mary Kleimic, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009

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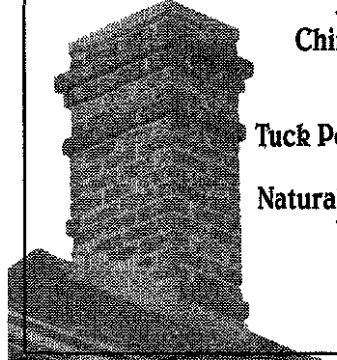
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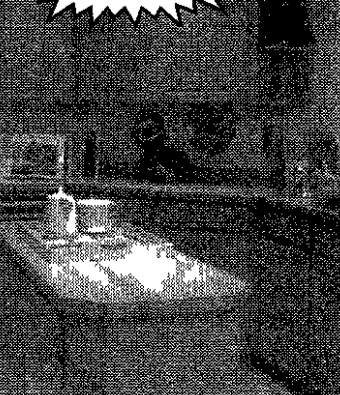
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Fashion ... Don't leave home without it

By Anna Foard Whidden

You're about to go on a 10-day trip to Paris. On your itinerary are visits to the city's historical museums, gorgeous cathedrals and finest restaurants, not to mention the fabulous — and requisite — shopping this stylish metropolis has to offer.

But what to wear while you're in the fashion capital of the world? You're a classy gal, even on vacations. How do you pack for a day of sightseeing and an evening at the opera, without dragging three bags on to the plane?

Can you dress comfortably without looking like a frumpy tourist? Can travel and fashion really go hand-in-hand?

Absolutely, according to some travel and fashion authorities. With a few tips from the pros, you can look chic with just the clothes in your carry-on.

SHOP FOR TRAVEL

Whether you travel for business or pleasure, look for clothes that pack well whenever you go shopping.

"Knit things work really, really well," said Lexa Leatherdale, public relations manager of Neiman Marcus in Troy. Cashmere and wool are winners, too, she adds, as are some cotton blends (such as with spandex).

Neiman Marcus carries the St. John line of tweed suits and other apparel, which work "particularly well with business women," Leatherdale said. "They can step off the plane, go to their meeting and then attend a cocktail party."

Every clothing line has some pieces that

HOW TO TRAVEL WITH ONE BAG
Who: Lynn Portnoy boutique owner and author of *Going Like Lynn* travel books will give her signature presentation on stylish packing.
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as Sangam, a fabulous and affordable line of tweed coordinates from India, available in a variety of neutral colors that are interchangeable.

For those who like to shop via catalog or the Internet, check out the TravelSmith Outfitting Guide and Catalog. The company carries separates that pack easily, stay wrinkle free on long plane rides and work well in a variety of climates, such as a stylish raincoat that fits in a pouch. Order well in advance of any trip, as many of the company's popular items have to be backordered.

COORDINATE PIECES

Women should buy clothes that go with whatever is already in their closets, building on an existing wardrobe so pieces can be mixed and matched to create new outfits, Portnoy said. This strategy works well when packing for your trip, too.

"I want every top to go with every bottom," said Portnoy, who recommends taking (including what you wear on your way to your destination) four neutral skirts and/or pants, two neutral jackets that go with the bottoms, and seven tops for a weeklong trip.

You can incorporate bright colors into your outfits with your tops and accessories, she said.

"It's really wise to pick a color theme, so all the pieces coordinate with one another," Leatherdale added.

Whether it is a weekend getaway to the Big Apple or a 10-day trip to the Mediterranean, with a little know-how and wardrobe planning you'll be traveling light and in style on your next trip.

By Nicole Forester



Livonia native Nicole Forester recently took over the role of Cassie Winslow on *Guiding Light*. Over the years, Cassie has gone from stripper to hotel heiress — with a miscarriage, stillbirth adoption and two children from two different men along the way. The character helped her sister fight murder charges, and almost died in a fire. Nicole's real life might not be quite as much of a soap opera, but it's glamorous nonetheless. This week, the actress shares her picks with PINK.

- Hand knit berets
- Women Who Run With the Wolves by Clarissa Pinkola Estes
- Orla Kiely bags
- Rosie Thomas (fellow CAPA alum!)
- Christian Louboutin heels
- Ronnefeldt Herrentoffee Tea from Germany
- Sonya Dakar Bergamot Wash
- Organic produce
- Jean de Florette & Manon of the Spring
- Recycling facilities
- Guiding Light*, of course!
- NYC in the spring

checklist

Women's clothing and travel author Lynn Portnoy frequently takes trips to Europe with only a carry-on. Here, she shares what to pack in order to fit a trip's worth of clothing in one bag.

• Old, oversized T-shirts for sleeping that you can leave behind to make room for purchases.

• A quality, lightweight raincoat that can double as a bathrobe.

• A fabric purse for evenings out that can be packed flat in a carry-on, and a cloth coin purse.

Faux jewelry, so there's no worry if it's lost or stolen.

• Three pairs of shoes, no matter how short your trip is — two pairs for walking and one dressy pair for evenings. Wear the heaviest one to and from your destination. If your feet hurt, your trip is done.

It is a good idea to pack a mending kit, with thread and buttons to match your clothes.

If you are checking luggage, pack a change of clothes in your carry-on so you'll have something to wear if your suitcase is lost.



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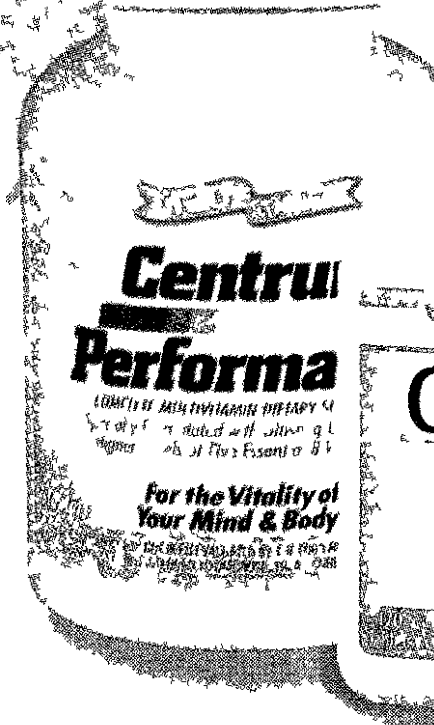
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PURE ENTERTAINMENT!

Thursday, April 20, 2006

TOTOP



Rockin' teens

Garage band spotlight burns bright on the Web — page 4

History of Photography — Page 3

Coney Island — Page 8

REVIEW

The Flaming Lips are weird. They've always been weird and if their latest album, *At War With the Mystics*, is any indication, they'll continue to be weird long into the future. Thank goodness I have soft spot in my heart for all things weird.

I first heard The Flaming Lips when I was 14. They had fluorescent colored hair and sang about some girl eating Vaseline. Much to my parents' dismay, the oddballness of the Oklahoma trio caught my attention and, some 11 years later, I'm still listening to them, just now with slightly grayer hair and singing about some girl battling robots.

Now that you've got the idea of this group as weirdo musicians, you won't be surprised that their 11th album is the perfect soundtrack to an afternoon spent riding Space Mountain at Disney World. *At War With the Mystics* is a spacey, yet incredibly catchy futuristic romp through space. By way of Oklahoma City, of course.

The Yeah Yeah Yeah Song opens the album and is filled with weird noises, lots of "yeahs" and lyrics that are actually much more thought-provoking and reflective of today's current events than one might think a sci-fi



record could produce. If you could blow up the world with the flick of a switch/Would you do it? Lyrics like that, which the band has been crafting for years, are one of the many reasons why I like The Flaming Lips so much.

Later in the album, *It Overtakes Me/The Stars Are So Big I Am So Small Do I Stand a Chance?* is reminiscent of the opening track and makes it an instant winner for favorite songs, with its blown-out amps, deep background vocals and hand claps.

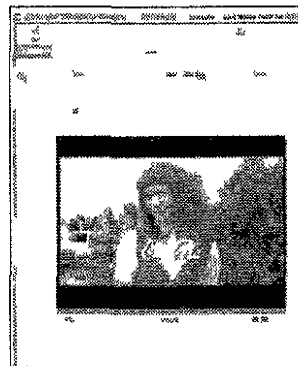
Lead singer Wayne Coyne's voice hits high levels on *Free Radicals* as he sings about a poor man's Donald Trump and then comes back down to earth on the slower paced, darker *The Sound of Failure/It's Dark Is It Always This Dark??* The record has an equal mix of happy/poppy songs and slower/sadder tracks.

A Flaming Lips record wouldn't be complete without some instrumentals. *The Wizard Turns On (The Giant Silver Flashlight And Puts On His Werewolf Moccasins)* is an odd, yet extremely jazzy, mix of space rock and slow jams that might be found on your favorite Alan Almond *Pillow Talk*. The instrumental's title itself tells a story just like many of the Lips' long worded song names do.

The Flaming Lips experience just isn't complete until you've seen them live. Trust me. While there are no tour dates quite yet for this area, keep checking www.flaminglips.com for updates and links to fan Web sites that feature cocktails based on the band.

TV

Jack Whites attempt to change the world by way of soft drinks (he's actually penned a television jungle for Coca-Cola) is now floating around the Internet. Check it out at www.youtube.com and cast your vote for now Mr. White as Humanitarian of the Year.



SHOWS

■ The Avatars, with Bang Bang and The Dollfaces, Saturday, April 22, at the Lager House (1254 Michigan Ave., Detroit). Visit www.lagerhousedetroit.com for more details.

ONLINE

Have I mentioned how much I enjoy National Public Radio's online concert archive?

NPR certainly seems to have a thing for indie, non-mainstream bands when it comes to live performances. Current concert choices include selections from Yeah Yeah Yeahs, The White Stripes, Neko Case and Martha Wainwright, Clap Your Hands Say Yeah, Calexico, Black Rebel Motorcycle Club and The Decemberists' lead singer Colin Meloy. Phew.

The concerts are broadcast live and then saved to the site's archive. All concerts are free to listen to and free to download.

In addition to the free concerts, the "Song of the Day" Web page is also fun to look at. NPR critics pipe in on their favorite tracks from a variety of artists and you get a chance to listen to the track itself. Not too bad.

And if that isn't enough, the folks at NPR are so nice they even list the songs they play in between stories and segments during radio broadcasts, called "music interludes," as well.

Take a listen to all this at www.npr.org.

Alicia Dorset likes a good weird song. Send her your favorites at adorset@hometownlife.com.



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 Sonata No. 2 in A Major, Op. 100
 Sonata No. 3 in d minor, Op. 108

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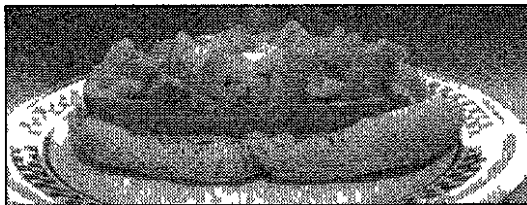


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Got no plans? Make some after you check out our expanded entertainment calendar of events

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Eat, dance and get a few chuckles at a new comedy club in Southfield

Hot
Ticket

Double take

Exhibit revisits the history of photography

BY NICOLE STAFFORD
STAFF WRITER

Digital technology marks a turning point in the history of photography, and has had a tremendous impact on the art form

Such a revolution in photography has prompted the University of Michigan Museum of Art to undertake a historic survey of the art form

Rethinking the Photographic Image: The Best of Photography from the George Eastman House Collection opens April 22 and continues through June 25 at the museum, located on the university's campus in Ann Arbor

"This is a great time to take another look historically at photography," said James Steward, UMMA director and manager of the exhibit project

Rethinking was curated collaboratively by UMMA and New York's George Eastman House, home to one of the most comprehensive collections of photography and film

The museum's annual Sloan Memorial Lecture coincides with the exhibit, Sandra Phillips, senior curator of photography at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, is slated to speak about key moments in photography history at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 7, at the museum

But UMMA's take on the more than 100-year-old art form won't merely trace stages in technology, technique and aesthetic

"We are challenging broadly held perceptions about photography, in particular that it is more truthful than other art forms. There's a sense that (photographers) are documenting something that is absolutely true. They are conveying a truth, but, sometimes, it is an emotional truth and not a demonstrable truth," Steward said, adding, "We know better now."

Steward's point is: In light of the digital age, it's clear to everybody now how much photographic images can be manipulated by an artist. "And, what we're really showing is that has always been true."

In other words, *Rethinking* aims to survey and take a second look at photography with a revisionist sensibility

Notable works include Matthew Brady's portrait of Abraham Lincoln and iconic pieces by such photographers as Ansel Adams, Alfred Stieglitz, Margaret Bourke-White, Manuel Alvarez-Bravo and Lewis Hine

Divided into four sections, *Rethinking* tracks cultural and stylistic transitions in the art form, including the journalistic and activist imagery created by photographers in the 1950s, '60s and '70s

Likewise, the exhibit showcases works representing the difficult origins of photography up to the present day. In fact, about 50 of the 250 images showcased are contemporary

"What's interesting is that there's been a recent embrace of those early, very difficult techniques," Steward said of more recent photography, adding such a trend might be a backlash against digital technology

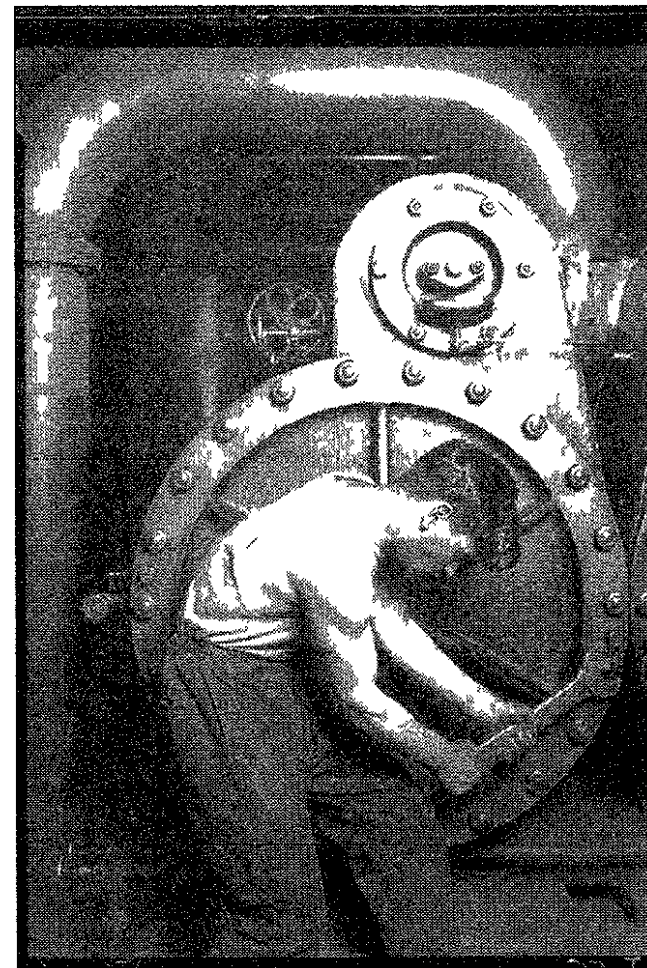


PHOTO COURTESY OF GEORGE EASTMAN HOUSE

Among the photographs on exhibit is Lewis Wickes Hine's 'Power House Mechanic 1920'

FRESH LOOK

What: *Rethinking the Photographic Image: The Best of Photography from the George Eastman House Collection*

When: Opens April 22 and continues through June 25
Regular museum hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday
Wednesday, Friday and

Saturday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Thursday and noon to 5 p.m.
Sunday

Where: University of Michigan Museum of Art, 525 S. State University of Michigan campus, Ann Arbor

Tickets: Admission is free; suggested donation is \$5 for additional information, call (734) 763-UMMA or visit www.umma.umich.edu

"There's a reclaiming of these antiquarian techniques because, I think, it's hard. The hand of the artist is so important. It's also kind of a re-experimentation," he said. "It's interesting to see things in flux."

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After the Fall, Common Misconception, The Loose Cannons and Hedora are among the bands enjoyed by local teens

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Help us talk 'American Idol'

Who do you think is the next American Idol? Then again, your favorite singer might not be your favorite to win. Or, maybe you just haven't made up your mind. Well, given the outrageous popularity of this FOX television series, we're wondering what you're thinking. Which contestants do you like? Is there a contestant you dislike? Why? What about the judges? Do you love to hate Simon or hate to love Paula?

We'd also love to hear how and where you watch

American Idol. Do you gather with friends and watch as a group, for instance? Do you have to TiVo or tape the show, but do so religiously?

We'd love to talk to you about *American Idol* for an upcoming story in *Filter*. Send your thoughts, comments and competition analysis to nstaffor@hometownlife.com or *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*, 805 East Maple, Birmingham, MI, 48067

TEEN BANDS THAT ROCK

THEY TAP ALL GENRES, JAMMIN' FOR FUN

BY LANA MINI
STAFF WRITER

Welcome to *Teen Bands that Rock*, a series you'll find regularly here in *Filter*

We asked local, young bands to share their music with you, the readers

They did. We listened and we like them

From Christian rock to screamo to blues and alternative styles, there's deep talent in metro Detroit. It's all around us, we just need to open our ears to it

You hear local music easily online at places like www.purevolume.com and www.myspace.com

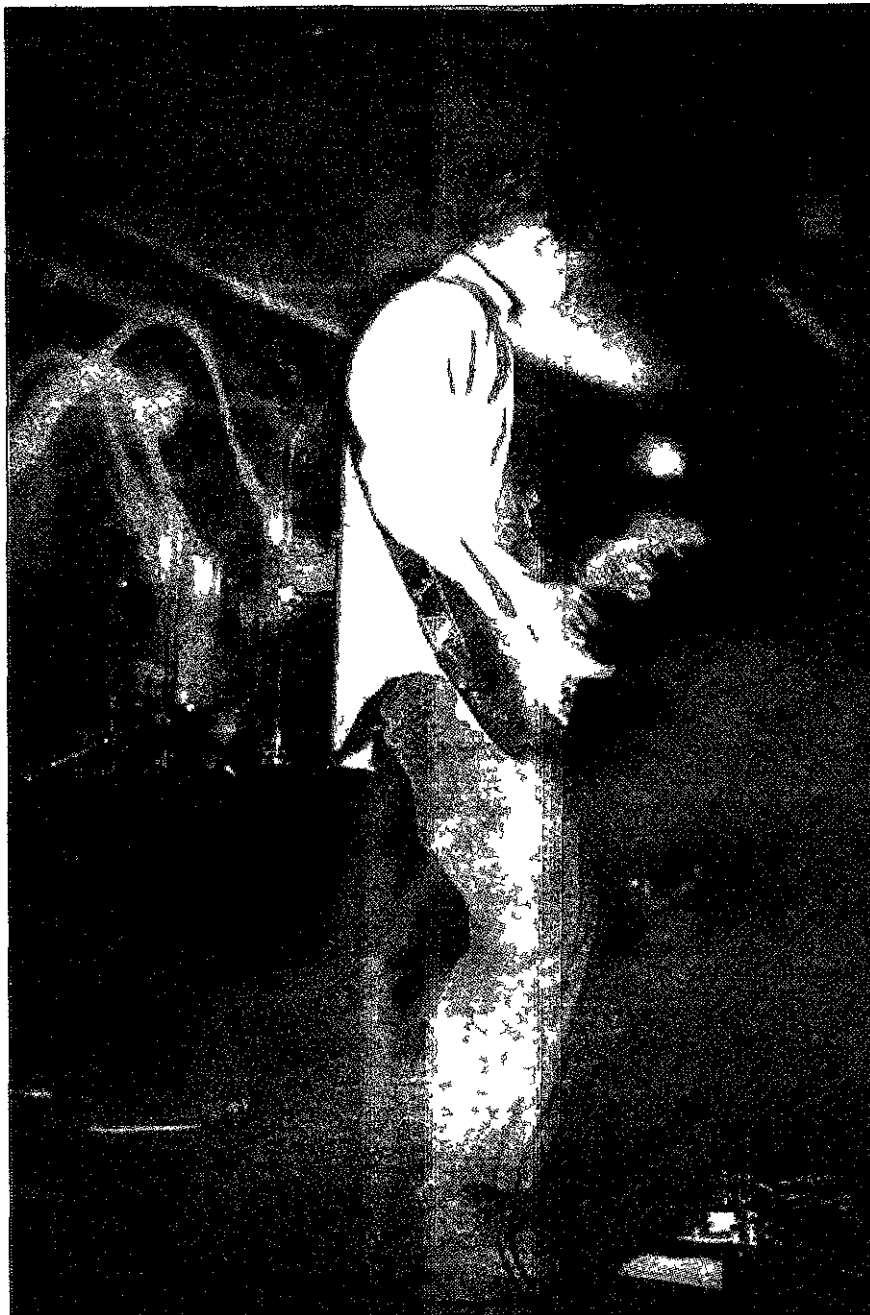
Young music is pure. Sure, most bands do fade away, a lucky one might actually hit it big and others will ride the nightclub circuit for years. Whatever the future holds for these bands, right now they create music because they love the sound and love to play. It's not for money and not to satisfy executives at a record label.

HEDORAH

Listen on MySpace to the band Hedorah, a primarily instrumental indie rock band that infuses reggae, and sometimes even Mexican, for a perfect representation of purity in music

Hedorah, primarily of Canton, obviously loves to jam. The band's members are skilled and play live often, trailing off into interesting improvisational sets, letting the music guide their fingers

Amazingly, they've been together just one month. "It is very hard for us to define our musical genre. We really play so many different types and styles we don't even know," Even McGuire, vocalist and guitarist, said "We try to be as creative as possible because that is what music is all about, being creative with it and creating something new, unique. We basically play whatever we



Hedorah



After the Fall

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OF



The Panic Parade

hop, and Hilary Duff's debut release. The first CD will be released this spring.

THE PANIC PARADE

As the name indicates, The Panic Parade is a wild, alternative rock-screamo band.

Panic Parade, of Bloomfield Hills, is Matt McDaniel, vocalist, Craig Blossom, guitarist, Tom Bustance, guitarist, William Boor, Trustfall Rocks keyboardist and

Nino Cutraro on drums. "We are the band formally known as Away For A Day," writes the band. "We just hit the recording studio and everything there was amazing."

The music sample on its MySpace page is energetic, fast and upbeat with intense lyrics. And, the band receives a large number of comments and feedback from fans on MySpace.



Trustfall Rocks

Trustfall Rocks say they are influenced by anyone and anything that spiritually moves them.

Bands that inspire them are other Christian bands like Under Oath and Haste the Day. The music is spiritual. The sound is hard.

"We are a Christian hardcore rock group who are looking to spread a positive message and help kids have a stronger faith through our music," according to the band.

See Trustfall Rocks live at 7 p.m. on Friday, May 12, at Faith Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile Road, Livonia. Admission is a donation.

TEENS

FROM PAGE E4

think sounds cool and every time we jam it is different."

Hedorah is MgGuire, his younger brother Ross, of Plymouth, and guitarist Scott Moelich, drummer/percussionist Robert Moelich, pianist/keyboard player Sean Ghnski and guitarist Colin McGorey, all of Canton.

The musicians came together just to see what would happen. Ross MgGuire never played bass until recently, while on the other end, Ghnski has classical training on piano.

The name, the band says, "Hails from the outer regions of space. From the dark gas nebula in the Orion Constellation, a microscopic alien life form attached itself to the passing comet. This hunk of rock would eventually bypass Earth, and bring to the planet a new monster. However, the creature's arrival did not go unnoticed."

"Hedorah is a Japanese smog monster from Godzilla who came from deep within space and can even turn into a flying 'comet'

form." With that, check out Hedorah

AFTER THE FALL

This band from Plymouth labels itself on Myspace.com as a Nebraska-based band. These guys are in their 20s but we're including them here because of the response we received from teenagers who attended a Battle of the Bands contest hosted by The Escape, Plymouth Salem High School's radio station, recently.

At the contest, After the Fall rocked the house.

Teens know music and typically have their ear to the ground well before adults.

"We consider ourselves based out of Omaha, because that's where we practice and it's a middle point for all of us," according to the band.

After the Fall, although not limited to genres, falls under the hard rock category. They are Casey Mintken, JD Larsen, Justin Eatherton, Justin Inget and Tony Hemann.

After the Fall was formed with their current lineup in 2005. The band's influences range from hard rock, emo, hip-

TRUSTFALL ROCKS

This hardcore Christian rock band from Livonia has a simple yet powerful motto: "standing strong."

The band performs in churches throughout the area. Its Web site is www.geocities.com/trustfallrock.

PLEASE SEE TEENS, E6

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IT'S ABOUT MUSIC

We here at *Filter* spent hours deep in "MySpace Land" in search of unsigned, teenage bands that are waiting to be discovered, whose music can be heard online. We listened to them, and then can see them perform. You can, too.

Check back to *Filter* regularly for our "Teens Who Rock" series. Check out the profiles of these rocking bands:

- Common Misconception, of Canton
myspace.com/commonmisconception
- Hedorah, of Canton
myspace.com/hedorah
- Loose Cannons, of Farmington
myspace.com/theloosecannonsmich
- Look Out Gabe, of Rochester Hills
myspace.com/lookoutgabe
- Deadbeat, of West Bloomfield, myspace.com/deadbeat
- The Panic Parade, Bloomfield Hills,
myspace.com/thepanicparade
- Trustfall Rocks, Livonia
myspace.com/trustfallrocks
- Elevators Escalators, Canton
myspace.com/elevatorsescalators
- After The Fall, Plymouth
myspace.com/afterthefall



Common Misconception

TEENS

FROM PAGE E5

COMMON MISCONCEPTION

The band credits Detroit as its hometown and play pop punk.

These guys from Canton are playing at 6 p.m. Friday, May 19, at Four Seasons Internet, 3500 N. Lilley Road, Canton, (734) 981-6065.

Common Misconception began in 1999. The band said they were a "horrible two-piece punk band."

But not today. The band rocks.

They are Caleb Christner, drums and vocals, Trevor Smith, lead vocalist, Adam Mandarino, guitar, and Art Atrada, bass and "random yelling."

LOOK OUT GABE

Pop punk rock Christian rockers from Rochester Hills.

The band is Arejay Helguera, vocals and guitar, Jonny Nabors, bass, Gabe Helguera, drums, Clay Carnill, guitars and vocals and



The Loose Cannons

Jordan McMillion, keys, programming and vocals.

Look Out Gabe blends "smiles, clouds, ultra sounds, windscreens, laughter and unforgettable moments. Smooth," the band writes.

The music is upbeat, positive and fun.

THE LOOSE CANNONS

The alternative/blues fused band from Farmington has a rock motto: "Kick out the jams!"

They describe themselves as Led Zeppelin meets The White Stripes (blues and rock combo). It's a band worth hearing.

The Loose Cannons consists of two people influenced of course by Jack and Meg White but also Cream and Stevie Ray Vaughan.

DEADBEAT

This classic rock jam band from West Bloomfield has influences that go deeper than Green Day and Nirvana. DeadBeat realizes that music didn't start in the '80s.

Influenced by classic rock sounds of bands like Led Zeppelin and The Who, DeadBeat, the band explains, writes its own music.

DeadBeat has been together for just over a year. They are Eric Busch, Dan Iwrey, Alex Levine, Steve Kanter and Adam Janower.

ELEVATORS ESCALATORS

Members of this alternative indie rock band from Canton are thinkers, dreamers and achievers.

Its motto is "something big is gonna happen."



Elevators Escalators

Influenced by Coldplay and Radiohead, Elevators Escalators write intelligent songs with heart.

The band's sound, they say, is like "being chased through the woods."

Does that grab your attention?

Elevators Escalators is Nicholas Beaudoin, Zachary Pew, Dan Ikegami and Christopher Lang.

They have scores of fans on MySpace and are playing a Battle of the Bands round at 7 p.m. on Saturday, May 13, at St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit.

Expect to hear more from these guys as they have mainstream appeal and think and play big.

Come back to *Filter* soon for more young band profiles.

Triple threat

Wayne State's theatrical venues close the season on light note

BY NICOLE STAFFORD
STAFF WRITER

As always, Wayne State University's undergraduate and graduate theater students have had a busy performance season

Now, all three of the school's theater venues are finishing up, if not in humorous fashion, then on a light note

The season is closing "in a light fun way," said Blair Anderson, chair of the university's theater department

The ever popular musical and absurdly funny story of love between a man and a plant, *Little Shop of Horrors*, opens Saturday and continues through April 30 at the Bonstelle Theatre. *Proof*, a family drama of four characters opens tonight and runs through April 22 at Studio Theatre. And, *The Inspector General*, a Russian comedy, continues through May 13 at the Hilberry Theatre, the university's graduate professional theater venue

Although Russian writers don't strike us as particularly comedic, *The Inspector General* takes up a theme that's universally humorous and engaging, that "of paranoia about the government looking over our shoulder," said Anderson

"We've had a very good season," Anderson added. Productions have been very well received, and the audiences have been very supportive.

Of course, next year's theater season is practically underway. The Hilberry Theatre's 2006-2007 program includes Noel Coward's *Private Lives*, *Amadeus*, *The Elephant Man*, Brian Friel's *Translations* and William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*

"We tend to alternate years between

doing two Shakespeare works and then one Shakespeare work. And, this year, we are doing just one," said Anderson. "But we're doing a number of what I would call contemporary classics."

Sales of season subscriptions, which are now available, are already ahead of last year's

TRIPLE THEATER

What: Three stage productions run at Wayne State University. *Proof* at Studio Theatre, *Little Shop of Horrors* at the Bonstelle Theatre and *The Inspector General* at the Hilberry Theatre

When: *Spoof* April 20-22. *Little Shop* opens April 21 and runs through April 30. *Inspector* continues through May 13

Where: Wayne State University campus, Detroit

Tickets: Range \$8-\$28. Call (313) 577-2972 or visit www.theatre.wayne.edu

The theater has about 3,500 subscribers

"We have a very strong subscription base," he said

"And, we typically have about a 92- or 93-percent renewal rate. The people who do subscribe really do recognize the quality and the value."

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On Stage



PHOTO BY SARAH CLARE MEYER | COURTESY OF WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

Laura Downes portrays Audrey in the musical 'Little Shop of Horrors' playing at the Bonstelle Theatre on the Wayne State University campus in Detroit

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What's a Coney Island?

A lot more than a hot dog



LAWRENCE MCKEE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

This Chicago Style Hot Dog at Athens is 100 percent all beef natural casing frank with yellow mustard, sweet pickle relish, chopped onions, fresh tomato, pickle spear, peppers and a dash of celery salt on a poppyseed bun

BY ELEANOR HEALD
CORRESPONDENT

Call Manhattan, San Francisco, Chicago and Las Vegas restaurant meccas. That's where celebrity chefs are god-like and reservations must be made 60 days in advance. On this basis, the culinary elite may look down on metro Detroit because we call Coney Islands our regional eats.

WHAT'S A CONEY ISLAND?

A chili dog by any other name is a coney island and a Coney Island is the joint that serves them.

There are a number of prevailing stories about the origin. According to my research, the first coney joint was American Coney Island on West Lafayette in downtown Detroit, founded by Constantine "Gus" Keros in 1917. Keros claimed that he bought a similar chili dog at New York's Coney Island amusement park.

Most probably, that was Nathan's Famous original hot dog stand, opened on Coney Island in 1916. Yikes! Does our famous coney really have East Coast origins?

Not exactly. George Todoroff founded the Jackson Coney Island restaurant in 1914 in Jackson, Mich. He created his now-famous recipe for Coney Island chili, and our

Table Hopping

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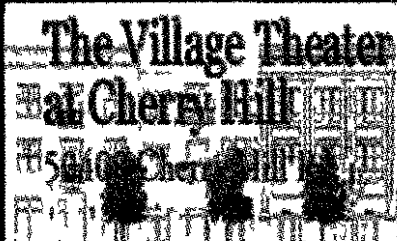
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l Coney Island hot dog was born y, the largest chain is operated by al Coney Island, in business since id headquartered in Roseville

IONS ON A THEME

the owner of the first Coney spot trademark the name, began using both it and mula, which — accord Pete Mitchell, owner s brother Mark, of Coney Island in Royal s all meat, pork and th casing hot dog, no-nih, diced onion and yel- istard, referred to as th everything or “one

variation on the same there's the “loose” which substitutes l beef for a hot dog A e side for a regular coney or a “loose,” is fries er them with chili and call them chili

ough Coney Island eateries have ped a distinct style, depending on the s, most of whom are Greek, one can reakfast day or night Some sell beer, ost don't A coney joint is not a place er Prices are moderate and folks who rem want to turn tables quickly

'S ON A CONEY

athens Coney Island, you can order onal Coneys with the tastiest chili

“spiked with a proprietary blend of spices (a recipe that has not changed since 1982) But the Greek-American Mitchell brothers, with all four grandparents born on the island of Samos, have created a new menu at Athens with some interesting coney twists

The Swanky Frankie is redux 1950s where

the Athens hot dog is twisted with thick, hickory smoked bacon and covered with melt ed American cheese New York Style is a 100-percent all beef natural casing frank with kraut and yellow mustard — Manhattan street food all the way Las Vegas Style is also a 100-percent all-beef natural casing frank with lettuce, tomato, mayo and ketchup — an FLT!

Chicago Style dresses up the beef frank in yellow mustard, sweet pickle relish, chopped onions, fresh toma- to, pickle spear, peppers and a

dash of celery salt on a poppy seed bun You can order a Polish sausage Chicago Style or enjoy it with grilled onions and green pep- pers The new Athens Coney Island menu, served in a diner atmosphere, is a local insti- tution paying homage to our regional coney and taking it to updated taste treats

Eleanor Heald is a nationally published writer and Troy resident who writes about restaurants food wine and spirits for the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* Contact her by e mail at focusonwine@aol.com

ATHENS CONEY ISLAND

32657 Woodward Ave Royal Oak (248) 549 1488

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- No alcohol served
- Smoke free

You won't fret over this Senate bill

If you don't happen to live near

Royal Oak and can't eat at Athens, the four Senate Coney Island and Restaurant locations offer a closer alternative for Wayne County resi- dents

And the restaurants

serve a pretty good coney, too, slathered with chili, mustard and onions It truly is comfort food for lunch

George Dimopoulos now has four locations, in Livonia, Taylor, Dearborn, and the Northville location on Haggerty just north of Five Mile Road

The Northville location now has been open 18 months There's no smok- ing allowed Business went up 20 per- cent when I made the restaurant non- smoking," Dimopoulos said

That location has the traditional coneys, sandwiches and Greek and

other salads like the other Senate loca- tions, but also features an expanded menu including three or four different kinds of fish, a few more pasta dishes, prime rib and New York strip steaks It's also the only Senate with a liquor license


"We like to serve grouper, walleye, lake perch and salmon as specials," Dimopoulos said Entrees run between \$7-14 and a dinner for four can run about \$25-\$30, reasonable prices for today's economy A kid's menu is also available

Dimopoulos also caters graduation and wedding parties there "We have a lot of parties coming in, with about 3,000 people through the end of June," Dimopoulos said "The view here is beautiful," he added, pointing to the golf course outside

The Senate Coney Island & Restaurant is located at 39430 Dun Rovin Drive (along Haggerty north of Five Mile Road Northville (734) 927 11260 Other locations are 34359 Plymouth, Livonia (734) 422 5075; 22375 Ecorse Road Taylor (313) 292 1861 and 3345 Greenfield Dearborn (313) 441 1027



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Wicked

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Wild spoof of dating and relationships in 21st Century coming May 16 to Meadow Brook Theatre \$26 \$36 (248) 377-3300 or visit www.mbttheatre.com

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Tickets on sale at the Palace for 7:30 p.m. Monday May 22 show Available at Palacenet.com The Palace Box Office and all Ticketmaster locations (248) 645-6666

Royal Oak Music Theatre

318 W Fourth Street Royal Oak (248) 399-2980 www.royaloakmusictheatre.com

On sale now Thomas Dolby performing Saturday May 13 Yngwie Malmsteen performing Tuesday May 16 Mamapalooza featuring Kathy Valentine of the Go-Gos The Candyband and the Mydolls on Friday May 5

and Alkaline Trio on Sunday April 23

Kid Rock

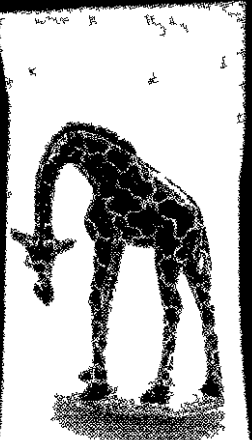
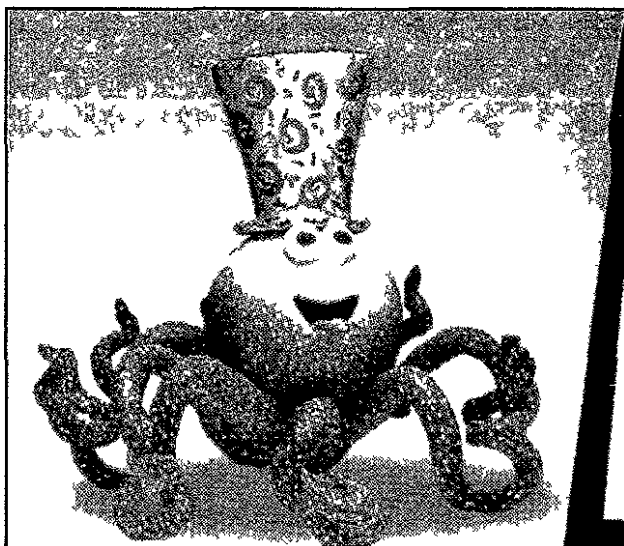
8 p.m. Friday May 12 \$39 reserved plus facility fees Available at Palacenet.com The Palace Box Office and all Ticketmaster locations (248) 645-6666

Dave Matthews Band

With G Love and Special Sauce 7 p.m. Tuesday June 6 at DTE Energy Music Theatre \$39.50 \$59.50 available at Palacenet.com The Palace Box Office and all Ticketmaster locations (248) 645-6666

Zappa Plays Zappa

Dweezil Zappa with Steve Vai Terry Bozzio Napoleon Murphy Brock and others 8 p.m. Thursday June 15 Meadow Brook Music Festival \$20 \$45 available at Palacenet.com The Palace Box Office and all Ticketmaster locations (248) 645-6666



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Laugh, dance, dine

New comedy club makes entertainment a one-stop shop

BY NICOLE STAFFORD
STAFF WRITER

A few laughs, a few cocktails, then dinner followed by dancing

The opening of JD's House of Comedy inside the Star Theatre complex has transformed the Southfield venue into all-inclusive entertainment zone

Hey, entertainment seekers can even double-up and catch a tear-jerker flick before heading to the comedy show

"We anticipate people coming out and making a night of it," said Dan Linnen, co-owner of JD's and the adjacent restaurant, Hoop City Grille. Linnen also co-owns the Second City and Andiamo, which are similarly housed inside one entertainment complex in Novi

We could see the synergy of the comedy theater and the restaurant, so we decided to open a stand-up venue, said Linnen of West Bloomfield

JD's House of Comedy will feature national and regional stand up talents every Thursday-Saturday with an Apollo amateur night showcasing local comedians and performers every Wednesday

The venue, which opened April 6, offers a full bar and appetizer menu. Since the club is adjacent to the Hoop City Grille, visitors can enjoy dinner before or after the show

Likewise, there's late night live music and dancing

Physically, the club is a traditional black box theater - an atmosphere that makes for an upscale style of comedy-watching

"We're taking a more theatrical approach to the comedy club," said Linnen

The seating is stepped up but includes cabaret tables of two and four for greater intimacy. VIP booth seating also is available

"It's a cool atmosphere and a very unique atmosphere," said Linnen

Each show includes an opening act and headliner with the possibility of surprise guest performers. Emphasis will be placed on showcasing African-American stand-up comedians

"We really feel this is our niche," Linnen said. "There is such a wealth of talent out there that we really want to tap into"

Upcoming headliners include Joe Blount (April 20-22), Earthquake (April 27-29), Leon Rogers (May 4-5), TK Kirkland (May 12-13), Ronnie Jordan (May 18-20) and Downtown Tony Brown (May 25-27)

Amateur nights will feature approximately 15 local performers

"But it will be more like the Apollo, so not necessarily only comedians," Linnen said. "It could be a singer. It could be a poet. It could be a singing comedian"

Hey, if we're lucky, maybe even a dancing comedian

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NEW LAUGHS

What: JD's House of Comedy a new comedy club

When: Stand up performances are 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday with Apollo amateur nights at 8 p.m. Wednesday

Where: 25333 W 12 Mile in the Star Theatre complex adjacent to the Hoop City Grille restaurant in Southfield

Tickets: Wednesday-Thursday \$10 and Friday-Saturday \$15 with some special ticket prices. To reserve tickets, obtain more information or register for amateur night, call (248) 348-2420. Tickets also are available at www.ticketmaster.com

'Page' feels detached

The Notorious Bettie Page

For a movie about the pinup wonder of an era, this film biography is surprisingly tame, an exuberant performance from Gretchen Mol in the title role going to waste in an uninvolved account

Considering the air of menace, decadence and deviance underlying director Mary Harron's *I Shot Andy Warhol* and *American Psycho*, her take on bondage queen Bettie comes off as inconsequential. Harron tosses in a few technical tricks, mainly a couple of clever mon-

tages, that briefly enliven the film

But the characters and story feel oddly detached. Bettie's good Christian values and naughty S&M persona are juxtaposed in detail, yet presented with a skin-deep dramatic sensibility that offers little insight into the woman or how she really felt about the strange dichotomy of her life. With Lili Taylor and Jared Harris. R for nudity, sexual content and some language. 91 min. Two stars out of four

-David Germain, AP Movie Writer

A new comedy from the director of
ABOUT A BOY, IN GOOD COMPANY and AMERICAN PIE

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Jazz show represents 86 years of history and reunion

The New Windsor Detroit Jazz Club is hosting what the club director, and jazz aficionado, Bill Knowles calls its most important show in its history

The reunion concert of the New McKinney's Cotton Pickers begins at 12:30 p.m. Sunday, April 23, at the Clawson Troy Elks Club, 1451 E. Big Beaver Road

This band began performing in the 1920s, then split up during the Great Depression. In the 1970s, the band members regrouped and even played Carnegie Hall

From 1920-1933 the original McKinney Cotton Pickers performed at packed houses such as the old Graystone and Arcadia ballrooms in Detroit

The band split up when America's economy nosedived. In the 1970s, it resurged with all Detroit-based musicians and renamed itself the New McKinney Cotton Pickers

That group was a house band at the Top of the Pouch in Detroit. Eventually, those members split up, too

This is the first reunion show since Performing are the surviving New McKinney musicians who now live throughout the United States. They'll return to the area for the one-time show

They are

- The saxophone section: Dave Hutson, George Benson, Dave Flamigan and Ernie Rodgers

- The horn section: Paul Klunger, Tom Saunders, John Trudell and Al Winters

- Piano: Bill Meyer
- Bass: Paul Keller
- Banjo: Orrin Foshen
- Drums: Pete Siers

The band originally formed in Springfield, Ohio. Business was booming back then in the Midwest and the musicians were thriving during this growing jazz era, Knowles said

Tickets are \$22. There is a cash bar and light refreshments in this non-smoking establishment. Rare CDs from the 1970s orchestra will be available. Call (248) 478-0172

Lana Mini



'Scary' has nowhere to go

Scary Movie 4

The makers of *Airplane!* have reconnected here, but they've created a sequel that never truly takes flight. Then again, director David Zucker and writer Jim Abrahams didn't really have anywhere to go

As in the first three installments of this insanely successful franchise, the formula remains the same: Make fun of a bunch of movies (whether they're scary or not is irrelevant). Throw in

some pop culture references, a couple of political jabs and a few rappers, just because they appeal to the films' young target audience (This time you get Chungy, Fabolous and Lil Jon!) Finally, sprinkle liberally with gross bodily noises and fluids, mix it up, throw it at the wall in one steaming, gloppy wad and see what sticks. Very little, as you might expect. *Saw*, *The Grudge*, *War of the Worlds* and *Brokeback Mountain* are among the easy targets. PG-13 for crude and sexual humor throughout, some comic violence and language. One and a half stars out of four

Christy Lemire AP Movie Critic

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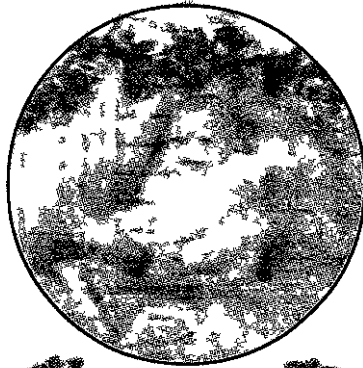
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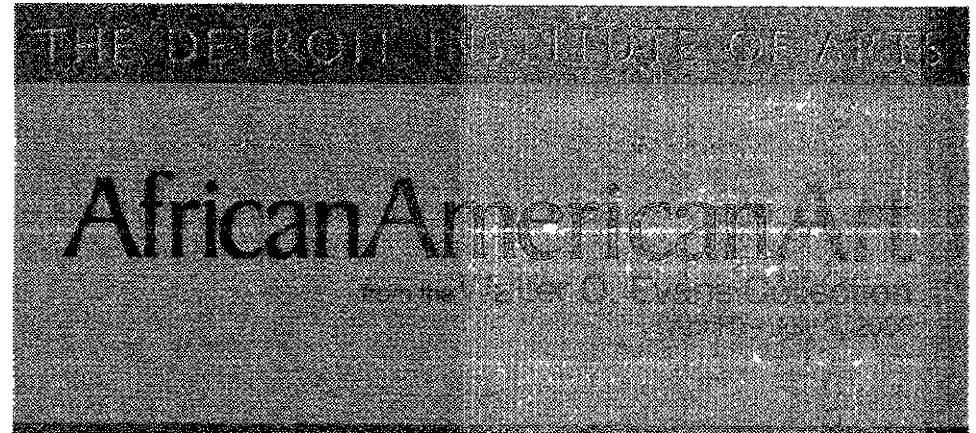


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