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Longtime auto dealership finds success on Sheldon Road LOCAL NEWS - PAGE A3

SUNDAY July 30, 2006

Observer

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PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mike Meesig of Architectural Salvage Warehouse of Detroit takes the nails out of the maple flooring that is being salvaged from the Masonic Temple before it is demolished.

Crews save what they can from **Masonic Temple**

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

The Masonic Temple in downtown Plymouth, a fixture across from Kellogg Park since 1924, faces a date with the wrecking ball in a few weeks. In its place on Penniman Avenue will be a \$2 million multistory structure that will house a restaurant, offices and condominiums.

However, before the 82-year-old building is razed and sent to a landfill somewhere, some of the 21/2 story build-

The universal language of music

Blue Fish owner repairs instruments for African mission

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

When Paul Murphy, owner of Blue Fish Music on Starkweather in Plymouth, was approached by a group from Ward

Presbyterian Church in Northville Township to repair nearly two dozen instruments to be taken on a mission to Africa, his past experience as the son of missionary parents struck a chord. Murphy spent 17 years growing up in

the Netherlands while his dad, a preacher, spread the word of God. So, it didn't take much convincing to get Murphy to take on the project.

Giving and sharing, those concepts were pretty strongly instilled by my parents," said Murphy, 45. "It just seems that with all our blessings, it's the least I could do. Besides, it's not that big a deal for me."

PLEASE SEE MUSIC, A5

Brothers wouldn't compromise in bad times

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

Dave and Eric Buzenberg said they tried to change with the times, but one aspect they weren't going to compromise was their high quality of customer service.

So, instead of lowering their standards, the pair decided it was time to close Walker-**Buzenberg Furniture on Main** Street in Plymouth – a family owned business that's been around metro Detroit for 73 years, the past 28 in Plymouth because of hard economic times.

"Going Out of Business" signs were posted Wednesday afternoon, and the doors locked until the liquidation sale begins this week.

"You'll hear people say we



Eric and David Buzenberg will hold a liquidation sale this week, closing the 73year-old family business.

have a great store and a great reputation, we have great people and have done a lot of great things for the community, but

thing. TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

there's not enough of them, and

they're not spending enough to

Buzenberg, 46, who has worked

keep us going," said Dave

in the business since it moved to Plymouth. "We're a highly specialized order store, offering a high level of customer service, and we weren't able to keep offering that level of service to the community."

ECONOMY KEY

Eric Buzenberg, 43, who came into the business in 1982, said it all comes down to one

"It's the economy that's driving our decision," Éric Buzenberg said. "We're good at helping people customize what they want, giving people options of what finish they want, the fabric they want. We're here to educate them on how to pick things out. But, there's a trend

PLEASE SEE BROTHERS, A4

ing will actually find useful purposes in reconstruction projects around metro Detroit.

Owner Fabian Ciavaglia donated money to Architectural Salvage Warehouse of Detroit, a nonprofit group which salvages old - if not



The Masonic Temple has been a fixture in

demolished in a couple of weeks.

downtown Plymouth since 1924, but will be

historic - wood floors, glass windows, electrical fixtures, doorknobs and anvthing else that can be reused in renovation projects. An ASW crew

30

spent much of last; week taking out everything and anything that can be of use in other construction proj-

ects "We try to save anything we can, especially antiques," said Calvin Dennis, an ASW crew manager. "There were some nice lights, real brass with etched glass, and some old doors.

"We also took out two urinals, which had the original piping," he said. "Those will sell just because they're old, maybe a restaurant or even someone's basement."

Architectural Salvage Warehouse will sell the goods from the deconstruction project from its warehouse at Grand River and Warren in Detroit, and at prices generally less than buying new.

"Our main goal is to get these great materials into use again," said Carolyn Mosher, president of ASW.

"What's nice about this particular job is we'll take some of the wood doors, pine trim and about 2,000 square feet of maple flooring and use it in construction of an artists residence in the historic Woodbridge area of Detroit," Mosher said. "The caliber of the pine from the period is far superior to what's sold today. We'll be going back this week for the windows, which are wood, which many people prefer.'

Ciavaglia said he wanted to salvage as much as he could from the Masonic Temple.

"It's like saving our heritage," Ciavaglia said. "We want to preserve, instead of throwing out. Plus, it helps the community."

Information on donating or purchasing building materials from Architectural Salvage Warehouse can be obtained by calling (313) 515-0399, or at www.aswdetroit.org.

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A2 (P) Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 30, 2006

PLYMOUTH PIPELINE

www.hometownlife.com

Restaurant crawl

The Plymouth Community **Chamber of Commerce hosts** its seventh annual Old Village Restaurant Crawl 5:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 9.

Eight participating Old Village restaurants - Station 885, Plymouth Crossing, Hermann's Olde Town Grille, Plymouth Fish & Seafood, Grecian Café, The Caboose, Cassel's and Crawford's Kitchen - will provide samplings of their specialties. Free horse-and-carriage rides will be available for ticket-holders. Tickets may be purchased now at Plymouth Crossing, Plymouth Fish & Seafood, Station 885 and the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, 850 W. Ann Arbor Trail. The cost is \$15 per person; children 12 and under are \$5. Tickets can be purchased by phone using Visa, MasterCard or Discover through the chamber office only, (734) 453-1540.

Literacy volunteers

The Community Literacy Council is looking for volunteer tutors in the Plymouth-Canton area to help adults improve their reading, writing and speaking skills. Previous experience or a bachelor's degree is not required.

The next four-part training sessions begin 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 16, at the Plymouth-Canton School System's Curriculum Center.

For more information, call (734) 416-4906.

American Legion sale

The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 112 is having its annual Rummage and Bake Sale 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 17-19 at the IOOF Hall, 344 Elizabeth (at Ann Arbor Trail) in Plymouth.

Anyone who would like to donate items can deliver them to the hall from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Aug. 15-16. Donations are tax-deductible. All proceeds will be used to benefit veterans.

Friends of Miller Woods

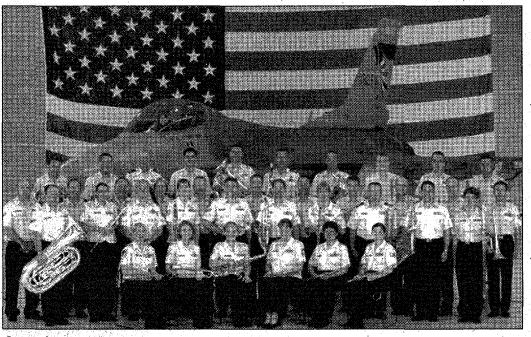
The Friends of Miller Woods are looking for new members to help build an organization committed to preserving and protecting Miller Woods fro future generations.

The group is planning guided tours, guest speakers, fundraising and maintenance activities and is looking for others to join.

Dues are \$25 for an individual, \$40 for families and help pay for bi-annual newsletters, postage, etc.

For more information or to obtain an application form and recent newsletter, contact Cheryl Bord at (734) 459-7666.

Busch series car The Dick Scott Automotive



On stage

The Ohio Air National Guard band makes a special appearance in Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth 2 p.m. Sunday, July 30. At this concert, attendees will see 3 ensembles: The jazz/big-band 'Thunderbirds' under the direction of MSgt. Phil Smith; 'Wingspan,' a popular music band, directed MSgt. Teresa Hudson; and the concert band is under the direction of Lt. Col. Robert Krichbaum. The band is part of the Ohio Air National Guard. The band is a recipient of the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award. Being part of the Ohio Air National Guard, the band is eligible for 24 performances per year and has a responsibility to Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and West Virginia.

Group sponsors a NASCAR Charger, car #4 of the Busch racing series.

The car, along with driver Auggie Vibovich, will be on display at the Dodge dealership in Plymouth, 684 W. Ann Arbor Road, noon to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 16. For more information, call

(734) 451-2110, Ext. 221. **Blood drive**

The Plymouth Post Office hosts a blood drive 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 2 for the American Red Cross at the main post office on Beck Road.

Appointments can be made



The Celebration Youth Orchestra holds auditions for the 2006-2007 school year Aug. 25-26 at Evola Music, 7170 North Haggerty in Canton.

Auditions are open to string students ages 9 and older with at least one year of instruction and wind, brass, and percussion students ages 12 and older with at least three years of instruction.

Students may live anywhere in southeastern Michigan. Auditions must be scheduled in advance. Students are asked to prepare one scale in any key and a piece of their choice. Percussionists will be provided with a snare drum, but will need to bring their own sticks.

The CYO is the youth orchestra supported by the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society. In Fall 2006 the CYO will have two ensembles, the Celebration Sinfonia for string, wind, brass, and percussion students and the Celebration Strings. The CYO is dedicated to challenging and inspiring students' through high level ensemble training and the performance of standard and new repertoire.

Orchestra is part of the Plymouth Symphony's Youth Outreach Education Program. Donations to the Symphony's No Kid without a Koncert Education Campaign help to fund the CYO as well as many

To schedule an audition or for more information e-mail jane@plyouthsymphony.org or call the Plymouth Symphony office, (734) 451-2112.

Crafters wanted

Crafters needed for Delta Kappa Gamma's 20th annual juried show Saturday, Oct. 21 at West Middle School in Plymouth.

a.m. to 4 p.m.; West Middle School is located at 44401 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI.

Call Clara, (734) 254-0849 or e-mail to sweisz59@comcast.net for more information.

The Plymouth Fall Festival is accepting applications for its Craft Show that takes place during the Fall Festival Sept. 9-10. This year the craft show will be moving to the lawn of the historic Wilcox House located at Ann

453-6111, but walk-ins are also The Celebration Youth

other programs.

The show will run from 9



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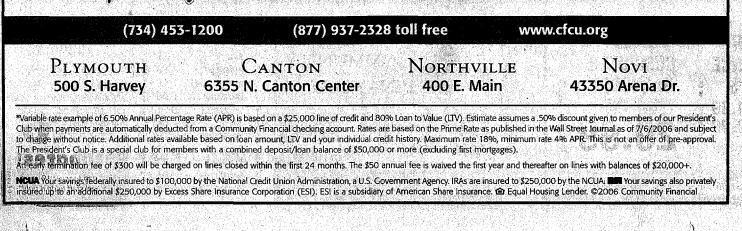
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Anyone who would like their seats inspected can make an appointment by calling Officer Jamie Senkbeil, (734) 354-3243.

by calling Barb Mitchell, (734)

Alice in Wonderland

The Marquis Theatre in

downtown Northville hosts a

musical Alice in Wonderland

Performances are scheduled

for weekdays (Aug. 7-11 and

10:30 a.m. and Saturdays

a.m., with Saturday and

(Aug. 12, 19 and 26) at 11:30

Sunday matinees scheduled

Sept. 9-10, 16-17 and 23-24 at

Tickets are \$8; no children

under the age of 3. For school

reservations, birthday parties,

group rates and reserved seat-

ing for 20 or more, call (248)

The Marquis Theatre is

The Plymouth Township

Police Department hosts a free

child safety seat clinic 10 a.m.

to 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 12, at

the department's new head-

quarters at Ann Arbor Road

The inspections will be by

appointment only, and limited

and Haggerty.

space is available.

located at 135 E. Main in

downtown Northville.

Child seat clinic

Aug. 14-18), Monday-Friday, at

summer production of the

Aug. 7 to Sept. 24.

welcome.

2:30 p.m.

349-8110.

Orchestra auditions



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Arbor Trail and Union Street. Ten-by-10 foot spots will cost \$75 per day or \$150 for the weekend.

Applications are available to download at www.plymouthfallfestival.com or for more info call Colleen Brown at (734) 455-1614.

Fall fest meeting

The next meeting for the 2006 Plymouth Fall Festival takes place at Plymouth City Hall 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug.

Community groups interested in operating a food booth must be in attendance at all meetings held before the festival. Booth applications are available online at www.plymouthfallfestival.com and they will also be available at this meeting.

For more information, call Colleen Brown, (734) 455-1614.

Senior Olympics

The Northville Senior Center hosts the Senior Olympics Aug. 21-25

Events include: Baking Contest, Fun Walk, 3K Walk, Bridge, Softball Throw, Ring Toss, Frisbee Toss, Football Toss, Soccer Kick, Euchre (sponsored by PCCA) Tennis, Horseshoes, Basketball Shoot, Volleyball, Shuffleboard, Swimming, Billiards, Pinochle and Bocce Ball.

Register at the PCCA office. Call (734) 453-1234, Ext. 236.

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LOCAL NEWS

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 30, 2006

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Not such a crazy decision

Auto dealer's move to Sheldon looks good nearly 30 years later

BY BRAD KADRICH STAFF WRITER

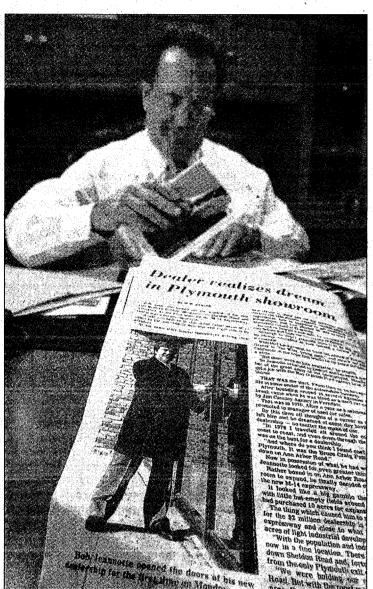
www.hometownlife.com

When Bob Jeannotte decided some 30 years ago he was moving his auto dealership from the cozy little corner on Ann Arbor Road out to the wide-open, but nearly empty, spot on Sheldon, people thought he was nuts.

There wasn't much in the area at the time, and people wondered how Jeannotte could possibly sell any cars. They don't wonder any

more. After selling nearly 1,400 new cars and another 140 used cars last year, Jeannotte remains happy with the decision.

"There was nothing out here then," Jeannotte said of the decision to move. "There was me and a gas station, and that was about it. (But) it couldn't have worked out any



Bob Jeannotte had to be persuaded to take a job selling cars, but it has worked out pretty well. He's been in his current location nearly 30 years.

better."

Not that anyone should have been surprised, since he's been at it since his brother-in-law talked him into selling cars when he couldn't find a job in accounting in the early 1960s.

He didn't want to do it, but he went to work for Roy O'Brien, who guaranteed him a \$650-per-month draw. Two weeks later, he was doing well enough he went into the boss and asked to be put on

straight commission. He wanted to work closer to home so, in 1971, he went to work at Jim Causley Pontiac in Detroit. He started as a used car salesman and, nine months later, Causley made him used car manager. That's when he warned his wife, Dolores, she might not see him much for awhile.

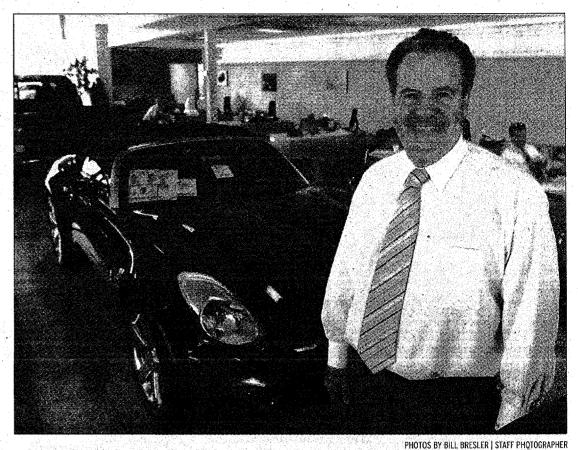
"I told her she wouldn't see me much the next five years," Jeannotte remembered. "I decided I was going to make a name for myself and get my own dealership."

By 1973 he was the dealership's general manager and, in 1974, according to Jeannotte, Causley had its first million-dollar year. By 1975, Jeannotte was seeking his own dealership and, the following year, bought Bruce Craig Pontiac on Ann Arbor Road.

The first month Jeannotte sold 110 cars, and the dealership was off to the races. It has since grown to be the 29th largest Pontiac dealer, and the 23d largest Buick dealer, in the country.

They've done it by being a totally family operation. Bob Jeannotte is the owner/CEO, and his son, Bob Jr., serves as president. Son John is the vice president/general manager and son Chris is the general sales manager and secretary/treasurer. And daughter Robbin, now the mother of four, also used to be in the business.

"People get comfortable with us," Bob Jr. said. "They know our faces, because there's always a Jeannotte on the



Bob Jeannotte, in front of the Pontiac Solstice, started in the auto business in the early 1960s, and his dealership is among the nation's top 30 Pontiac and Buick dealers in the country.

into that little space (where

Cornwell Pool & Patio sits now)

- "I was basically a traffic cop

laugh — and, after three years, started looking for a new spot.

"That was part of the deal,"

place, I had to agree to build a

new facility within three years."

They started looking for a

spot and settled on the Sheldon

Road spot, despite the doubts

he said. "When I bought the

there," Jeannotte said with a



Bob Jeannotte's first location was on Ann Arbor Road just west of Main Street.

premises."

Getting on their feet took an effort by the whole family. Unable, or unwilling, to pay for a cleaning crew, the family spent hours cleaning up the building, getting it ready.

"They took all my money for the dealership," Jeannotte Sr. said. "So we came out and scrubbed floors, dusted, whatever it took."

The dealership was crammed

of the locals. During construction, the prime interest rate went up, causing some concern about financing.

But the bank stood by Jeannotte, and then M-14 opened up, giving people easy access to the dealership. Now it's part of a thriving Sheldon corridor.

"He serviced the community really well, and they kept coming back," Bob Jr. said. "He figured out real quick if you service the customer, they'll come back."

The dealership continues to survive threats brought by a lagging economy, a struggling auto industry and competition.

"When GM is down 10 percent, we're only down 2 or 3 percent, so we don't get hurt as bad by the big picture," Jeannotte Sr. said. "We're a growing community, and we're good to people."

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 30, 2006

A4

(P)

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BROTHERS FROM PAGE A1

away by customers." The Buzenbergs tried to change with the times, remodeling the store and stocking it with new merchandise to compete with stores like IKEA, Pottery Barn and Bed, Bath and Beyond.

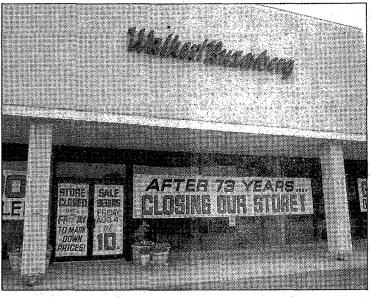
"The economic environment we're in has created the mindset that it's OK to shop at a store like that for furniture." David Buzenberg said. "With the economy the way it is, they've been trained to buy onthe-cheap. You can get some nice, high-style pieces - but not the quality of what we sell - for less money. A lot of times that means they'll have to assemble a piece of furniture or settle for something made in China, instead of the quality we have in the United States."

The brothers' great-uncle, Fred Walker, was a buyer for Crowley's in 1933 when he decided to strike out on his own. Walker started the family business in his mother's house, then opened the first Walker Furniture on Grand River in Detroit several months later. The store also sold refrigerators, sewing machines and carpet.

Fred Walker died in 1949, at which time his children ran the store. The building was destroyed by fire in May 1965, and the family moved to a location on Seven Mile. Ed Buzenberg formed a partnership with Harvey Walker that year, which lasted until the elder Buzenberg bought him out in 1977. A year later, Buzenberg moved the store to Plymouth. Maureen Visser of Canton

Maureen Visser of Canton took the time to write Eric Buzenberg after buying furniture for her daughter's room while redecorating.

"We wanted to find items that matched what we already had, and somehow they managed to get the furniture on time for us," Visser said. "They are wonderful people, and I'm sad to hear they're affected by the economy. I'd much rather



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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Walker-Buzenberg is closing after 73 years of business.

do business in Plymouth than go to a mall or chain store." STORE STAFF

Along with the Buzenbergs, there are more than a dozen employees who will be affected by the closing. Design manager Karen Servo of Westland has been with the company for 10 years, and thinks of the Buzenbergs as family.

"It's very much a family atmosphere, they're very much a part of my life, we've share an awful lot," Servo said. "We have a lot of input on how the day-to-day business takes' place. We have a lot invested, it's more than just selling furniture to someone."

For Lisa Wolf of Plymouth Township, who is an interior designer and sales representative, Walker-Buzenberg has been a big part of her life for 16 years.

"It's been like family here, so it's going to be hard," Wolf said. "I love the people I work with."

Walker-Buzenberg is the second furniture store to close in Plymouth during the last three months. Laurel Furniture closed its doors on Ann Arbor Trail three months ago after owner Don Wurm died in March of colon cancer at age 61.

"We tried to delay the decision as long as possible For Lisa Wolf of Plymouth Township, who is an interior designer and sales representative, Walker-Buzenberg has been a big part of her life for 16 years.

because we knew once we made the decision, it was final, no second-guessing," David Buzenberg said. "We wanted to have the 'Going Out of Business' sale while we could.

"The other option was bankruptcy, and nobody wanted that," he said. "We thought our reputation was better served by closing the doors ourselves, rather than something drastic like that. We felt that our reputation, as well as the same level of service for our customers, was the way we wanted to go out."

Walker-Buzenberg is holding a invitation-only sale for customers Wednesday, with the liquidation sale to the general public starting Friday. The Buzenbergs said they will honor all current orders, and will take special orders during the liquidation sale.

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MUSIC FROM PAGE A1

Murphy spent hours repairing mostly guitars, a few violins and a ukulele - part of the nearly 80 instruments donated to the group from Ward, which left today for Mali.

"I did some adjustments to get them to a comfortable playability," Murphy said. 'There was some gluing involved, but they weren't too bad. Kind of like a tune-up for a car."

The effort by Murphy saved the group about \$1,000. He also helped order amplifiers, which are also on their way to Mali.

"We talked about helping the local (Mali) economy, and buying there instead of importing things," Murphy said. "But each of the amps would have cost \$1,500. I was able to get them for a fraction of that."

Tom Beresford of Northville Township is among the Ward parishioners on the trip, along with his 17-year-old son, John, 16-year-old son, David, and 18year-old, Andrew Lewis, of Canton Township.

Ward has been involved in a number of medical trips to Africa, but the people told us they lacked music, instruments and teachers, and asked if we could bring American teenagers to teach them music," Beresford said. "They thought it would be the coolest

ence from Mali."

ually ranked as one of the poorest regions of the world. The Ward group will have to contend with diseases, temperatures above 100 degrees and

"During the dry season, the

Lewis, who at first had reservations about going, believes life's road led him to Mali.

made me ready for this trip," Lewis said. "I've been playing guitar since I was 22, I have a job teaching guitar and I've been on missions to Peru twice and Jamaica. I never expected seemed like God just prepared

music is a universal language.



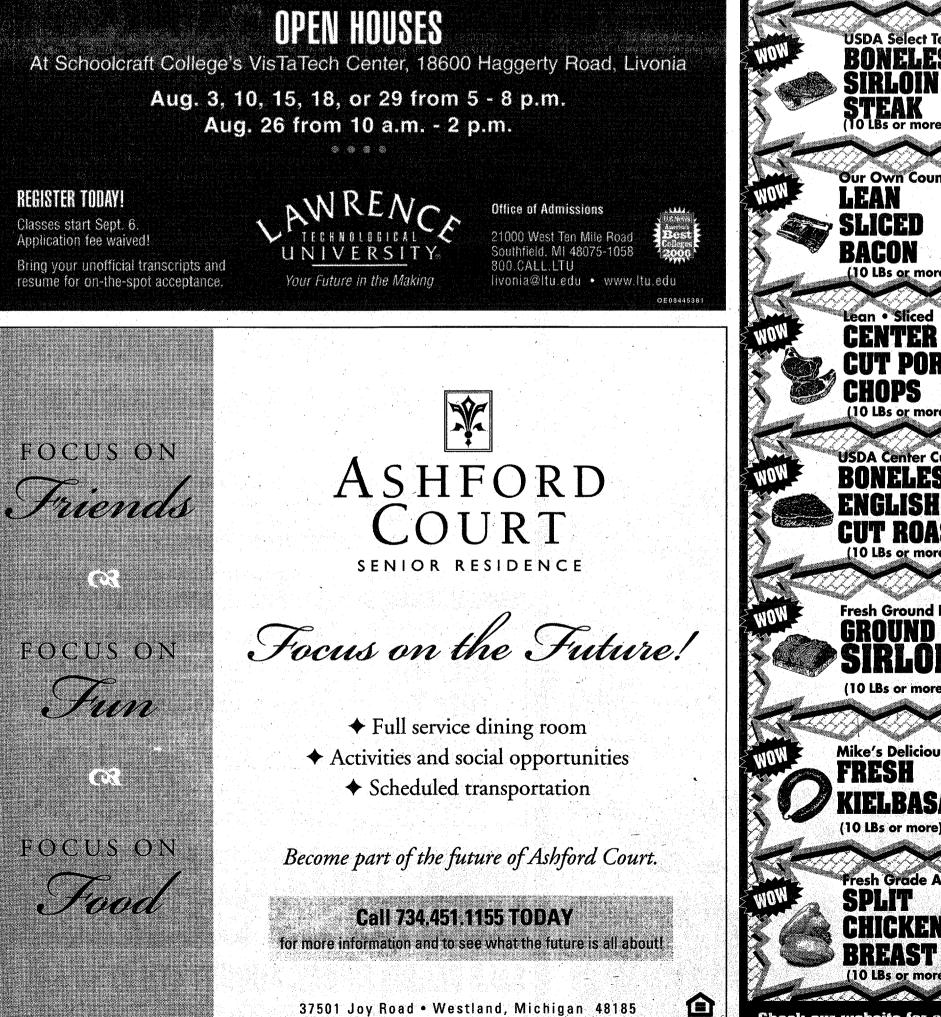
John Beresford said he will use his expertise on the piano to help teach music on the accordion that is being sent

eye-opener, to see how people live in Africa," he said. "I hope to learn some of their songs and style of music, and their culture."

people to teach, and many more from towns hundreds of miles away, including Timbuktu. Among the instruof David Beresford.

"But, even if everything falls

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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 30, 2006

LOCAL NEWS

Author offers inspiring words for African-American mothers

BY CAROL MARSHALL STAFF WRITER

It would have been easy for Kim Crouch to simply raise her two boys, 7-year-old Julius and 4-year-old Justin, and give them a charmed life in Canton. But her heart told her otherwise.

Crouch, who is a corporate attorney by day, spent two months of nights and weekends laboring over her book, Mother to Son: Words of Wisdom, Inspiration and Hope for Today's Young African-American Men.

"This book was to really honestly tell my kids what I think they need to know to be suc-cessful men," Crouch said, but she also wrote it for mothers everywhere. "I wrote it for my sons, but I also know that it's up to mothers to take back our communities. So I wrote it for

them, too. These are the things I think they need to tell their sons."

The book is written like a series of letters, similar to the letters Crouch writes to her young sons every year on their birthdays. Each letter comes with a lesson, such as Lesson One: Know your history - you come from a line of kings, and Lesson Five: Character and integrity matter.

Mother to Son is not the first book Crouch has written, even if it is the first to make it off a folder in her hard drive and to the presses at i-Universe printon-demand service.

She's passionate about the book because now more than ever, mothers need support in raising their children. The majority of children are raised by women who are at some point single mothers, she said, and the impact on the AfricanAmerican community - manifesting in poverty, substance abuse and lawlessness and despair - is alarming, according to Crouch.

The studies are sobering, when you look at the statistics on the plight of black men," she said.

Though her children are growing up in a two-parent household in the suburbs. most of Crouch's family is still in St. Louis, where poverty is common and college-bound kids are not.

"It's a problem for all of us if we're raising children who are feeling like they are left behind," Crouch said. "It's a battle to overcome that that kind of environment and society says in its actions, 'We don't care."

Because it often falls entirely on a mother's shoulders to ensure a child's success.

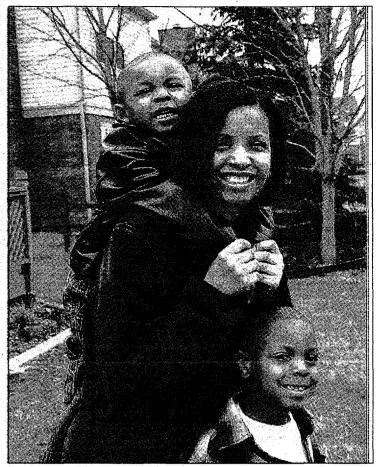
women often have unrealistic expectations of themselves, Crouch said, and those expectations are perpetuated when mothers don't talk honéstly with each other about the challenges of raising children, particularly their sons.

"We all think we have to be a supermom, but none of us can. We wind up thinking we fail because we don't talk about issues," Crouch said. "The important thing is to try. The important thing is that your kids know you're in their corner."

For more information about Crouch and her book, visit the Web site www.kimcrouch.com.

cmarshall@hometownlife.com (734) 459-2700

Canton attorney Kimberly Crouch released her first book, 'Mother to Son: Words of Wisdom, Inspiration, and Hope for Today's Young African-American Men.' The book contains a series of letters she wrote to her sons, Julius and Justin. She hopes her words inspire other mothers and sons



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Canton has a new **Dermatologist!**

Iltefat Hamzavi, MD and Hamzavi Dermatology would like to welcome Ali A. Berry, MD, our newest addition to the practice. At Hamzavi Dermatology, we offer cutting-edge solutions to nearly all of your medical and cosmetic dermatology conditions.

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- Ring Worm
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We are located in the IHA Building on Cherry Hill Road in Canton (between Denton Road and Ridge Road, about 2 miles west of Canton Center Road).

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SUNDAY PERSPECTIVES

(CPReGc)

Drive for school vouchers serves politics, not children

n July 14, the federal Department of Education released a National Assessment of Educational Progress report comparing public and private education. The report found that when factors such as race, economic status and



disability were considered, public school students did as well as private school students. The report examined the 2003

NAEP-assessments in reading and mathematics for fourth- and eighth-graders. More than 6,900 public schools and more than 530 private schools participated in the fourth-grade assessment and more than 5,500 public schools and 550 private schools participated in the eighth-grade assess-

Gallagher

ment. The report summary reads: "In grades 4 and 8 for both reading and mathematics, students in private schools achieved at higher levels than students in public schools. The average difference in school means ranged from almost 8 points for grade 4 mathematics, to about 18 points for grade 8 reading. The average differences were all statistically significant. Adjusting the comparisons for student characteristics resulted in reductions in all four average differences of approximately 11 to 14 points. Based on adjusted school means, the average for public schools was significantly higher than the average for private schools for grade 4 mathematics, while the average for private schools was significantly higher than the average for public schools for grade 8 reading. The average difference in adjusted school means for both grade 4 reading and grade 8 mathematics were not significantly

different than zero." In a classic example of the right hand not knowing what the left hand was doing, four days later Education Secretary Margaret Spellings joined Republican Congressional leaders to announce a proposal to spend \$100 million on vouchers for low-income students in chronically failing public schools. The secretary said she had learned about the earlier report only through newspaper reports July 15. According to the *New York Times*, an Education Department director said the secretary had received the report two weeks before its release, but hadn't been alerted to its importance.

This debate over public vs. private schools resonants deeply this year because of GOP gubernatorial candidate Dick DeVos. He and his wife, former state Republican chair Betsy DeVos, led an initiative campaign in 2000 for vouchers that was soundly defeated by Michigan voters. He has publicly backed away from the issue during this year's campaign.

But a story in the July 9 Grand Rapids Press

(DeVos' hometown newspaper) suggests that the issue isn't quite dead. The story quotes from a speech that DeVos gave in 2002 at the conservative Heritage Foundation in which he vowed to "bring the fight back to Michigan again and do everything we can there."

More ominously, the *Press* story quotes DeVos outlining to the Heritage Foundation a stealth campaign for vouchers.

The *Press* quotes from the speech: "We need to be cautious about talking too much about these activities, and the political work that needs to go on will go on at the grassroots, it will go on quietly and it will go on in the form that politics is done, one person at a time speaking to another person in privacy."

Candidates for governor need to be more upfront about what their intentions are, especially on an issue on which Michigan voters have expressed a definite point of view.

At the national level, it's yet another wedge issue for the parties to debate under the guise of doing what's best "for the children."

We have some wonderful private schools in metro Detroit — Cranbrook, Detroit Country Day, Catholic Central, Brother Rice. My sisters went through Catholic elementary school. Five of my nieces went through 12 years of Catholic school and graduated from Mercy High School with excellent preparation for their futures.

For those who want to send their children to private schools, it's a great option.

But vouchers, like the trend to charter schools (as good as some of them are), are a drain on public school financing. Yes, those who choose to send their children to private schools are paying twice. But their tax money that goes to public schools is part of being a resident of the state. They don't use the schools, but neither do those who have no children. They also don't ride on most of the roads they pay for or benefit from townscape projects or make use of Medicaid, but as a society we understand the need for these things.

Public education is one of the great hallmarks of the United States. It has to take the economically and socially disadvantaged even as it struggles to meet their complex educational and social needs. Our government would better serve those students by working to improve those troubled schools and the social conditions that make it hard for the students in those schools to succeed.

For different perspectives on vouchers, see the pro-voucher www.schoolchoices.org and the antivoucher National Education Association at www.nea.org/vouchers.

Hugh Gallagher is the managing editor of the *Observer Newspapers*. He can be reached by email at hgallagher@hometownlife.com or by phone at (734) 953-2149.

Consider some alternatives as gas prices continue to rise

ith drivers moaning about the high cost of gas, I have given some thought to some ways to meet the problem head on.

One possible solution would be to move to Caracas, Venezuela, which is a



as, venezueia, which is a leading oil producer. Gas costs there are between 10 and 14 cents a gallon. In essence you can fill up an SUV for about \$3. Sounds enticing doesn't it?

However, you will have to put up with perpetual traffic jams and air pollution. Gas is highly subsidized, which is a multi-

million dollar drain on the national budget. This subsidy saps money that could help schools, hospitals or public transit. With gasoline prices being cheaper than water ... any incentive to conserve is eliminated. SUV sales have been and are still soaring. With the subsidy and lack of any pollution or safety controls, there are many-decades-old rolling wrecks on the streets. Police do not even cite those who drive at night without headlights. With respect to the "global warming" issue, I'm sure Al Gore would chastise Venezuelan President Chavez for his insensitivity to the issue. Perhaps moving to Caracas is not the best idea.

A second possibility would be to buy a Smart Car. We've all heard about them by now. Last year in Paris, it seemed to be the predominant car on the streets. It's a tiny two-seater, no larger than a good size riding mower. They are purported to give 46 miles per gallon in the city and 60 miles per gallon on the highway. The Smart Car is part of the Mercedes-Benz group, which we all know has a wonderful reputation. The M-B company is boasting a quality car that is fuel-efficient and safe. The question for me is "How safe?" If you live in an area where everyone is driving cars of this size, safety wouldn't be an issue. But on the road with a 6,000-pound SUV, a van the size of a bus or, God forbid, a Hummer heading for me ... I'm not sure how smart it would be to go the Smart Car route.

A third solution is to use that bike that's tucked away in the garage. Or, for a mere \$2,500, you can buy a 80 cc, four-stroke scooter which will give up to 80 mpg, is low on emission and can reach speeds up to 45 mph. Of course, you may feel the urge to buy a leather jacket and perhaps have your navel pierced ... maybe even a tattoo. With weather as wonderful as we have been having, this solution sounds feasible. However when winter comes we would have to revert to other methods of transportation.

Seriously speaking ... Car pooling is an economical way to go. Find out where your co-workers live and suggest a neutral meeting spot, taking turns driving to work. This could be a great opportunity for networking — getting personal recommendations for unique stores, restaurants and sources for miscellaneous repairs.

Whenever you are going out, always consider an alternative to driving whether bicycling, public transportation or even walking. Of course, you have heard the importance of keeping your car well-maintained. See that the tires are properly inflated and replace your air filter often Use you cruise control whenever possible. Avoid unnecessary idling, jack rabbit starts and driving over 60 mph. Reduce the use of your air conditioner

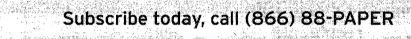
and remove excess weight from your trunk.

The Europeans are presently paying about \$7 a gallon and have long adapted to paying these high prices, of which 70 percent of the cost is taxes.

They attempt to find a home closer to their work, they drive smaller cars that are more fuel-efficient, and many use scooters or public transportation. It seems Americans are not particularly interested in adopting these conservation tactics. I feel that I have done my little contribution toward helping the global warming problem by purchasing

Toyota Prius last July. I am very pleased with its fuel-efficiency and feel that Al Gore would be proud of my little contribution.

Elaine Chalom lives in Livenia





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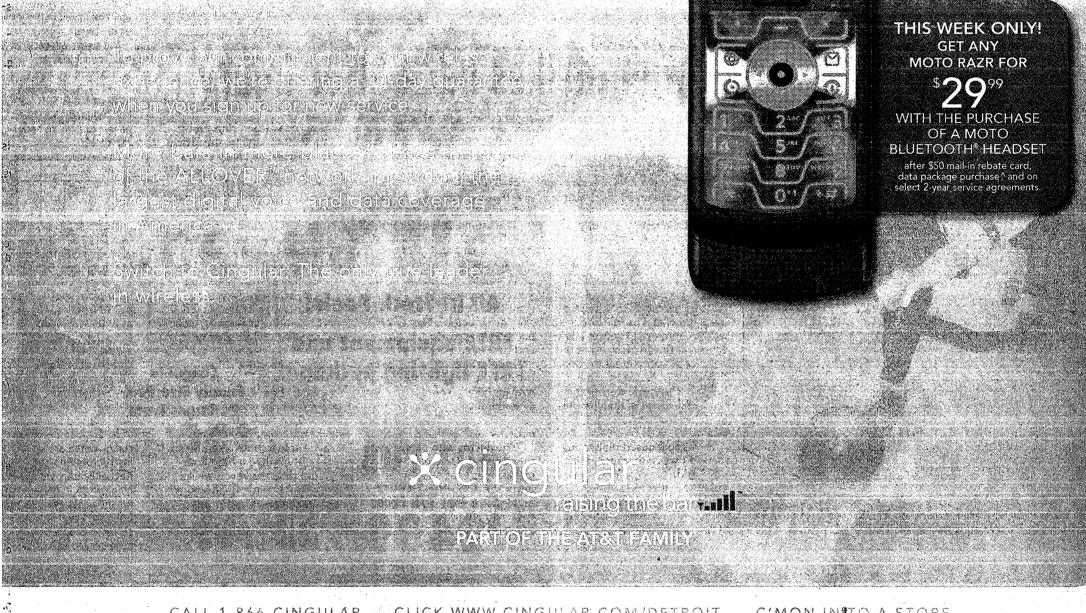
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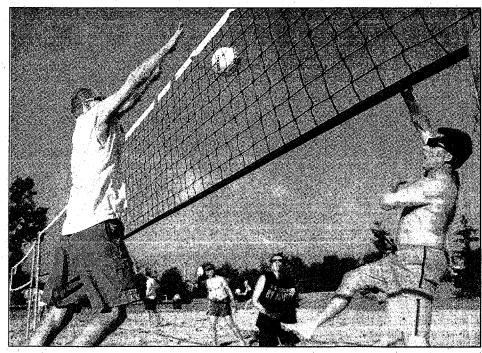
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tOpen Sunday





Mike Molenda and Steve Van Loton square off for a point at the net.

Life's a beach for CLS sand volleyball players

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

The three S's – sand, sun and spikes (the overhead kind, not the ones you wear on your feet) - are turning into an irresistible draw for a growing number of area residents.

That's evident by the significant growth experienced by the Canton Leisure Services' sand volleyball leagues, which have nearly doubled in size over the past year.

The rise in popularity is no surprise to Natalja Tinina, a CLS event supervisor who has helped coordinate the program since the opening serve in mid-May.

"It's a great summertime sport," said Tinina, who graduated from Madonna University earlier this summer after compiling four varsity letters for the

Crusaders' ultra-successful indoor volley-

ball squad. "People like it for a number of reasons. You don't need a lot of equipment, it's a great cardio workout and you can play it if you're recovering from a back or knee injury because it's played on soft sand, not a hard surface.

"Plus, you play outdoors under the sun with sand under your feet, and it's fun."

CLS currently offers three leagues two recreation-level divisions and one for more advanced players - that compete on Wednesday and Thursday nights at Freedom Park in Canton Township. The park is located at the intersection of Palmer and Sheldon roads.

Each week, teams play a four-on-four, best-two-out-of-three match with games

going to 21. "Sometimes, the competition can get a

PLEASE SEE SAND VOLLEYBALL, B6



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Darlene Molenda of 'Old and Slow' dives for the ball as her husband, Mike, backs her up.

CAN YOU DIG IT?

WHAT: Canton Leisure Services sand volleyball leagues.

WHO The leagues are made up of 20 teams – 12 recreation and eight competitive. Most of the teams are co-ed.

WHERE: League games are played at Freedom Park, which is located at the intersection of Palmer and Sheldon roads in Canton Township.

WHEN: The league runs from mid-May through early August. Matches are played on Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact Canton Leisure Services at (734) 483-5624.



Junior golf aces

Canton's Jonny McMillan shot an 82 to finish third in the Boys 10-12 age division on the Meijer Junior Players Tour (event No. 22) held July 21 at the Tecumseh Country Club.

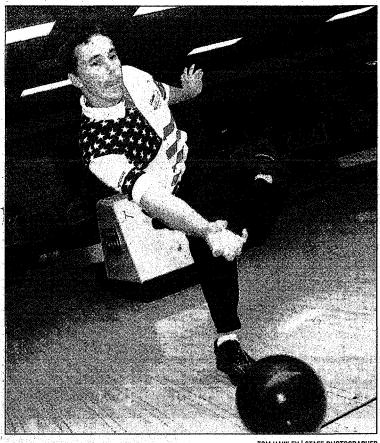
Canton's Glenn Piot shot a 48 for nine holes to capture the Boys 8-9 age group July 25 on the Meijer Junior Players Tour at Mystic Creek (Meadow-to-Woods) in Milford.

🔳 Garden City's Hagan Risner shot a 78 to take runner-up honors in the Boys 11-15 division in the Power Bilt Junior Tour event (No. 17) July 24 at **Highland Meadows in** Sylvania, Ohio.

Risner also shot a 76 to place third in the Boys 11-15 age division at the Power Bilt Junior Tour event (No. 18) on July 21 at Boulder Pointe Golf Club (Bluffs-Peaks) in-Oxford.

O&E golf tourney

The annual Men's and Women's Observer & Eccentric Open golf tours nament will be Aug. 12-13 at Whispering Willows and Fox Creek golf cou



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth bowler Ricky Huddleston recently rolled a 300 game less than a year after recovering from a severely broken right forearm.

Bowler strikes back after injury **BY ED WRIGHT**

STAFF WRITER

Ricky Huddleston's right forearm is filled with enough metal to send an airport security device into a frenzy.

But the two plates and 13 screws that were surgically implanted into the 16-year-old Plymouth resident's arm last year following a freak accident haven't prevented his promising bowling career from taking off.

On June 25, Huddleston, who will be a junior at Canton High School in the fall, displayed the poise of a Professional Bowlers Association veteran when he rolled a 300 game during the semifinal round of an elite junior tournament in Mentor, Ohio.

"I was so focused on beating the kid I was going up against that I didn't even think about bowling a 300," admitted Huddleston, who experienced a brush with bowling perfection in 2004 when he recorded a

299. "I wasn't nervous until the last ball. Then I just concentrated on the pins and tried to throw a good ball.

"When I got the final strike, everybody congratulated me and my parents gave me a hug."

"The unique thing about it was that there were over 100 of the best junior bowlers from throughout the United States and Canada, and the kid Ricky was bowling against in the semi-finals was from Belleville." said Ricky's mom, Marie. "Ricky had bowled against this kid several times and never beat him."

Huddleston's effort not only thrilled the 100 or so spectators who gathered around his lanes to watch the rare feat, but, in some ways, it defied medical odds.

"The doctor who performed the surgery - Dr. Adelman told us that a lot of athletes are never the same after they undergo something like Ricky did," said Huddleston's mom, Marie. "He told us that if Ricky ever accomplished something significant to send us the article and he would put it up on his office wall. The doctor wants to let other kids know that they can still accomplish things even after suffering a serious injury like this."

The ulna and radius bones in Huddleston's right forearm were fractured in May of 2005 during downtime at a tournament in Muskegon when he used the arm to brace his fall after tumbling awkwardly off an electrical box while playing around with friends.

"The doctor gave us two options - put the arm in a cast and leave it on all summer, or operate right away," Marie Huddleston said. "If they operated right away, they told us he'd be able to bowl again in six weeks. Ricky had a huge tournament that was seven weeks away, which made the decision to have the operation pretty

Ignition signs

1st six players

The Detroit Ignition has agreed

to terms with six players selected

Soccer League Expansion Draft,

marking the indoor soccer club's

from the 2006 Major Indoor

first additions to its inaugural

Greg Bibb announced

Wednesday.

season's roster, team president'

forwards Carlos "Chile" Farias,

Hewerton Moreira and Novi

Marojevic; midfielder Kyt

The club agreed to terms with

PLEASE SEE IGNITION, B2

PLEASE SEE BOWLER, B6

es in Livonia. The men's event is 36hole medal play at

Whispering Willows (Aud. 12) and Fox Creek (Aug. 13). The fee is \$95 (cart not included). You must have a maximum handicap of 20.

The women's tourney is 18-hole medal play, Aug. 12, at Whispering Willows. The entry fee is \$50 (does not include cart).

You must have a current U.S.G.A. index to participate. Entries close at 6 p.m. Aug. 5 (limited) to the first 200 golfers). For more information, call Whispering Willows

at (248) 476-4493.

Archery camp

Canton Leisure Services will offer a fourday archery camp Aug. 7 10 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Summit on the Park. The camp will be run by noted archery instructors Bob and Rachel Fenton, who have held camps in the area for the past seven years. Both are Level III N.A.A. certified coaches and have served as instructors for the U.S. Olympic Training Centers.

Participants can register for one, two, three or all four days of the camp. For more information,

call (734) 394-5460.

Michalsen lauded

Plymouth resident and Salem graduate Heather, Michalsen was among 77, Olivet College studentathletes named to the . 2005-06 Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association Academic Honor Roll, which recognizes scholar-athletes who achieved a minimum 3.5 grade-point average ; for the 2005-06 school year. Michalsen lettered as a member of the Olivet swimming and divpackage purchase is meat pai

Plymouth golfer, 8, earns state title

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Like most 3-year-olds, Kyle Wolter enjoyed playing with Legos and Matchbox cars. But what really put a smile on the Plymouth Township youngster's face was taking rips at Titleists and Top Flites. Five years later, Wolter, now 8, still has a passion for golf and the talent to match. On July 23, the Smith Elementary student qualified for a national "Drive, Chip & Putt" competition in Orlando, Fla. by out-performing 11 other district qualifiers from

throughout Michigan in a

regional competition held at the Grand Rapids Country Club. Wolter qualified for the

regional portion of the event by placing second at a district tournament held at Fox Hills Golf Course on July 19.

The national finals will be televised by the Golf Channel in October.

When he was two, we bought Kyle some little plastic clubs and he took to it right away," said his dad, Brad Wolter. "He just seemed to have a knack for the game.

"When Kyle was three, we bought him some real clubs they were pretty tiny - and I'd take him to the driving range at Oasis. It was amazing how well he could pop the ball. It got to the point where other people at the driving range would gather around and watch him swing."

By the time he was 5, Wolter started playing the par-three layout at Lower Huron Metro Park on a regular basis. He has since graduated to a youth league at the Fox Hills Strategic Course, where he posts nine-hole rounds that range anywhere between 29 and 45, said his dad.

Wolter, who calls Tiger Woods his favorite professional player, overcame a case of pre-

competition jitters to win the Regional title, Brad Wolter noted. "He was pretty

nervous on **Kyle Wolter** the range

competition," Brad Wolter said. "For that reason, I didn't think he'd do very well. But once the event started, he was cool, calm and collected, and he took care of business."



before the

Victory elusive: Hawks, Wolves youth soccer teams derailed in Des Moines competition

Both the Michigan Hawks Black '92 (Under-14 Girls) and Michigan Wolves (Under-14 Boys) were derailed in preliminary round action in the 2006 US Youth Soccer National Championships held at Cownie Soccer Park in Des Moines, Ia.

B2

(CPReGc)

The Hawks, who finished 1-2, were eliminated Friday by the ISC Strikers (Calif.), 2-0, after beating the Dallas Texans on Thursday, 1-0, thanks to Victoria Bailey's goal in the 3th minute.

Bailey has been in the US Youth Soccer Michigan **Dlympic Development** rogram for two years. Last ear, the Hawks' captain made

Saberettes rule

the Mid-American Pom Pon Summer Camp at Northwood University in Midland earlier this

row from left) coach Jessica Teran, Kristen

Soares, Taylor Lewis, Megan Meek, Laine

Kostegian, Kimberly Shelton, Jill Mosher,

Brianna Osorio, Monica Lee, Lisa Wieczorek,

(third row from left) Brielle Zuzo, Erica Beitz,

Kasiegh Zebari, coach Cheryll Custer, Amanda

Bavdoun, Becca Garzaniti, Amanda Schroeder,

Elena Panagiotides and Danielle Kinsella.

Alyssa Kay, Lauren Rakowicz, Erica Caudillo,

the regional and national US Youth Soccer ODP teams for Under-15 and has been a member of the Hawks since she was 7 years-old.

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 30, 2006

In Wednesday's opener, the Hawks fell to the Hershey (Pa.) Attack, 1-0, as Alyssa "Skeeter" Grell scored the game-winner in 60th minute.

The Hawks, coached by Stevenson High grad and former Michigan State player Derek Williford, came into the tournament unscored upon in both Region and State Cup play.

Bailey, a right-footed midfielder, made a powerful shot with her left foot in the 67th

minute that hit the goal post. The Hawks also sent another ball screaming to the net that was saved by Attack goalkeeper Sabrina Temple, who dove high to her left to preserve the

win. Both the Strikers (2-0-1) and the Attack (2-1-0) advanced to Sunday's championship final.

Meanwhile, the Wolves, coached by Livonia Stevenson High's Lars Richters, opened impressively on Wednesday with a 4-1 triumph over the Bethesda (Md.) Road Runners on goals by Joshua Barens (8th minute), Hassan Saad (32nd), Livonia's Joe D'Agostino (36th) and Canton's Kevin Cope

(68th).

Desean Raglan scored for the Road Runners in the first half

On Thursday, Valley United Blast, representing California-South, battled the Wolves to a scoreless draw. The Wolves outshot the Blast, 15-9, and had three corner kicks to Valley's none.

But on Friday, the Dallas Texans Red, behind MVP Aarron Reifschneider, eliminated the Wolves, 1-0. Dallas (2-0-1) and Valley United (1-0-2) advanced to Sunday's title match.

IGNITION

Jonathon Greenfield; and goalkeeper Sanaldo.

ments were not disclosed.

into the first season was to create a solid nucleus to build around," said Ignition coach Mark Pulisic. "The players who have agreed to terms with the club are committed to the team and are going to work extremely hard for our first-year club. We have a group of guys I feel comfortable with and I am extremely excited for them to come here in October and start this journey with me."

during the regular season. As a member of the Milwaukee Wave last season, Hewerton posted 13 points in 29 games, including eight goals. The 26-year-old split time in his first professional indoor soccer season (2004-05) with the San Diego Sockers and the eventual league champion Wave.

Brian King.

Marojevic has been a veteran of indoor soccer since he began playing with the Kansas City Attack during the 1996-97 season. As captain of the Chicago Storm last season, Marojevic scored 16 goals and 12 assists while finishing in a tie for 14th in the league scoring ledger.

After playing several seasons of professional soccer in Canada, Selaidopoulos returned to the United States in 2004-05 with a strong showing as a member of the Cleveland Force. Last season, the midfielder put up 16 points in 28 games while with the Wave.

Known as a steady, marking defender, Jonathan Greenfield

made his U.S. professional debut during the 2004-05 campaign. Greenfield scored seven goals for the Wave last year and has been a part of the... African National Team program since the U-14 level.

www.hometownlife.com

Sanaldo, the Ignition's first overall selection in the 2006 MISL Expansion Draft, spent last season with the Baltimore Blast, for whom he minded the net for their successful Championship Series run.

"This group of signings signals a successful start to the construction of our inaugural roster," Bibb said. "There will be plenty of talent in our locker room. The key will be how these individuals mesh to form the first edition of the Detroit Ignition."

The Ignition will kick-off their inaugural season at Compuware Sports Arena on Saturday, Nov. 4. Information regarding season, group and individual tickets can be obtained by calling the club at (888) 436-4625; or by visiting www.detroitignition.com.

remarkably divine.







The Garden City Gold were crowned 10U district champions at a

tournament held July 16 in Garden City. Pictured are (front row from

Taylor, Bronson Fisher, (second row from left) Justin Chandler, Jon

Dahl, Chad Ford, Brad King, Jeremiah Vera-Burgos, Jacob Emerson,

left) Jordan Erquhart, Kyle Madden, Jacob Liberati, Cody Wojewski, Ian

(third row from left) coach Ron Wojewski, coach Tom Fisher and coach

FROM PAGE B1

Selaidopoulos; defender

Financial terms of the agree-

'One of our goals coming

Farias led the MISL with 34 assists last season and was voted to the 2005-06 All-MISL Second Team. As a member of the 2006 MISL Championship Series participant St. Louis Steamers, Farias had three goals and four assists in five postseason games following a team-high 49 points

Finding your next home just got easier.



Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 30, 2006

(CPReGc)

Winning ways: Canton golfer 2nd at Motor City Championship

BY BRAD EMONS STAFF WRITER

www.hometownlife.com

Josh Proben doesn't need a road map when it comes to playing Whispering Willows Golf Course.

But the incoming junior at Livonia Churchill High has been making himself at home just about every course he's played this summer.

The 16-year-old Proben continued his improved play Wednesday by shooting a low round of 76 at the Motor City Junior Golf Championship, edging Canton High's Jake Andrews by one stroke for the Boys 16-17 age group title.

Whispering Willows is Churchill's home course in the fall and Proben knows it all too familiar well. In varsity team tryouts he has carded a 73 and helped Churchill to a Division I district title last fall with a 74.

But the two-year varsity player has performed well outside the friendly confines of Whispering Willows, winning a Top 50 Junior Tour qualifier recently at Huntmore in Brighton. He also has trio of seconds and a pair of thirds on the Top 50 Tour.

"I'm five strokes better than last year," said Proben, who started his round on the back nine, shooting a 39 before carding a 37 on the front nine. "Before if I shot an 82, I was happy. But If I shoot an 82 now I'm mad. I'm hitting better shots and one-putting more. I'm making more birdies."

Proben had back-to-back birdies on the front side (nos. 6 and 7), draining a 40-footer on No. 7.

"The first nine I was a little shaky," Proben said. "I made about four 10-footers for par, then I turned it on and played a little better on the front side." Before high school tryouts



Redford's Joe Burgio finished fourth in the 16-17 age division at Wednesday's Motor City Junior Golf Challenge held at Livonia's Whispering Willows Golf Course.

begin, Proben's next tournament will be Aug. 3 at the **Kensington Metropark Junior** Tournament.

And he doesn't hesitate to receive advice from his dad Tim, who has played in the Michigan Amateur Qualifier.

"He stresses my putting and

my mental game," Josh said. When he's not playing golf, Proben plays hockey where he was a forward last year for the Livonia Midget A team. He's been working out in the offseason with the Churchill team.

"The hockey shot is similar to golf," Proben said. "The swing motion of the arms is similar.

It was no coincidence that another hockey player, Andrews, who will be a junior at Canton, fared well.

The 16-year-old, who played for the Chiefs' JV squad a year ago, shot an even-par 36 on the front nine before dropping to a 41 on the back side.

"The slap shot is the same as a golf swing," said Andrews, who played forward for the Livonia Midget DD team. "I

On the girls side, Churchill's Ashley Bint was the only entry in the 16-17 age category, shooting a 97. In the 14-15 division. Livonia's **Jessica Burdette and** Westland's Sarah Linder were the only two entries with Burdette coming out on top by a stroke, 115-116.

played pretty well. We have tryouts coming up and I hope to do the same. My putting was going well and my driving came around."

Ironically, it was Andrews' first tournament of the summer. But he's stayed sharp by making regular trips to the range at Pheasant Run.

"I have a set routine," he said. "I go through every club and make sure every one is working right. I try to shape certain shots."

Meanwhile, two Livonians battled it out for the Boys 14-15 age division title as Mike Selasko beat Michael Panek in a playoff after both shot 82s.

Northville's Eric Biek defeated Livonia's Troy Bodtke for the Boys 13-and-under crown by a mere stroke, 90-91.

On the girls side, Churchill's Ashley Bint was the only entry in the 16-17 age category, shooting a 97. In the 14-15 division, Livonia's Jessica Burdette and Westland's Sarah Linder were the only two entries with Burdette coming out on top by a stroke, 115-116.

The event drew a total of 79 players.

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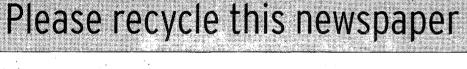
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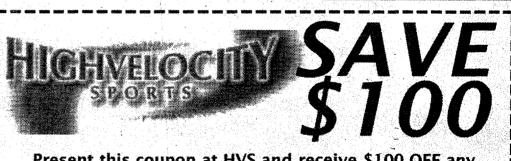
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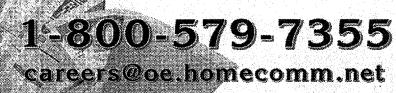
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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 30, 2006



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Rams primed for Johnstown trip

BY BRAD EMONS STAFF WRITER

www.hometownlife.com

The Michigan Rams are already preparing and beefing up their roster as they eye another trip to the All-American Amateur Baseball Association Tournament in Johnstown, Pa.

The 16-team, double-elimination tourney starts Monday, Aug. 7 with the Rams making their fourth appearance in Johnstown under 11th-year coach Rick Berryman.

The Rams, runners-up to the 22-and-under Michigan Bulls in the Livonia Michigan Collegiate Baseball League with a 24-11 record, have won nine of their last 11, including five straight to end the regular season.

"We played well and our

guys showed up on a consistent basis, day-in and day-out," Berryman said. "We had a dedicated group of players and we didn't have issues concerning players being there like some of the other teams did during the season."

If there is an MVP so far for the Rams, it's got to be catcher Eric Vojtkofsky, who leads the team with a .372 batting average and 21 RBI.

The Wayne native and Catholic Central High grad, who just completed his freshman year at Spring Arbor College, wound up with the full-time catching duties after starter Tim Kalczynski (Michigan) went out with an elbow injury.

"Eric's been a stalwart all year," Berryman said. "He's probably had to catch more than he wanted, but he's had a tremendous year and it shows just by the fact that he is leading our team in hitting."

Berryman has been pleased with his team's play defensively this season, particularly from his two middle infielders, Ryan Shay, who is second in hitting at .348, and Oakland University's Andrew Stafford.

Scott Cain (Grand Valley State), an outfielder and first baseman, has added a .346 batting average to the mix.

"We've tried to build our team to play at Ford Field - a fast outfield and a strong middle infield," Berryman said. "Shay and Stafford have been wonderful, very consistent all year."

The Rams' pitching staff has been anchored by Albion College's John Fileccia, who is

5-2 with a 1.38 earned run average.

Not far behind is Wayne State's Ryan Mosher (5-3, 2.02), Wabash Valley (Ill.) Community College's Steve Karchefske (4-2, 2.89) and University of Kentucky lefthander Chris Rusin (3-1, 1.22), the latter whom won five games this spring for the Wildcats

"You can't call any of them flamethrowers," Berryman said, "but their good groundball pitchers who can throw anything without worrying about the defense." Berryman, who can take as

many as 19 players to Johnstown, wasted little time in adding depth and filling a few holes on his roster. Oakland Cubs third base-

man Billy Anderson (Central

Berryman has been pleased with his team's play defensively this season, particularly from his two middle infielders, Ryan Shay, who is second in hitting at .348, and **Oakland University's Andrew Stafford.**

Michigan University) gives Berryman a left-handed hitter with speed. Former Rams catcher Sam Palace also returns after spending this summer with the first-place Michigan Bulls. The Bulls, a 22-and-under team, begin play Aug. 3 in the National Amateur Baseball Federation Tournament in Toledo, Ohio.

Palace started his collegiate career at Kent State before transferring to Grand Rapids CC. He will play next year at Florida Tech.

Berryman also took Bulls closer Eric Lawrence (CMU), a hard-throwing right-hander from the fourth-place Michigan Monarchs.

The Rams wrapped up their

regular season July 24 with a 3-1 victory over the Detroit Eagles at Ford Field.

To stay sharp, Berryman has scheduled three exhibition games including back-to-back meetings with Troy Jet Box, 6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug.1, at Livonia's Bicentennial Park; and 6 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 2, at Fraser High School. (The Rams and the Bulls also met Wednesday at Madonna University's Ilitch Ballpark.)

"We'll continue to bunt, steal and whatever it takes to win at Johnstown," said Berryman, who last year guided the Rams to the final four of the doubleelimination AAABA Tournament.

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AS A JOURNALIST...

I do not often rave about beds (that's right, the kind you sleep in). I am usually more of a golf course and 19th hole kind of guy. Then there is the occasional exception.

The Inn at Bay Harbor in Petoskey is just that.

The Boyne USA property features 27 holes of the best golf in northern Michigan. Designer Arthur Hills made sure of that. The links and guarry nines are especially stunning and immaculate being perched high above little Traverse Bay.

But as someone who often suffers from a sore lower back - especially after a night's rest - it was all. about the beds. After all, it was my bed that enabled me to play so well the following day.

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B5 .

No the bed didn't hit any of my shots, but I never felt better waking up in the morning. I felt the most rested I had felt in a long time without any of the discomfort. I am accustomed to waking up with, from a stiff lower back.

The grounds, rooms, and spa were all splendid as well. (I would recommend either the deep tissue treatment or the "links body scrub"). The resort is just a lot of fun. Yet for at least two days in the life of this traveling golfer, it was all about the beds. Next time I will check the tags.

Jeff Lesson hosts "Lesson on Golf" weekend mornings on WWJ Newsradio 950 and Saturday mornings 7-8am on 1270 XYT. He also co-hosts "Michigan Golf Weekly Saturdays at 6pm on CBS Detroit TV. OE08460468

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BOWLER

FROM PAGE B1

easy for him?"

Huddleston, who bowls an average of 25 games per week, said the post-surgery downtime



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ricky Huddleston's bowling talents have earned him approximately \$3,500 in scholarships.

and the recovery period were difficult.

"It was frustrating right after my surgery because I couldn't bowl at all, so I'd go watch my sister bowl," he said. "Then when I was finally able to pick up a ball, I had to start out with a six-pounder and work my way back to the 15pound ball I normally used. I had to totally retrain myself how to throw the ball."

Huddleston's passion for the sport was ignited at the age of 7 when his parents signed him up for a youth league at Canton's Super Bowl Lanes. By the time he was 10, Huddleston's average had elevated to a modest 125.

The youngster's biggest leap in results occurred over the ensuing three years when his average soared to 180. Not coincidentally, the improvement came after he started taking lessons from nationally acclaimed instructor Jerri Edwards, who is based in Akron, Ohio.

"I go down there three or four times a year for four-hour lessons," Huddleston said. "The biggest thing she has helped me with is the mental part of the game. To be good in this sport, you have to have a good imagination and you have to be mentally ready every time you throw the ball."

Huddleston, who currently carries a 205 average in his Summer Youth Classic League, travels throughout the country to compete in high-caliber tournaments. He's earned approximately \$3,500 in college scholarships, Marie Huddleston said.

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icnic Bas

MARKET PLACE



Stephanie Van Loton is one of the Beach Bums team.



Phil Madis, who plays for 'Stardock,' launches a serve.

SAND VOLLEYBAL FROM PAGE B1

little intense, but most of the teams know each other and they're just out there to have a good time," said Tinina, who earned a sports management degree at Madonna. "We use regulation beach volleyball rules. The only difference is there is no line underneath the net, so players can go under the net to get the ball."

Tinina said the majority of the players are from Canton and Plymouth, but some travel from as far away as Ypsilanti to compete.

The sand volleyball played at Freedom Park is almost identical to the game Tinina played growing up in Riga, Latvia, but there is one major difference. "In Latvia, I played on the

beach next to the Baltic Sea, so





PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mike Mews of 'Team Mike' returns a serve during a recent game.



Teammates (from left to right) Colleen Donakowski, Mike Mews, Kelly Cholette and Doug Donakowski celebrate after earning a point.

when it got too hot, we could go for a swim," she said, smiling. "That's one thing we can't do in Canton."

League playoffs were originally scheduled for next week, however, a series of rainouts have pushed the season's conclusion to the end of August, Tinina said.

"We wanted to make sure everybody got all their games in, so we lengthened the season," she said.

For information about upcoming indoor volleyball leagues and next year's sand volleyball leagues, contact Canton Leisure Services at (734) 483-5624.





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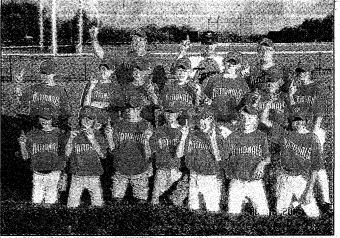
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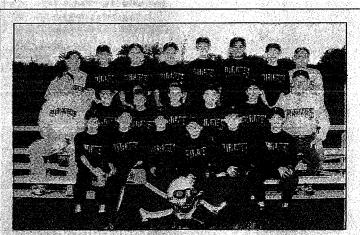
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Grand Nationals

The Nationals captured the Greater Canton Youth Baseball & Softball Association's 12U title recently with a 14-1 record. The Nationals ousted the Yankees, 14-8, in the championship game. Pictured (front row from left) are Brian Poteracki, Zach Gambrell, Matt Roy, Justin Bauer, Justin Thompson, Michael Manser, Kyle Webb, (second row from left) Nick Koelzer, Kurt Kowalski, Kenny Fanelli, Mark McGee, Patrick Sieloff, Joey Sieloff, Jacob Lieb, (back row from left) Rich Roy, Ken Webb and Len Koelzer. Not pictured is Brandon Grillo.



Treasured season

The Pirates 11U baseball team finished 14-1 on the way to winning the championship in its age group in the Greater Canton Youth Baseball & Softball Association. The Pirates edged the Dodgers, 9-8, in the title game. The core of the team's roster has been together since they began playing T-Ball together. Pictured are (front row from left) Andrew Deprez, Quinn Lutkenhoff, Lucas Dziadzio, Kyle Topper, Nate Emminger, Jake Roberts, (second row from left) head coach Todd McCall, Travis McCall, Matt Harris, Sean Stanners, Danny Stropes, Michael McNamara, coach Tom Topper, (third row from left) coach Marty Stanners, Joel Martin, Jake Stropes, Alec Breckenridge, Jacob Deprez, Brett Skywalker, Andrew Kelty and coach Erik Deprez. Not pictured are coaches Jeff Dziadzio, Jim McNamara and Pat Stropes.

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GC SOCCER TRYOUTS

www.hometownlife.com

Boys soccer preseason conditioning for the Garden City boys soccer team will be from 6-8.p.m., Monday through Friday, Aug. 7-11, at the high school.

Tryouts will be from 5-8 p.m. Monday, Aug. 14 at GC High. All participants must bring plenty of water, shin guards, running shoes and field shoes.

For more information, call coach Bill Torni at (734) 522-4094 or the high school at (734) 762-8363.

GOOSE'S SOCCER CAMP

Goose's All-Star Soccer Camps will wind down the summer camp season Aug. 7-11 at Plymouth Lake Soccer Park in Plymouth. The camp runs from 9:30 a.m. to noon and the cost is \$139 per camper with a \$10 discount for multiple child sign-ups.

The camps are for recreational players (boys and girls) between the ages of 5 and 12 years old who would like to perfect basic skills as well as get some scrimmage time in before the fall season starts.

The camp's coaches will provide participants with drills they can practice on their own once the camp ends.

The camp's coaching staff consists of several former pro-

fessional and collegiate players, including camp director Droo Callahan, who was recently drafted by the Midwest Indoor Soccer League's Detroit Ignition. "The camps have gone great

all summer," said Callahan. "We have so many kids coming back for second and third weeks. It's just awesome to see kids having a great time."

For more information or to register for Goose's All-Star Soccer Camps, visit www.goose22.com or call (734) GOOSE-22.

GRIZZLIES TRYOUTS

Tryouts for the Plymouth/Canton Grizzlies 9U travel baseball team will be held Saturday, Aug. 5, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Plymouth Township Park (diamond #2). The park is located on Ann Arbor Trail, just east of Beck Rd.

All players must be 9 years old or younger on April 30, 2007, and reside or attend school in Plymouth, Plymouth Township or Canton.

For more information and to pre-register, send an inquiry to terrimurray@sbcglobal.net. The team is coached by Michael Murray and Tim Baechler,

YELLOW JACKETS TRYOUTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

The Canton Yellow Jackets 10U travel baseball team will conduct tryouts for the 2007 season on Saturday, Aug. 5, and Saturday, Aug. 12, from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Heritage Park (field #1).

The team will be coached by Bill Flohr.

For more information, contact Flohr at apteridacty110@yahoo.com.

CATS SWIM FUND-RAISER

The Plymouth High School girls swim team will holding a pair of car-wash fund-raisers in the coming weeks. The first one will be on Friday, Aug. 4, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Walgreens located at the intersection of Ford and Sheldon roads.

The second will take place Saturday, Aug. 19, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the same location.

CANTON WALK/RUN

The 4th Annual Canton Cross Country 5K Trail Walk/Run will be held Sunday, Aug. 13, at 9 a.m. at Cass Benton Park in Northville.

Early registration (prior to Aug. 1) is \$16; late registration is \$21. The fee for all high school runners is just \$11. Race-day registration begins at 8 a.m.

All participants will receive a T-shirt.

For more information, contact Canton boys cross country coach Bill Boyd at (734) 416-9970; or send an e-mail to mcclellan1982@wowway.com.

SUMMER BOWLING

With the boiling heat certain to continue into August, Garden Lanes is providing a sure way to beat the heat.

It only cost \$1 to bowl a game all summer long at Garden Lanes, located on Warren Road just east of Middlebelt Road in Garden City.

Hours are as follows: Sundays-Mondays, 3-10 p.m.; Tuesdays-Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Fridays, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Saturdays, 3-11 p.m.

12U GIRLS TRYOUTS

Fall tryouts for the Little Caesars Girls 12U AAA team will take place 8-9:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 1 and 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 3, both at Redford Ice Arena (Beech Daly between Schoolcraft (Jeffries service drive) and Plymouth roads.

The head coach is Scott Brickey, a member of the 1987 national champion University of North Dakota hockey team. Former St. Cloud University women's team captain Tina Ciraulo is the assistant coach. For more information, contact team manager Tom Strazzulla at (734) 497-7290.

COACHES SOUGHT

■ Garden City High School is looking to hire someone to coach the 2006-07 junior varsity boys soccer team this fall. Anyone interested in the position should contact athletic director Bob Dropp, at (734) 762-8363.

■ Livonia Ladywood is looking for a girls junior varsity field hockey coach for the fall 2006 season. Please fax resumes to Ladywood athletic director Sal Malek at (734) 591-2386.

■ Redford Union High School is seeking qualified coaches for 2006-07 for the following positions: girls varsity tennis coach, assistant swimming and diving coach, assistant hockey coach, boys junior varsity soccer coach and girls varsity softball coach.

Any interested candidates should send a letter of interest and resume to Brett Steele, athletic director, Redford Union High School, 17711 Kinloch, Redford Twp., MI, 48240 or call the athletic department at (313) 242-4270.

Livonia Ladywood High School has coaching positions available for the 2006 fall sea18 30A3 MO9 son in varsity girls competitive cheer and varsity dance cheer.

San Angel Managana ta u

If interested, fax a resume to Ladywood athletic director Sal Malek at (734) 591-2386.

ST. EDITH VOLLEYBALL

■ Tryouts for the Catholic Youth Organization girls volleyball program at St. Edith, located at 15089 Newburgh Road (just south of Five Mile) in Livonia will start Monday, Aug. 14.

It is open to girls in grades 4-8 (this fall) who are members of St. Edith, St. Aidan, St. Colette, St. Kenneth and St. Maurice parishes.

A recreational volleyball program, 5-6:30 p.m. Sundays, July 9 through Aug. 14, at St. Edith, will be open to girls in grades 4-12. There is no fee, but a medical release must be signed by a parent or guardian.

■ St. Edith also offers adult recreation volleyball (ages 18and-up) from 6:30-8 p.m. Sundays, July 9 through Aug. 13. No experience is necessary. The cost is \$3 per person. (Baby-sitting is available on site for a minimal fee.)

For more information, call Gary Smart at (734) 432-5959; or e-mail smart5959@sbc-global.net.

New Schoolcraft College cage coach signs five recruits

BY BRAD EMONS STAFF WRITER

Schoolcraft College now has an inside game to go with a potent perimeter attack as first-year coach Mike Brown announced the signing of five new recruits.

In May, Brown nailed down two outstanding backcourt players in Belleville's Leon Freeman, a consensus Class A All-Stater who averaged 23.2 points per game, and Korey Spates of Warrensville Heights, Ohio, who appeared in 15 games last season at Purdue, averaging 10.1 points. The Ocelots, coming off a 24-3 season, also signed Jerome Hutchins (Detroit Redford), Kenyan Patterson (Detroit Pershing) and Joshua Samarco (Belleville), a transfer from Siena Heights University.

Now Brown has fortified his frontcourt, which will include two transfers from Olney Central (III.) Community College – 6-8 Brandon Wolfe (Detroit Redford), who signed originally with Eastern Michigan University; and 6-9 Brandon Bryant (Detroit Rogers), who was committed to Weber State (Utah).

Also in the fold is Manny Richardson, a 6-7 forward-center from Ypsilanti High, and 6-10, 250pound center Gabe Garcia, who redshirted last year at NAIA National Champion Walsh University (Ohio) after spending a season at Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College.

"I didn't sign all guards the first time out and then go after bigger guys, it wasn't by design, it just happened," said Brown, who inherits a nationally-ranked junior college program from coach Carlos Briggs. "I was looking for guys who could rebound, show toughness and get put-backs. I was looking for high energy guys who don't necessarily need the ball – the Ben Wallace types." Brown said Wolfe has the versatility to play either small forward, power forward and even center. Bryant, who appeared in only four games last season at Olney before breaking his hand, can be a force at power forward.

Garcia, a native of Brazil, may be the most intriguing of the newest signees.

"He's a European-style player who not only can take up space inside, but he can also shoot the 'three,' " Brown said.

Brown also announced he has added three players to the roster including former first-team AllObserver pick Gene Nix, a 6-7 center from Wayne Memorial; 6-4 forward who played high school basketball at both Salem and Farmington Hills Harrison highs; and 6-4 Jonathon Jacobsen, who moved to the area recently from North Carolina.

Nix enrolled at Schoolcraft second semester after dropping out last fall at Neosho County (Kan.) CC, while Washington is a transfer from Ferris State.

"I'm confident in the guys I've brought in," Brown said. "I'm looking to sign one more. But the guys we have right now I'm high on."

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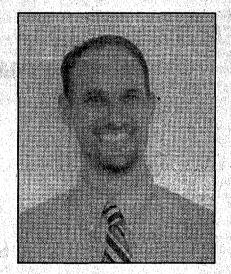


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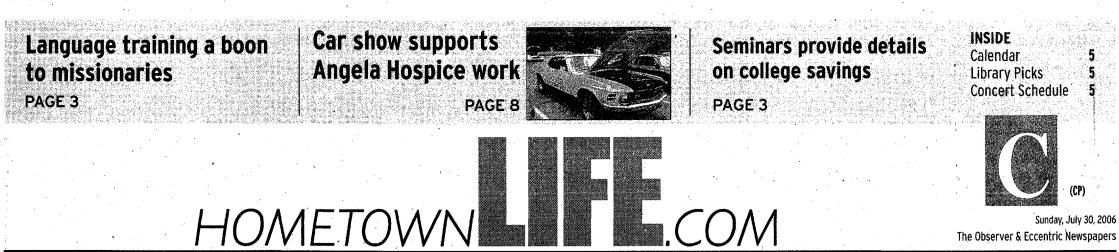
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Brad Kadrich, editor . (734) 459-2700 . bkadrich@hometownlife.com

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Make talk easier for the child

I attended a workshop that you gave about communicating with your children. I found your advice to be helpful but I am confused about one of the points that was made. What is the purpose of talking to your child in their own room instead of in another room in the house? I seem to remember that your point made sense at the time, but I can no longer recall the reasoning behind this suggestion. Thank you for any help with this matter. Sue, Livonia

I believe that a major obstacle to parent-child communication is the power differential that exists. Parents have all of the authority and power while the child has none. While this is often a necessary and appropriate condition for effective parenting it may also serve to undermine the possibility of meaningful discussion. The child may feel reluctant to open up due to discomfort or fear of selfincrimination. One of the easiest ways to reduce this obstacle is to have discussions in an area of the home that is the most comfortable for the



child, such as their bedroom. Other ways to minimize this sense of inequality is to adopt a strict policy of respectful listening and taking turns being the speaker without interruption. In addition, remember that sometimes your recognition of what your child is thinking and feeling matters more than advice and opinions.

My 7-year-old son has a friend with

severe food allergies. He considers

On Parenting

Terry Wilamowski

this boy to be his best friend and wants him to come over to our house to spend some time. The problem is that I am afraid that I wouldn't know what to

do should he eat something that he is allergic to. I know that these food allergies can be life-threatening and I don't want to take such a risk. But my son is so set on having this boy over. What should I do? Michelle, via Internet.

Food allergies are becoming more common and no one really understands why. And you are absolutely correct about the fact that some food allergies may be life-threatening. But you are getting ahead of yourself by worrying about what could go wrong if this child comes to your house. Before he comes over alone, arrange to spend some time with him while his parent is present. Ask about his allergies and what precautions are necessary. For instance, find out what foods he can eat or plan to have his parents send along snacks that are safe for him. Learn what signs to look for and what should be done in the unlikely event that he is exposed to his allergen. If his allergy is life-threatening, he will probably carry an epi-pen (a self-contained shot of epinephrin in case of anaphylaxis) or other medications that the parents can teach you to use in a few moments. After these matters are clarified, you can relax and let your son enjoy spending time with his best friend.



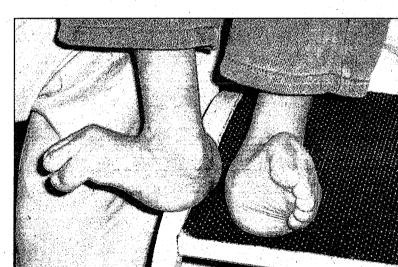
Children line up at the hospital in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, to be screened for surgical consideration.

One step, one child at a time

Local doctors, Baja Project, help children in need

BY STACY JENKINS STAFF WRITER

Perhaps it was when a 7-year-old girl on the Baja Peninsula in Mexico took her first steps that became the turning point for Dr. Jeffrey Yung. "She took her first steps and she just cried," said Yung, a podiatrist who has been on numerous medical missions to help children with club feet and other foot and ankle deformities in Mexico, El Salvador and Honduras. "She had never walked in her life." As a medical student at the University of California, Yung was introduced to the Baja Project for Crippled Children, a nonprofit organization that teams American surgeons with needy children abroad. "I used to drive to Mexico every weekend," said Yung, 36, of West Bloomfield. "As part of my specialized training, I became involved. It was really neat to treat young children and watch them grow." He went on medical missions to Mexico every weekend for three years and traveled to El Salvador once or twice a year and to Honduras "eight or nine times" to treat children. Club feet are prevalent in poor nations, said Yung, where prenatal care is lacking. The condition is also genetic.





Dr. Jeffrey Yung studies an x-ray mounted on a glass block window at the hospital in Honduras.

When small legs

little taller.

The Baja Project for

Crippled Children

walk, we all stand a

As nervous as you are about this child's safety, his parents may be just as anxious about letting him come over. But with proper planning and preparation, this visit can be as enjoyable and safe as any other.

What is the best way to get my 4-year-old interested in learning to read? His preschool teacher says that he cannot recognize his letters or numbers yet and that he is falling behind his classmates. What can we do to correct this problem now before he falls too far behind?

Worried, Dearborn

The first thing that you need to do is relax. It is far too soon to panic. There are any number of reasons that your son does not show any interest in reading at this time. He could be so interested in the social aspects of preschool (a very 4-yearold characteristic) that he couldn't care less about his letters. Or, he may know some of his letters but feels uncomfortable or unwilling to demonstrate this to his teacher.

Do not force the issue. Instead, create an environment that promotes reading and language. Put name cards around the house (put the word "door" on his bedroom door and a "toy box" on his toy box) and let him notice before you discuss what they say. Model reading and writing around him and spend time discussing books and stories with him throughout the day. Find fun and imaginative ways to play with letters and words, such as letter puzzles, collages, or writing with your fingers in the sand or shaving cream. Watch a television show such as Reading Rainbow and Between the Lions together and talk about the books and ideas presented.

Any and all of these will expose him to language in a comfortable and entertaining fashion and provoke an awareness and interest in reading and language. And the next time that his teacher tells you that he is falling behind, smile and let her know that he is exactly where he should be.

Terry Wilamowski is a therapist specializing in the treatment of children, adolescents and families at Heron Ridge Associates in Plymouth. Questions and comments can be sent to terrywilamowski@yahoo.com.

This is a typical case of club foot, a common condition in Honduras.

Most recently, Yung traveled to Honduras, along with two podiatry residents from Botsford General Hospital in Farmington Hills. Jarrod Shapiro and Larry Ward. They joined surgeons from around the United States on a five-day surgical mission, supported by the Baja Project.

The team performed 55 surgeries on patients ranging in age from 4 months old to mid-40s, said Yung.

Most of the patients are brought to the capital city of Tegucigalpa from poor villages in the mountains by Peace Corps volunteers. One patient, a 12-year-old girl, was brought to the hospital, but did not have surgery. Yung said he plans to make arrangements for her to come to the United States for surgery on her club feet. He is making plans for her to have the

surgery for free at Botsford. Club foot is not a common condition in the United States, so Yung said the experience he and other surgeons have gained in

PLEASE SEE DOCTORS, C2



From left, Botsford Hospital resident Dr. Jarrod Shapiro, **Dr. Jeffrey Yung** and resident Dr. Larry Ward at the hospital in Honduras.

Classic car show at Culver's to raise funds for Lions Club



BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Debbie Dayton doesn't have to worry about waking Joshua early for the Westland Breakfast Lions Club's upcoming fund-raising event at Culver's. The Classic Car Show starts at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 9, in Westland.

That isn't the case for the Lions' annual golf outing Sept. 30 when the Leader Dog rises at 5 a.m. and usually sleeps on the ninth hole. Until then, Joshua is snoozing away by Dayton's computer desk while she works on Cruisin' With Culver's. The classic car show is being held by the Lions Club, Motor City Muscle Car Club and Culver's.

Ten percent of Culver's food sales go to the Lions along with all of the entry fee donations for the car show, and the sale of a variety of raffle tickets for items that range from 18 holes of golf to a CD player in the shape of a 1957 Chevy, and a gift certificate for car photography by Personalized Classic Car Calendars. The

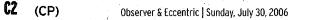
Lions Club will then distribute the money to Leader Dogs for the Blind in Rochester, Penrickton School for Blind Children, Bear Lake camp for blind children, and Seedlings Braille Books for Children in Livonia.

Dayton received Joshua from Leader Dogs five years ago. Before losing her sight to diabetic retinopathy and neovascular glaucoma, she managed Secretary of State offices in Westland, Ann Arbor and West Bloomfield.

"Josh stops for all the curbs. It gives me my independence," said Dayton, a Westland resident who now serves on the board of Leader Dogs. The nonprofit organization exists on donations from Lions Clubs, individuals and corporations. It does not receive state or federal funding, or subsidies from United Way.

"I feel that it's these kind of events that help us work toward our goal to provide independence to people who are blind and legally blind to enhance their mobility."

PLEASE SEE CAR SHOW, C2



CONTINUED FROM PAGE C1



Three (3) lucky winners will each receive four (4) tickets to see Earth Wind & Fire, Boyz II Men and The Temptations/Four Tops all at DTE Energy Music Theatre.

Go to www.palacenet.com/observer&eccentric to enter to win. Total prizes awarded: Three (3) winners will win four (4) tickets to see Earth Wind & Fire, Boyz II Men and The Temptations/Four Tops. Employees and immediate family members of Palace Sports and Entertainment or the Observer & Eccentric newspapers are not eligible. No purchase required to enter or to win. Void where prohibited, taxed or otherwise restricted by law. Subject to all federal, state and local laws. Subject to change. Certain restrictions apply. Must be 18 years or older to win. Prizes not exchangeable. All entries must be received by July 30 at 12:00 noon. Winners will be chosen at random and contacted by e-mail or phone on August 2 after 12:00 p.m.

BELLE TIRE DTE Energy Music Theatre Box Offices and CONCERT SERIES *ticketmaster*. Charge at 248-645-6666.

CAR SHOW

FROM PAGE C1

Dayton said. "In order to do that, the process to train one dog and student costs \$35,000 from the time the puppy is born to when the graduate walks out the door. I know the benefit of how having Joshua changed my life totally. I want to make sure others from the blind community have that same opportunity."

UP CLOSE

Culver's owner Bob Fitzpatrick has had an up-close look at the important role a Leader Dog plays in the life of a blind person during the last few weeks of planning the event. In addition to donating 10 percent of food sales during the benefit car show, Fitzpatrick is allowing the Lions Club to place canisters on counters two weeks prior to the event. On the evening of the event, the entire menu will be available including Culver's famous Butter Burger and frozen custard ice cream. "This is the birth of the first

annual Culver's Classic Car Show," said Fitzpatrick, who opened the franchise in November. "It's a great cause. All you have to do is watch and observe how Debbie and her dog, Joshua, get from place to place. We were out walking the parking lot to see where we would put the cars and Debbie was behind us. I told her I for-

DOCTORS

FROM PAGE C1

other countries has been valuable. And, people with club feet in other countries often live with the condition by walking on their ankles or they end up having amputations. The doctors often spend their own money to go on the missions. Yung said the Baja Project for Crippled Children is always seeking donations.

We plan to keep it going as long as we can - until either we drop dead or run out of

got she was back there because she gets along so well she didn't need us.

"There are lots of causes out there. These dogs kind of get lost in the back row. We want to bring them up to the front row and show them off."

Part of the reason Dayton is so excited about the event is that it will create not only an awareness of Leader Dogs, but the Westland Breakfast Lions Club. At first she worried the benefit would be too much work but she's had the help of Fitzpatrick; Jeff Ward, the car club's president; Lana Frank, a member of the Lions Club, and husband Bill. It was Bill Dayton who came up with the idea for the benefit after speaking with Culver's manager, who was manning the window one night when they drove through in their 1971 Dodge Charger. The Daytons show the car locally throughout the summer.

"I thought it was a win-win," Debbie Dayton said. "The Lions help people who don't see or hear well. This last year we have seen an increase for requests for eye glasses and eye exams. I think it's tied to the economy. People have lost their jobs and don't have health insurance and we help them. We do the same thing for people who need hearing aids or major eye surgery."

MUSCLE CARS

Jeff Ward is just happy to be helping out by coordinating

money," Yung said. The Baja Project was founded in 1976 to treat children with club foot, flat foot and other congenital deformities related to cerebral palsy, paralytic disorders and acquired neuromuscular disorders of the lower extremities. The mission expanded in 1998 to El Salvador and again in 2003 to Honduras, at the request of the Rotary Club of Tegucigalpa. More than 3,000 children have been helped by the project. Planning is under way for another mission in January of /

roitAlt

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Club's entries. The group recently donated \$713 to the Burger School for the Autistic after their Autos for Autism event at Garden City High School. Although most of the club's 31 members live in Westland, they regularly contribute money to the Burger School in Garden City. It was at the club's Monday night cruise at the Copper Door in Westland that Dayton invited Ward to help with the fundraiser at Culver's.

the Motor City Muscle Car

www.hometownlife.com

Ward expects many of the car club's members to enter the competition for trophies. Ward will bring his 1967 Cougar, which he races at Milan and shows around town. The competition should be tough. Seven of the club's members entered the 2005 Autorama at Cobo Hall, and five took home trophies.

"It's a donation for registration. Every penny raised will go to the Lions," Ward said. "It's a good cause. Only the second time I met Debbie, she asked Josh to take her to Jeff, and he took her right to me. It's amazing what these dogs can do. He only met me once."

Culver's is at 6500 Newburgh at Warren. The show runs until 9 p.m. For more information about the Culver's benefit or golf outing in September, call (734) 721-4216.

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2007. Donations to support that trip can be sent to Baja Project for Crippled Children, Attn: Stan Weinstein, D.P.M., 3470 Ridgeford Drive, Westlake Village, CA 91361, or online at www.bajaproject.org.

Yung, who has a podiatry practice on Middlebelt Road in Farmington Hills, said he's proud to be part of the project.

"It's really a very rewarding feeling," Yung said. "It turned out to be a labor of love."

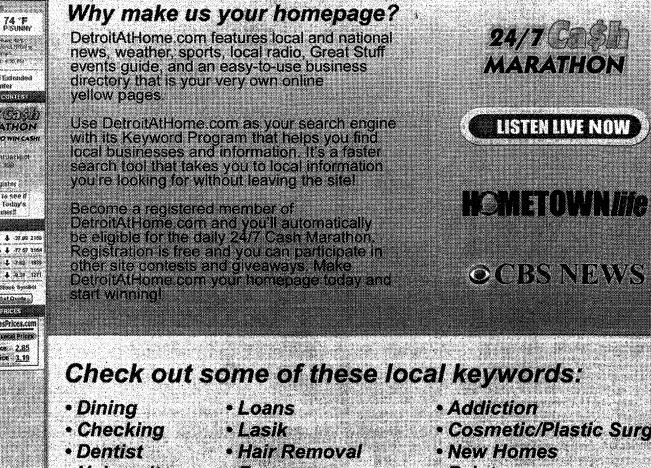
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Woman heads Costa Rica field language school

BY KENNETH D. MACHARG CORRESPONDENT

www.hometownlife.com

Sometimes the most routine job can have global and eternal consequences.

Just ask Julie Chamberlain. She is the director of the Spanish Language Institute at San José, Costa Rica, a school that has taught Spanish to between 13,000 and 14,000 evangelical missionaries since it was founded in 1942.

"People who have graduated from here have gone all over Latin America, to Spain and eventually to other parts of the world to plant churches, start seminaries, develop radio stations, establish church ministries, initiate health clinics and begin other types of ministries," Chamberlain said.

And many have gone on to distinguished careers as mission presidents, missionary statesmen, seminary professors and in other fields, she said.

Chamberlain is the daughter of Cal and Janet Chamberlain of Bloomfield Hills; her sister, Cathy Howe, and family live in Beverly Hills.

She is a 1967 graduate of Seaholm High School in Birmingham; a 1970 graduate of the University of Michigan with a degree in Spanish; and a 1988 graduate of Michigan State University with a master's degree in linguistics.

She taught school in Gaylord and served as Christian **Education Director for** Westminster Presbyterian Church in Ann Arbor before entering the mission field.

Chamberlain said the Spanish Language Institute was founded by the Presbyterian mission board in Colombia during World War II to train those who had to flee Asia during the conflict and were reassigned to Latin America.

In 1950, the school was relocated to Costa Rica and, in 1972, came under interdenominational leadership, training missionaries from a variety of denominations and mission boards as well as independent leaders.

VARIETY OF STUDENTS

Today, the school serves three major groups of students.



immersed in Latin American

Chamberlain says that the

type of missionary student has

changed during her 13 years as

said, which reflects the current

the age of the students," she

decide to end their careers in

Christian service, becoming

missionaries in their 40s, 50s

or 60s. "In addition, we now

find that the majority of our

ous missionary experience.

Chamberlain finds an

foreign setting."

students have had some previ-

Most have been on two-week

mission trips, while some have

served for several months in a

increasing number of mission-

organizations. "We have fewer

denominational missionaries

and fewer from the older mis-

Mega-churches are not

sionaries straight to the field

either without language train-

ing or with language learning

ministries over the years to

meet the needs of missionar-

The Institute has added new

elsewhere.

ies-in-training.

ENGLISH, TOO

aries who are going to Latin

America from individual

churches or new mission

sion societies," she said

emphasis on people who

"We have seen an increase in

Julie Chamberlain (left) talks with students Brian and Sara Weyandt of San Diego, Calif. The Weyandts are studying Spanish in preparation for service.

culture.

NEW MINISTRIES

the director.

The first is missionaries who are preparing for service in the Spanish-speaking world.

'We are a bridge between home and the field," said Chamberlain, who is a missionary with the Latin America Mission. "They are in transition and can make their cultural and language mistakes here while they are getting their feet wet.

"We think that it is better for them to study full-time here before they go to their field of service. If they go directly there, they get distracted by settling in and getting involved in ministry and don't devote the time they should to language study."

Chamberlain said that there are around 100 missionary students at the school.

The Institute also provides intensive courses of one or two months in length, which are open to the public.

"Mostly they serve teachers or college students as well as pastors or other church leaders from the United States or Canada who are working with Hispanics and want to work on their Spanish," she said.

These one-month intensive courses are held in February, May, July and October with a two-month intensive class offered from mid-June to mid-August.

The school also works with Christian colleges and universities to provide a cooperative study program in which students who are studying Spanish can spend a month or more in Costa Rica at the

English-language education to the children of Institute students," said Kevin Reilly, an ABWE missionary and the school's principal. Previously he taught at the Asunción Christian Academy in Asunción, Paraguay. "We are here to help the

"Sojourn Academy was start-

ed in 1993 to provide an

Institute complete its mission," he said. "The children go to school here while their parents study."

Currently the Academy, which is housed on the Institute's grounds in the San José suburb of San Francisco de Dos Ríos, has 100 students. The school offers classes ranging from preschool through high school.

"It definitely is a ministry," said Reilly, who is from Morristown, N.J., and studied at Cedarville (Ohio) College. We are working with students in transition from what they knew back home to life in Latin America."

While all of his students are adjusting to changes in their lives, Reilly said the elementary school children particularly "miss their friends, their extended family and their pets that they left back home."

The Academy also trains the children in Spanish, offering at least an hour of language training a day.

"We are always looking for teachers who want to come here and serve for a year or more," Reilly said. "While we offer a small salary, we encourage them to raise some support to supplement what we can pay them. It's a comfortable place to live and teach and many come and want to stay on."

More information about the Spanish Language Institute or Sojourn Academy can be obtained online at www.thespanishinstitute.com, or by writing to The Spanish Language Institute, SJO-8609, Box 025240, Miami, FL 33102. The school's e-mail address is lespanol@racsa.co.cr.

For further information, contact missionary journalist kenmacharg@gmail.com.

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The Michigan Education Trust (MET), the state's prepaid tuition program that locks in tomorrow's tuition at today's rates, is teaming up with the YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit to present a series of MET College Savings Seminars.

The seminars are free of charge and open to any area residents looking for information about MET.

"MET has proven to be an invaluable savings tool for some 80,000 Michigan families," said state Treasurer Robert J. Kleine, "MET offers peace of mind to those who want to guarantee tomorrow's tuition at today's prices and is an important tool in our efforts to double the number of college graduates in Michigan.'

Seminars will include a discussion on why saving for college is so important and how planning today will pay off tomorrow. MET staff will illustrate a reliable way to take the guesswork out of saving for college tuition and how you can protect against future tuition increases.

The free MET College Savings Seminars are scheduled 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the following area locations:

Aug. 1, Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, Plymouth

Aug. 2, Livonia Family YMCA, 14255 Stark Road, Livonia

🖬 Aug. 3, South Oakland Family YMCA 1016 W. 11 Mile · Road, Royal Oak

Aug. 8, Birmingham Family YMCA, 400 E. Lincoln Street, Birmingham

Aug. 9, Farmington Family YMCA, 28100 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills

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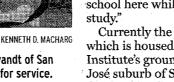
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among those sending their students to the institute, she said. Many of them send their mis-

Institute and becoming



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Dauch will chair United Way campaign

64

(*)

Richard E. Dauch, co-founder, chairman and CEO of American Axle & Manufacturing, will serve as general chair of United Way of Southeastern Michigan's 58th annual Torch Drive, which will kick off Sept. 8 and conclude Nov. 15.

In this role, Dauch is responsible for leading a team of volunteers during United Way's annual fund-raising campaign. The money raised each year funds hundreds of programs and services in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. Last year's Torch Drive raised more than \$64 million.

"Our region is experiencing an increase in demand for resources, but unfortunately with that comes a decrease in the amount of charitable giving across the

board," said Michael J. Brennan, president and CEO, United Way of Southeast Michigan. "In order for us to sustain our resources and continue to improve lives and communities in metro Detroit, we need someone strongly committed to community as a our general chair. I know Dick Dauch will provide that necessary leadership.'

Dauch has been involved with United Way for more than 20 years. Last year, he chaired the Tocqueville committee. charged with increasing the number of individual donors who give as least \$10,000 or more annually to United Way. Under his leadership, 69 new members joined the Tocqueville Society, increasing the total number of contributors at that

level to 269.

Dauch is a 42-year career veteran of the automobile industry. He began his automotive career with General Motors as a college-graduate-in-training and became the youngest plant manager in Chevrolet's history. He joined Volkswagen of America in 1976 and served as its group vice president, manufacturing operations. In 1980 Dauch joined the Chrysler Corps. at the request of Lee Iacocca and led the company's manufacturing renaissance. He retired from Chrysler in 1992 as an officer and executive vice president, manufacturing. Dauch and two investors purchased the axle forging and driveshaft assets of General Motors in 1994 to form American Axle & Manufacturing.

Schodowski-Suzio

Bill and Maggie Schodowski of Commerce announce the engagement of their daughter Jodi Schodowski to Greg Suzio of Livonia.

The bride-to-be is a 1998 graduate of Northville High School. She works as a hairdresser in Novi.

The prospective groom is the son of Paul and Pat Suzio of Livonia. He is a 1999 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School. He works as a mechanical engineer at General Motors.

A September wedding is planned for the St. John's Conference Center in

Schmidt-Brophy

Jennifer Bristow Schmidt and Stephen Dennis Brophy will be married in September at White Lake Oaks in White Lake.

Jennifer is the daughter of Larry and Sue Schmidt of Livonia. She graduated from Livonia Stevenson High School and received a degree from Michigan State University in supply chain management. She has worked with Newell Rubbermaid in San Francisco and now in Atlanta.

Steven is the son of Sandy Mulqueen of Waterford and Dennis and Elaine Brophy of Lake Orion. He graduated from Our Lady of the Lakes and received a degree from Michigan State University in

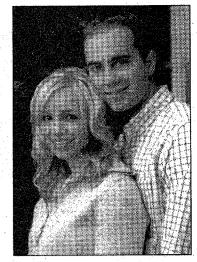
Immekus-Jachym

Kurt and Janet Immekus of Howell announce the engagement of their daughter Sarah Lynn Immekus of Hastings to David Barris Jachym.

The bride-to-be is a 2001 graduate of Howell High School and a 2005 graduate of Western Michigan University with a degree in aviation administration. She is employed at Parker Hannifin in Kalamazoo.

The prospective groom is the son of Harry and Karen Jachym of Plymouth. He is a 1988 graduate of Canton High School and a 2004 graduate of Western Michigan University with a degree in aviation. He is currently a flight instructor at Western Michigan University.

ENGAGEMENTS

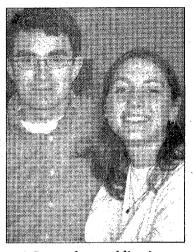


Plymouth Township. A honeymoon to Aruba will follow.



hospitality business. He has worked with Avnet Electronics in California and currently in Atlanta.

Attending the bride will be Jill Jaroch, Emily Schmidt and Anita Reece. Attending the groom will be Joe Brophy, Mike Schmidt, Zach Klepchak and Anthony Morabito.



A September wedding is planned for Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Livonia. The reception will be at the Burton Manor in Livonia.



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JEFFREY MARK HERTER

Formerly of Plymouth, died June 5 in Crescent City, Calif. Born June 26, 1959, Jeff was the youngest son of Lester and Patricia Herter, both now deceased. Jeff attended Plymouth elementary, middle and high schools. Following the death of her husband, Pat Herter in 1975 moved with Jeff and his sister to southern California, where Jeff finished high school. Jeff was a skilled carpenter and earned a California State Building Contractor license. Living in Crescent City, located close to the Oregon border, Jeff enjoyed hunting and fishing, pastimes he grew up with in Michigan. Survivors include son Justin Roy Herter of southern California; brothers J. Michael (Mick) Herter of Cape Coral, Fla., and John C. Herter of Calgary, Alberta, Canada; sister Janis (Jani) Herter Alverson of Pleasanton, Calif.; and numerous others Michigan, California and Canada.

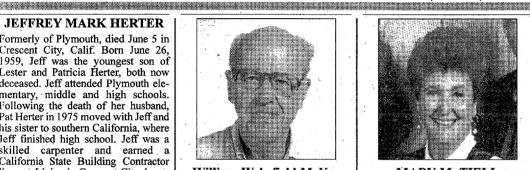


THEODORE STANLEY



William Wakefield McKee

Age 94, resided in Troy, Michigan for 20 years. Formerly of Highland Park Michigan for 30 years. Died July 26 2006 in Southfield, Michigan at Evergreen Health and Living Center Born September 8, 1911 in Lahore, India. Husband to Amelia Dolores (Ruppersberg) McKee who died ebruary 7, 2005. They were wed on August 10,1940 in New York, New York. He is survived by children Nancy "Jean" McDonald (Doug) of Waterford, Michigan, Patricia McKee (Donald Pease) of Canaan, New Hampshire, and Susan McKee of Leesburg, Virginia. He is also survived by two grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Both his parents are deceased and he is predeceased by two brothers and one sister. He retired in 1981 after 30 years as an Academic Administrator for Merrill Palmer Institute in Detroit. He was an active member of Central United Methodist Church in Detroit for over 50 years. ived his Bachelor's Degree le rece



MARY M. TIELL

Age 60, of Plymouth, July 27, 2006. Beloved wife of Gerald for 35 years. Loving mother of Brian of San Diego and Steven of Plymouth. Beloved daughter of Richard and Geraldine Herpich. Dear sister of Ann (Stanley) Tarrant, Richard (Debbie) Herpich and William (Lynn) Herpich Dedicated retired teacher in the Walled Lake School System for 34 years. Member of Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church, and PB & J Ministry Volunteer. Long standing member of the Plymouth-Canton American Association of University Women. Visitation Monday, 3-9 pm at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W Ann Arbor Rd. (btwn Sheldon and Beck) Plymouth. Scripture Service Monday 7:30 pm. In state Tuesday 10 AM until 10:30 am Funeral Mass at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, 47650 North Territorial (at Beck) Plymouth. Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to PB & J Outreach

NEW VOICES

Revna Elizabeth Lee

Jason and Kim Lee of Livonia announce the birth of their daughter, Reyna Elizabeth Lee, on May 10, at Providence Hospital. She weighed seven pounds, 15 ounces and measured 21 inches long.

She has a big brother, Rylan Lee.

Reyna's grandparents are Denise Bills of Livonia, Debbie Lee of North Carolina, Thomas and Monique Bills of Ypsilanti, and Tyler and Leta Lee of Virginia.

Her great grandparents are Dolores Coghill of Virginia. Russell Lee of Virginia and Patricia Bills and Jim Harris of Ypsilanti.

Her aunts and uncle are Jennifer Henderson, Justin and Jennifer Lee, Jennifer and Jerry Hartley and Amanda Bills.

Reyna's great great-greatgrandmother is Alma K Luck.



Warren Niklas Pietryka

their son, Warren Niklas

Mary Mercy Hospital.

Pietryka, born June 1 at St,

Warren weighed seven

Rebecca, 4 and Timothy, 2.

Raymond and Lynda Pietryka

His grandparents are

of Livonia and Victor and

Westland. His great grand-

mother is Jean Pietryka of

Narcisa Deogracias of

Debary, Fla.

Parents

Without

Partners

holds golf

fund-raiser

gold outing Aug. 26 at the

Lyon.

erage cart.

River Banks Golf Course, 10

men and women for longest

drive, longest putt and closest

to hole; a 50/50 raffle and hot

dogs and chips with a cash bev-

Four man scramble registra-

tion begins at 9 a.m. with a

buffet dinner to follow. Cost is

Mile and Currier Road, South

The will include a \$5 per skin

Parents Without Partners

will hold its first cancer benefit

ured 20 3/4 inches long.

pounds, nine ounces and meas-

He has three siblings, Ryan 6,

Steven and Joann Pietryka of

Westland announce the birth of

MARECKI, DDS Beloved Husband, Father, Grandfather, Brother, Uncle, and Friend

Ted Marecki, of Troy, was a loving family man and friend to many. Surrounded by family members, he died after a long, brave battle with cancer at the Petoskey cottage of his daughter on Tuesday, July 25, 2006. He graduated from the University of Detroit Dental School in 1954 and opened one of the first dental practices in Warren where he practiced for over 30 years. Following his retirement from dentistry, Ted began a second successful career selling real estate in the Birmingham area. He was very proud that his last sale was just two months ago to his grandson, Chris! Family was of the utmost importance to Ted. He was the loving husband of Catherine (Dorn); father of Karen (Curtis Mann), Cheryl, Debra Cheryl, Debra (Anderson), and Michael; proud grandfather of Christopher, Elizabeth, proud and Matthew Mann, and Nicholas and Patrick Anderson: brother of Clarence Marecki (Jean) and Alice Wysocki (Anthony). He was also uncle to many nieces and nephews, and a wonderful friend to countless people. Visitation was Friday, July 28, 2006 at A. J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Home, Troy, and the Funeral Mass was celebrated on Saturday, July 29, at St. Alan Catholic Church, Troy, with Rev. Gary M. Tierney officiating. Interment: White Chapel Cemetery, Troy, Michigan. Memorial tributes may be made to: Beaumont Foundation, Attn.: Renal Center, 3711 West 13 Mile Road, Royal Oak, MI 48073 -or-American Cancer Society, 18505 W Twelve Mile Road, Southfield, MI 48076. Share memories at obit.DesmondFuneralHome.com

DAVID A. TIMCOE

Age 64; passed away Saturday, July 22, 2006 in the city of Farmington Hills at Botsford Hospital. Beloved partner of Anne Smith and children, Brian, Jenny and Jill. Father of Stephen (Sherry), Elizabeth (Rich), Melissa and David (Lyne). Son of the late Andrew Timcoe, survived by his mother Mary Timcoe and nine grandchildren. Services were private. Family barbeque will be held in his honor at a later date



from the University of North Carolina and Doctorate Degree from Yale in New Haven, Connecticut. He was a Member of the Troy Historical Society and on the Board of Directors. He served two terms on the Board of Directors for Highland Park Schools. He was also on the Board of Directors for Adult Well Being Services in Detroit, Michigan. Memorial services will be held on Saturday, September 30, 2006 at 2:30 p.m. at Central United Methodist Church, 23 E. Adams at Michigan. Voodward, Detroit, Memorials may be made to Troy Historical Society or Central United Methodist Church Memorial Fund.

www.pricefuneralhome.net



GREGORY **JONES-SIELOFF** "Captain Rik Jagger"

of West Bloomfield, July 26, 2006. Gregory was a devoted husband and wonderful father to his girls and his beloved pets. He lived every day like it was his last. His first love is, and always will be, radio. His radio name, "Captain Rik Jagger", was given to him by WJR Radio, as he was the very first AM/FM traffic helicopter pilot in Michigan, along with his dear friend, Dennis Neubacher. Rik ended his radio career at 97.1 WKRK as News Interpreter with afternoon "way-cool" radio stars, Deminski & Doyle. Gregory is survived by his incredibly lucky wife of over 17 years, Donna; his "grey- hair- making" daughters, Amy-Nicole Fernandez (and Bill Martines) and Alizabeth Anne ""Becky" Fernandez; his sons, Max and Major; his mother, Lucielle (the late Kenneth) Sieloff brothers Tim, Patrick, and his beloved David; and sister, Jennifer. Gregory is also survived by his spiritual daughters and son, Taylor, Brett, and Bethany Strickland. Memorial service Tuesday, 1pm, Thayer-Rock Funeral Home; 33603 Grand River Ave., downtown Farmington (one block west of Farmington Rd.). Visitation Sunday and Monday, 12-9pm. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Michigan Humane Society.

www.thayer-rock.com

Gridiron, Court, Pool, Arena, Greens, Diamond

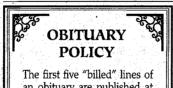
We're there!

Susan B. Komen Cancer Foundation; or the Plymouth-Canton A.A.U.W. To leave a message of condolence, www.vermeulenfuneralhome.com



KAM YUEN YEE

July 25, 2006, of Livonia. Beloved mother of Wing Yee (Diane), Louis Yee (Lisa), Jane Eng (Paul), Marian Lee, Kathy Rose (Michael), and Mayli Gabe (Charles). Also survived by 17 grandchildren and 2 great grandsons. Funeral services were held Saturday, July 29, at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, Livonia. Memorial contributions may be made to WHO Cares, 210 New Hope Rd., Princeton, WV 24740, or Angela Hospice.



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 4:30 PM for Sunday Vednesday Noon for Thursday Obituaries 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 866-818-7653

ask for Char or Liz

\$75 for golf and dinner and \$40 for dinner only. Proceeds will benefit the

University of Michigan Cancer **Research** Center. For more information. con-

tact Pat Tokar at (248)478-8977.

Posey-Jones

Barbara Bachant and **Richard Posey of Milan** announce the engagement of their daughter Kristen Posey to Allan Jones of Belleville, son of Lynn and Allan Jones of Livonia.

A fall 2006 wedding is planned.

Hatten-Proctor

Howard and Marian Hatten of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter **Rachel Ellen Hatten to Troy** Clinton Proctor of Kentwood.

The bride-to-be is a 2005 graduate of Michigan Tech University with a bachelor's degree in environmental engineering. She is employed by Earth Tech in Grand Rapids.

The prospective groom is the son of Clinton and Joann Proctor of Jackson, Mich. He is a 2004 graduate of Michigan Tech University with a bachelor's degree in business administration. He is employed by BDO Steidman, LLP in Grand Rapids.

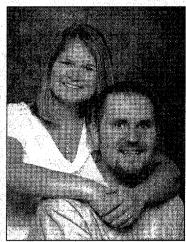
Dunfee-Watts

James and Gerri Dunfee of Sandusky, Ohio, announce the engagement of their daughter Angie Dunfee to Nick Watts of Plymouth.

The bride-to-be is a 2001 graduate of Perkins High School and a 2006 graduate of Eastern Michigan University with a degree in physical education and health. She is teaching summer school physical education at Northville High School and is dance coordinator at the Ypsilanti Township **Recreation Center.**

The prospective groom is the son of Mike and Sandra Watts of Plymouth. He is a 1997 graduate of Detroit Catholic Central High School and a 2003 graduate of the University of Michigan with a degree in





An August wedding is planned at St. Robert Bellarmine Church in Redford.



industrial design. He is director of Multimedia for Mindfield Pictures in Detroit. A June 2007 wedding is planned for the Fox Hills Country Club.

LIBRARY PICKS

Every week, the Plymouth District Library staff provides the Observer with their list of Best Sellers based on the number of requests for titles by library patrons. The books are available by placing a request with the library at (734) 453-0750 or on-line at www.plymouthlibrary.org

FICTION

1. "Twelve Sharp," Janet Evanovich 2. "Coming Out," Danielle

Steel 3. "Can't Wait to Get to

Heaven," Fanny Flagg 4. "Danse Macabre," Laurell

K. Hamilton 5. "Beach Road," James

Patterson

NON-FICTION

MUSIC IN THE AIR

the lineup

1. "Godless," Ann Coulter

are 7 p.m. Fridays in Kellogg Park:

Aug. 25 – Steve King and the Dittilies

Sept. 1 – Lady Sunshine and the X Band

2. "Marley and Me," John Grogan

3. "The One Percent Doctrine," Ron Suskind 4. "Godless," Ann Coulter

5. "Dispatches from the Edge," Anderson Cooper

PARENTS' CHOICE NEW CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOKS

1. "Little Dog," Lisa Jahn-Clough

2. "Martha Moth Makes Socks," Cambria Evans 3. "Down the Back of the Chair," Margaret Mahy 4. "Room of Wonders," Sergio Ruzzier 5. "Miko Wants a Dog,"

AROUND TOWN

Genealogical Society

The Livingston County Genealogical Society meets 7 p.m. Aug. 3, with guest speaker Linda Wright talking about "Scandinavian Research." A help session takes place at 6 p.m. The meeting takes place at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 1041 Grand River in Howell. For details, call Margaret Bowland, (810) 227-7745. Alzheimer's walk

The Alzheimer's Association's annual Memory Walk for Alzheimer's disease takes place Saturday, Aug. 26, at the Detroit Zoo in Royal Oak. It marks the 15th-annual Memory Walk to benefit the metro Detroit Region of the Greater Michigan chapter. Nearly 4,000 people are expected to participate in this year's 2k fun walk to raise funds and promote the progress surrounding Alzheimer's. To register for the walk or to make a donation, contact the Alzheimer's Association

Greater Michigan Chapter at www.alzgmc.org or call (248) 351-0280. **Hospice** series

Heartland Hospice announced a new support group for widows and widowers. The Sharing & Caring Coffee Hour begins 10-11 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 2, at Heartland Health Care Center, 7025 N. Lilley in Canton. The focus of the group will be on the later stages of grief, with an emphasis on learning to live with the loss. This group is ongoing and will be held the first and third Wednesdays of the month. The group is open to anyone grieving the loss of a spouse. There is no charge to attend. For additional information, contact Ann Christensen, Heartland Hospice Bereavement Coordinator toll-free at (888) 973-1145. Sibling harmony

Welcoming a new baby into the family can be an adjustment for big sisters and brothers. The Marian Women's Center of St. Mary Mercy Hospital will

CALENDAR

offer a Sibling Tour 10-11:30 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 19, in Classroom 1. There is a \$10 fee per family. Pre-registration is required by calling (734) 655-1159. St. Mary Mercy Hospital is located at 34675 Five Mile, at Levan, in Livonia.

Golf outing

The Division of Kinesiology at the University of Michigan holds its fourth-annual Movement for Life Golf Invitational Monday, Aug. 21 at the University of Michigan Golf Course. Registration starts at 9 a.m., with a shotgun start scheduled for 10:30 a.m. The day's festivities include 18 holes of golf, a continental breakfast and lunch, followed by dinner and a live auction and raffle. The cost for the day is \$200 per golfer. Pre-registration is required by calling Jim McIntyre, (734) 615-4272. Art/craft festival

The Ann Arbor Women's City Club hosts its 23rd annual Art & Craft

Festival 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 14 at the AAWCC, 1830 Washtenaw Avenue in Ann Arbor. There will be 50 juried exhibitors from Michigan in attendance. Admission is \$3, children 12 and under are admitted free (no strollers). For information, contact Penny O'Malley, (734) 429-8137 or email pennyhomalley@aol.com Movies in the park

(CP)

Wayne County Parks and Recreation announced the schedule of movies for its popular Movies in the Park series, sponsored in cooperation with Dearborn Heights, Inkster, Northville, Redford, Trenton, Livonia and Westland Parks and Recreation departments. The schedule: Friday, July 28, "Madagascar," Bell Creek Park. in Redford; Friday, Aug. 11, "March of the Penguins," Canfield Community Center in Dearborn Heights; Friday, Aug. 18, "Racing Stripes," in Elizabeth Park in Trenton. For more information, call (734) 261-1990.

Here's the schedule for the Music in the Park concert series for kids, sponsored by the Plymouth Community Arts Council, New Liberty Bank and McCully Educational Resource Center; con-

- 🖬 Aug. 2 elmoThumm
- 🔳 Aug. 9 Gemini
- 🖬 Aug. 23 Matt Watroba

Please recycle this newspaper

Here's the schedule for the Music in the Air concert series,

sponsored by the Downtown Development Authority; concerts

Aug. 4 – Retrospect Band, modern hits, new to the lineup

Aug. 18 – Fifty Amp Fuse (formerly the Crackerjack Band)

Aug. 11 – Rodeo Drive, modern country and radio hits, new to

CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to State Law 257.252, the following vehicle(s) will be sold at Public Sale at Mayflower Auto Transport, 1179 Starkweather Road, Plymouth, Michigan on the date and time listed below:

Tuesday, August 22, 2005, 5:30 P.M. Vehicle(s): YEAR & MAKE STYLE MODEL ID NUMBER CASE # 1GNDT13W8T2238340 06-2718 1996 Chevrolet 2 Dr Blazer 3GNFK16R9XG178261 06-2963 1999 Chevrolet 2 Dr K151996 Chevrolet 4 Dr Monte Carlo 2G1WX12X4T9200033 06-2276 Sable 1MECM50U1LG631626 06-1528 1990 Mercury 4 Dr

Inquiries regarding these vehicles should be directed to Officer Josh Carroll, City of Plymouth Police Department, at (734) 453-1234 x534

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH PLANNING COMMISSION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED ACTION:	Request Approval of a Special Land Use
DATE OF HEARING:	Wednesday, August 16, 2006
TIME OF HEARING:	7:00 P.M.
PLACE OF HEARING:	Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 North Haggerty Road
NOTICE IS HEREBY G	IVEN that the Planning Commission of

Plymouth Charter Township has received an application requesting Special Land Use Approval for a Sikh Foundation Cultural Center in an Office Research District, (OR), on Tax ID R78-023-99-0031-701, pursuant to Zoning Ordinance No. 99, Section 17.2-10. The property is located on the north side of Schoolcraft Road, west of I-275, and east of Haggerty Rd. at 40600 Schoolcraft Road, the former Hidden Falls Building.

Application 1935/0706. Applicant, Sikh Foundation LEGAL DESCRIPTION: For parcel description, see tax

records based on Tax ID No. R-78-023-99-0031-701.



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH LEGAL NOTICE **PRIMARY ELECTION** -TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2006

Notice is hereby given that a primary election will be held in the Charter Township of Plymouth, Wayne County, Michigan, on Tuesday, August 8, 2006, from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m., at which time candidates of the Democratic and Republican and Non-Partisan Candidates will be voted on:

Governor United States Senator **Representative in Congress** State Senator **Representative in State Legislature County Executive County Commissioner Precinct Delegates** and the following Non-Partisan Offices:

Judge of the Circuit Court, 3rd Judicial Circuit - Regular Term -Non-Incumbent Position Judge of the District Court, 35th District -**Regular Term - Incumbent Position**

All polling locations in Plymouth Township are accessible to the elderly and the handicapped.

Polling locations are as follows:

PLEASE NOTE: Precincts 1,3,5,6,10 and 14, all located within a school, have been temporarily relocated for the August 8, primary election only. Per the Plymouth-Canton Community School District, these schools are closed for renovations. Voters will vote at their normal precinct location for the November 7, General Election.

Precinct 1	relocated to:	Farrand School has been			
-	Friendship Station	42375 Schoolcraft Rd.			
Precinct 2	Friendship Station	42375 Schoolcraft Rd.			
Precinct 3	Regular polling location Allen School has been relocated to: Plymouth Twp. Municipal Offices 9955 N. Haggerty Rd.				
Precinct 4	Plymouth Twp. Municipal	Offices 9955 N. Haggerty Rd.			
Precinct 5	relocated to:	n Bird School has been 45000 N. Territorial Rd.			
Precinct 6	Regular polling location W relocated to: First United Methodist	Vest Middle School has been Church 45201 N. Territorial Rd.			
Precinct 7	Living Word Church	46500 N. Territorial Rd.			
Precinct 8	St. Kenneth's Catholic Church 14951 Haggerty Rd.				
Precinct 9	Church of the Nazarene	45801 Ann Arbor Rd.			
Precinct 10	Regular polling location Fiegel School has been relocated to: St. Kenneth Catholic Church 14951 Haggerty Rd.				
Precinct 11	First Baptist Church	45000 N. Territorial Rd.			
Precinct 12	Pioneer Middle School	46081 Ann Arbor Rd.			
Precincts 13	Risen Christ Lutheran Ch	モリー 大学家が立ていたい しょうしい 二人婦			
& 16		46250 W. Ann Arbor Rd.			
Precinct 14	relocated to:	Isbister School has been 49955 N. Territorial Rd.			
Precinct 15	First United Methodist Ch				
Frechict 15	First Onited Methodist Ch	45201 N. Territorial Rd.			
Proginat 17	NorthRidge Church	49555 N. Territorial Rd.			
그 나는 것이 많은 것 같아요. 것 같아?	철물권 영제 방송 위험 귀엽이 가지 않는 것이 가지 않는 것이 있다.				
Applications for absentee ballots for Plymouth Township registered voters may be obtained at Plymouth Township Clerk's Offices, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170, during regular business					

Brigitte Weninger

CONCERT SCHEDULE

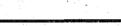
MUSIC IN THE PARK

certs are noon Wednesdays in Kellogg Park:

- 🖬 Aug. 16 Guy Louis, Chautaugua Express

Publish: July 30, 2006

LINDA J. LANGMESSER





BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS MEETING NOTICE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN (734) 453-1234

A regular meeting of the Board of Zoning Appeals will be held on Thursday, August 3, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. in the Commission Chambers of the City Hall, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI, to consider the following item:

Z 06-09 1147 W. Ann Arbor Trail

Non-Use Variance Requested Side Yard Setback Zoned: R-1, Single Family Residential Applicant: John Burlett **Roofing & Siding**

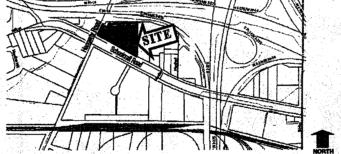
All interested persons are invited to attend.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Plymouth 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/hearing, to individuals with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids or services may be made by writing or calling the following:

> Maureen Brodie, ADA Coordinator 201 S. Main Street Plymouth, MI 48170, (734) 453-1234, Ext. 206

Publish: July 30, 2006





The application may be examined at the Plymouth Township Division of Public Services, Community Development Department, during regular business hours from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. Written comments will be received prior to the meeting and may be mailed to 9955 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth, MI 48170 or call (734) 354-3270, ext. 6. The meeting will be held in the Meeting Room at Township Hall which is located at 9955 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth Township, MI 48170.

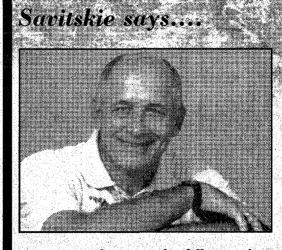
PLEASE TAKE NOTE: The Charter Township of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at all Township meetings to individuals with disabilities at the meetings/hearings upon one week notice to the Charter Township of Plymouth by writing or calling the Supervisor's Office, 9955 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth, MI 48170. Phone: (734) 354-3201. TDD users: (800) 849-3777 (Michigan Relay Service).

> **KENDRA BARBERENA**, Secretary **Planning Commission**

Publish: July 30, 2006

N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170, during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Absentee ballots will be delivered to qualified absentee voters in person at the Clerk's Office from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., on Saturday, August 5. On Monday, August 7, qualified voters shall receive their ballots, and vote them in the Clerk's Office until 4:00 p.m.

MARILYN MASSENGILL, CMC Clerk, Charter Township of Plymouth



"If you're in the market for a home-or a job-check your credit." "By now, most people are educated enough

Mortgage Tip #12:

as consumers to know how important it is to establish and maintain good credit. Credit ratings come into play any time a lender is weighing the risk of lending to a particular borrower, and a high score can mean the difference between getting the loan..or not.

What many people don't know is that credit

ratings can also mean the difference between getting the job or not. More and more prospective employers have begun to routinely check applicants' credit histories as one means of determining how reliable the applicant has been and will continue to be. That's why it's more important than ever to check your credit record for accuracy, to correct it where necessary...and to keep it clean."

Mark Savitskie knows what he's talking about.

Publish: July 30, 2006



Call us today for your FREE CONSULTATION (734) 254-9640 670 S. Main Street • Plymouth, MI 48170 mark@allegrohomeloans.com



Beverages could be ruining your diet

Think you've got your diet under control? You may be gulping down hundreds of unwanted calories without even knowing it.

^{*}Believe it or not, more than 20 percent of our daily calories come from the things that we drink," said Susan Aaronson, a registered dietitian, wellness coordinator for the MFit Health Promotion Division at the University of Michigan Health System. "In fact, the World Health Organization recommends that people consume only about 10 percent of their calories from liquids. So those extra calories from liquid beverages are adding to America's obesity epidemic, making it more difficult for people to lose weight."

According to the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, about 136.5 million Americans are over-



weight. Of these people, about 64 million are obese.

And for the millions of Americans who are trying to lose that extra weight, the solution may not be in what you eat, but what you drink, says Aaronson. To help you make healthier beverage choices — from soda and sports drinks to fruit juice and milk — and cut back on calories, Aaronson offers the following tips.

SODA

"Soda is full of sugar and empty calories, making it a major contributor to the obesity problem in the United States," Aaronson said. "If you chose to eliminate one can of soda each day, which contains about nine teaspoons of sugar, you can lose about a pound in one month; and over the course of a year, you can lose up to 15 pounds."

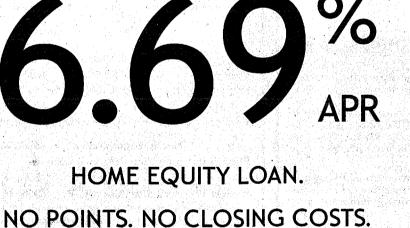
Since it has no nutritional value, filling up on soda also prevents you from getting calories from sources that do contain essential vitamin and minerals. If you absolutely can't live without a soda, Aaronson instead recommends drinking diet soda, or reserving it only for special occasions.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE JUICES

Are you drinking "fruit juice" or some beverage labeled "fruit drink?" The difference can mean extra calories and few nutrients, Aaronson said.

"Read the label carefully," Aaronson said, "If a juice label

RATES AS LOW AS



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Applying for a Home Equity Loan from Charter One is easy. You'll get 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,

5.9% Annual Becentage 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 M and a 3-year term. Circle Checking Account with \$500 minimum opening balance required. An equity loan of \$10,000 with a 3-year term at 6.d9% APR results in 38 monthly payments of \$10,000 with a 3-year term at 6.d9% APR results in 38 monthly payments of \$10,000 with a 3-year term at 6.d9% APR results in 38 monthly payments of \$10,000 with a 3-year term at 6.d9% APR results in 38 monthly payments of \$10,000 with a 3-year term at 6.d9% APR results in 38 monthly payments of \$10,000 with a 3-year term at 6.d9% APR results in 38 monthly payments of \$10,000 with a 3-year term at 6.d9% APR results in 38 monthly payments of \$10,000 with a 3-year term at 6.d9% APR results in 38 monthly payments of \$10,000 with a 3-year term at 6.d9% APR results in 38 monthly payments of \$10,000 with a 3-year term at 6.d9% APR results in 38 monthly payments of \$10,000 with a 3-year term at 6.d9% APR results in 38 monthly payments of \$10,000 with a 3-year term at 6.d9% APR results in 38 monthly payments of \$10,000 with a 3-year term at 6.d9% APR results in 38 monthly payments of \$10,000 with a 3-year term at 6.d9% APR results in 38 monthly payments of \$10,000 with a size and terms available. The second at th

says that it's 'made with real fruit juice,' it may actually contain less than 10 percent of 'real' juice and about seven teaspoons of

PLEASE SEE HEALTHY, C7

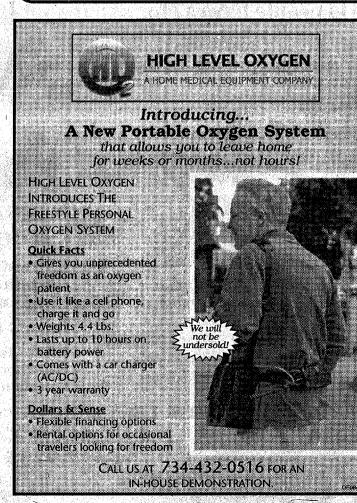
Arthritis Today JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY 18829 Farmington Road Livonia, Michigan 48152



Normally, extensions of the knee joint capsule reach around the tendons of the back of the knee. The reason is to reduce friction between muscle tendons; thus, a small bursa exists between the semi membranosus muscle and the medial gastrocnemius muscle. At times, the otherwise small semi membranous bursa enlarges. This change occurs if the connection between the semi membranous bursa and the medial gastrocnemius muscle is large and the knee joint contains a flap of tissue that allows synovial fluid to flow backward but not circulate around the knee joint. That enlargement is called a Baker s Cyst.

You feel the bulge in the back and inside of the knee and bring it to the attention of your doctor. He notes you have a Baker's Cyst, and turns to other matters. The doctor's casual attitude toward your Baker's Cyst is correct. The cyst is not a threat to the function of your knee. Draining the cyst will do nothing but make it return even bigger than it was. An operation is not in order as the bursa is intertwined near other tendons, blood vessels, and nerves that supply the lower leg; intervention is hazardous. The only problem with a Baker's Cyst is if it ruptures. Then synovial fluid runs into the muscles of the posterior part of the lower leg. Your lower leg swells and becomes painful as if you had a bloed clot in your calf. In most cases the problem resolves on its own, in rare instance, you need surgical removal of the synovial fluid to end the problem.

www.drjjweiss.yourmd.com



HEALTHY FROM PAGE C6

sugar. The best juice drinks to pick are those that say they contain '100 percent juice.' '

Parents should be particularly vigilant about how many juice boxes they allow their kids to drink each day. Just one juice box contains 100 calories, and four of them are equal to about a quarter of the amount of calories a child should consume in one day.

Aaronson recommends limiting yourself to one serving, or 5 ounces, of juice a day. The rest of your daily servings of fruits and vegetables should come from actual pieces of fruits and vegetables. Real fruits and vegetables contain the daily fiber your body needs that you won't find in fruit drinks.

MILK

Choosing low-fat milk can help you save hundreds of calories each day, Aaronson said. Milk also contains vital nutrients like calcium, protein, vitamin D, and vitamin A that you won't find in other beverages. Plus, it is recommended that you get three servings of dairy every day.

To get the most from your milk, Aaronson says to choose 1-percent, 1/2-percent, or skim milk. With these options, you will still get all the nutrients your body needs but without the extra calories and fat.

SPORTS DRINKS AND ENERGY DRINKS

Although sports drinks replenish your body with electrolytes that help you retain water and stay hydrated, they still contain a lot of calories one-half to one-third the amount of sugar you'll find in soda.

"Sports drinks were actually developed for endurance athletes," Aaronson said. "So if you plan to exercise for more than one continuous hour, then sports drinks are for you."

You won't find a lot of nutritional value in energy drinks, either, Aaronson said.

"Energy drinks are not only loaded with calories, but they'll give you a quick high, followed by an extremely low low afterward," Aaronson said.

ALCOHOL

If you are planning an evening of dinner and drinks, remember that you could have the calorie-equivalent to a whole meal in drinks only, before you've eaten anything at all. The average glass of wine has about 100 calories and a 12-ounce beer contains. approximately 150 calories.

According to Aaronson, it's not uncommon for a mixed drink to have about 300 calories and the decadent frozen drinks like daiguiris to have 500 or more calories each. So limiting the number and types of drinks you have before eating will make a major difference for your waistline.

WATER

So what is the ideal beverage to quench your thirst? It's the colorless, odorless, and tasteless refresher that makes up more than half of our body mass - water.

'Water is the single most important beverage that we can consume," Aaronson said. "A person could drink only water and be just fine, as long as he supplements his diet with food sources that contain calcium and other nutrients that one may find in other beverages such as milk and juice."

In general, 80 percent of a person's liquid calories should come from water, depending on their height, weight and where they live. That means the average adult should drink between four and six cups of water a day, which should be supplemented with milk and 100-percent juice to meet total daily liquid requirements

Another option is flavored water that is fortified with vitamins. But Aaronson said if you're already eating a healthy diet, there's no reason to drink vitamins in the form of water.

'The next time you think about digging into the fridge for a soda, save yourself the money and the calories and reach for the tap instead," Aaronson said.

Weight loss presentations

JULY

Brian Rosso, a registered dietitian, gives a series of presentations on healthy dieting for the public and residents at American Houses 3 p.m. Monday, July 31, at 27577 Lahser, north of I-696, Southfield, (248) 353-5835; Tuesday, Aug. 1, at The Village, 3617 S. Adams, north of South Boulevard, Rochester Hills, (248) 853-6000; Wednesday, Aug. 2, American House Parkway, 36725 Utica Road South of Metro Parkway, Clinton Township (586) 792-7231, and Thursday, Aug. 3, at 26600 Ann Arbor Trail, west of Telegraph, Dearborn Heights, (313) 278-6430. Each session is followed by low-cal, healthy refreshments featuring fresh fruits and vegetables. Rosso is food and beverage director for American House Senior Living Residences. Residences. 322 Water aerobics classes 100

Lose weight to help fight cancer

Katie from Novi e-mails for motivation to help her lose weight.

Katie, hopefully this new research will convince you. Cancer is now the second leading cause of death worldwide. The World Health Organization speculates that 1/3 of the most common cancers are caused by obesity and lack of exercise. And, the full effect of this problem may not be felt for decades! In the past five years, obesity rates have skyrocketed around the world. The W.H.O. believes that this will translate into a surge in common cancer rates within the next 10 to 20 years. The obvious recommendation is that people need to lose weight. Dropping a few extra pounds also improves hormone profiles that lead to cancer development. In addition, weight loss reduces the risk of breast and uterine cancer and exercise actually improves insulin metabolism, which has been shown to reduce cancer risks. The important thing to remember is losing weight is good for more than just your self-esteem - it just might save your life!

Gwen from Lincoln Park e-mails to find out about the relationship between her mood and an effective workout. Gwen, in life and in the gym the right frame of mind is absolutely

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

For moms and senior citizens, sponsored by Health Alliance Plan (HAP), continue through August noon to 1 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, at Sheldon Pool, 3123 Van Court, Livonia, and 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, at the Southfield Municipal Complex, 26000 Evergreen. No charge For registration information, call (313) 664-8420.

UPCOMING

Wellness seminar

HFALTH

The Five Keys to Wellness with Dr. Michael Brackney, D.C. 6:15 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 1 and 15, learn how to eat, drink and sleep to reach your optimal levels of health, at 8524 Canton Center Road, Canton, No charge. Call (734) 455-4444. Benefit concert

Featuring Celtic/world music band Gaelic Storm 8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 3, at The Ark, 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor. Tickets \$35 for

> **Peter's Principles**



critical. Here's a true story that serves as a perfect example. A competitive athlete was getting ready to go after a national championship. Before he was about to compete, he watched a tear-jerker movie that left him feeling depressed. He went out and blew the competition! The reason, research shows that mood can have a direct impact on testosterone levels. Another good example is what happens to football fans. Blood testosterone surges after a win but then plunges after a loss. The message is clear. People who are aggressive and confident have more testosterone than those who are depressed or pessimistic. And, this is important because testosterone levels are critical to athletic performance and muscle growth. In the weight room and in the

board room, the key to success is the right frame of mind!

If you have a health or fitness question you would like answered in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, e-mail Peter at www.peternielsen.com. Catch Peter daily on WDIV-NBC 4 & WWJ News Radio 950. Contact him at Peter Nielsen's Personal Training Club in West Bloomfield or Nielsen's Town Center Health Club in Southfield.

open seating, \$40 reserved, 100-percent of ticket and CD sales to benefit Hospice of Michigan. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. For tickets, call (734) 763-8587, or (734) 665-8001. For more information about Hospice

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 30, 2006

of Michigan, visit www.hom.org. Divorce support

Group discussion 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 8, group discussion, attorney Patricia Kasody-Coyle will be available to answer questions on a first come, first served basis: an attorney from the firm Woll & Woll will be available 5-7 p.m. the third Monday of each month (anyone interested may sign in beginning at 4:30 p.m. that day), a certified financial planner from Center for Financial Planning is available 5-7 p.m. (sign-in begins 4:30 p.m.) on first Monday of each month, at Women's Resource Center in Room 225 of McDowell Center at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 462-4443.

(*)

Health camps Unday, July 30, 2006 The Amazing Me camp focusing on health and the human body for second-?" third- and fourth-grade students 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday, Aug. 7-11, at the Saint Joseph Mercy Health Exploration Station, 1600 S. Canton Center Road, Canton. Cost is \$169. Call (734) 398-7518.

At an asthma camp, participants will learn about what asthma really is, review personal triggers, medications, risk factors and self-management while participating in interactive games and hands-on projects (for second- through fifth-grade students with asthma) 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday, Aug. 14-18. Cost is \$175, Call (734) 398-7518, Camps are all located in the Health Exploration Station, an interactive health education center, where kids can see real germs grow, crawl through a giant intestinal tract, and learn about body systems.

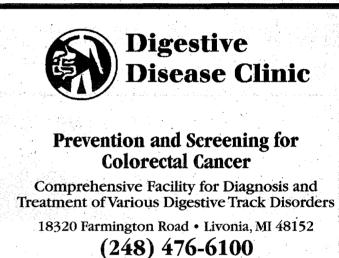


New FDA Approved Technology Treats Herniated Discs Without Drugs or Surgery

Suburban Detroit - A new free report has recently been released that reveals an amazing new medical breakthrough that has proven 86% successful treating debilitating back pain. Even with multiple herniated discs. Find out how space travel solved astronauts back pain and how this accidental discovery has let to the most promising back pain treatment today. For your free report entitled, "How Space Age Technology Is Solving Back Pain Without Drugs Or Surgery!" call 1-800-469-3618 and listen to the toll-free 24 hr. recorded message for all the details. If phone lines are busy, visit: www.midischerniation.com

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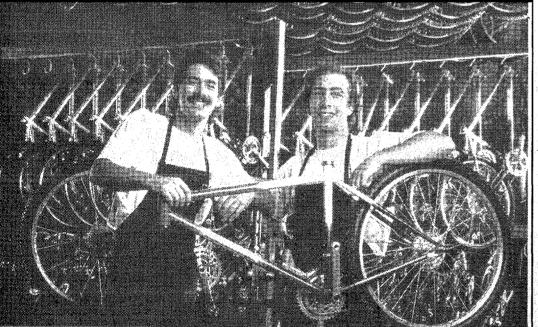
Fax (248) 476-6452



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Profiles is designed so that you are able to advertise your products and services and tell let people know when you started your business, why you started it, what you excel in and much more.

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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 30, 2006

HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Car show supports Angela Hospice

Car enthusiasts enjoyed sunny skies and an array of classic automobiles at the 5th annual Livonia Church of Christ Classic Car Show held Saturday, July 8. The pleasant weather and careful planning by coordinator Mike Bennett and his committee helped to make this year's show the group's most successful to date.

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"We were very happy with the turnout," said Bennett. "Of course weather played a big role. We are grateful that so many people came out. We had a record number of entries this year, so that's definitely a step in the right direction.

The event raised \$1,300 to benefit Angela Hospice of Livonia, a non-profit health agency serving terminally ill

patients of all ages. The funds will have a direct impact on caring programs for hospice patients and their loved ones.

Among the winners of the car show was Margaret Hoover of Commerce Township, whose 1957 Thunderbird took first in class for Cars and Trucks 1950-1957, as well as winning Best of Show.

Jerry and Jodi Holmes of Livonia won first place for Cars and Trucks 1968-1981 with their 1970 Mustang Mach 1, as well as People's Choice, an honor selected by the car show entrants.

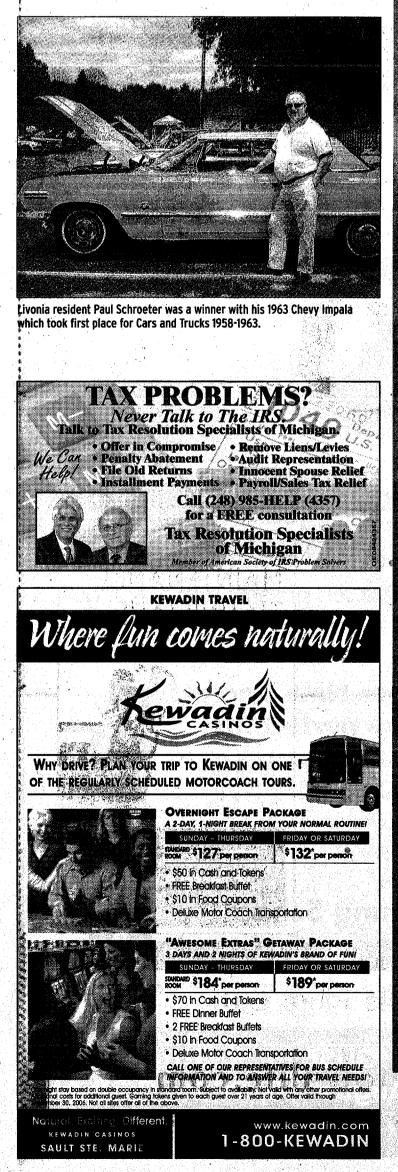
Bennett says he is looking forward to planning the sixth annual show in 2007. He is hoping to link up with a car club for next year's event to ensure another successful year.

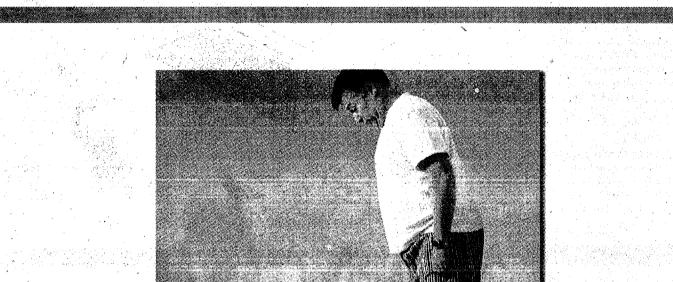


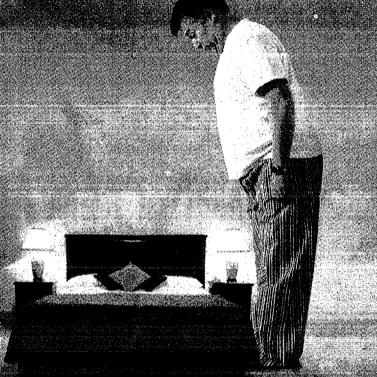
Livonia residents Jerry and Jodi Holmes won first place for Cars and Trucks 1968-1981 with their 1970 Mustang Mach 1. The car was also voted People's Choice by car show entrants.



Westland resident Ron Lowrie took first place among Cars and Trucks up to 1949 with his 1934 Chevy.







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Editors help business people do 'write' thing

(NewsUSA) — You've got spelling and grammar checkers on your laptop computer, so you're all set to crank out the perfect sales letter while you're on the road.

But Chandra Clarke and Terence Johnson of the online editing service Scribendi.com would urge you to not hit the "print" button just yet. Those spelling and grammar checkers can make mistakes, and even one typo could not only ruin the impact of your letter, but reflect poorly on you and your company.

Written marketing materials are often the first impression prospective customers have of a company. And prospects can be very unforgiving of those little typos.

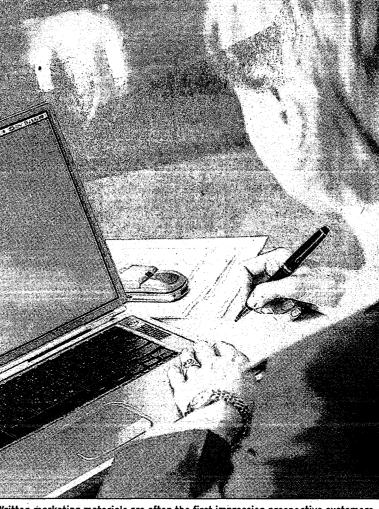
In the article "Ethos and **Error: How Business People** React to Errors," University of South Alabama English professor Larry Beason found that mistakes in written materials create confusion regarding meaning and harm the image of the writer and the writer's company. The typos often reflect on more than the writer's communication skills, Beason said. The people he interviewed called sloppy writers "hasty," "uninformed," "careless" and "uncaring.'

"If you don't care about your work," wrote one of the respondents, "why should I care about you and your business?"

But carefully proofreading your work may not be enough studies show that people often miss their own typos. According to the studies, you see what you expect to see in your own writing, rather than what's actually there. Another person, or an editing service like Scribendi, can provide a fresh set of eyes. Scribendi offers a variety of services, including proofreading, editing and translation. Clients upload their files to Scribendi's Web site and download their documents after the editors are done correcting and polishing.

The editors come from a variety of backgrounds, so they're familiar with their clients' fields. In addition to correcting grammar, spelling, flow and consistency, they explain word usage issues and standard writing practices, so clients learn how to improve their own writing.

When it comes to making a great first impression, Clarke and Johnson believe no project is too small. The image you create with a short press release, they say, is as important as a deal-closing presentation. For more information, visit www.scribendi.com.



Written marketing materials are often the first impression prospective customers have of a company. And prospects can be very unforgiving of those little typos.

Embracing caregiving as a career

(NAPSI) — Experts say if you are a person who is caring and compassionate, a good conversationalist and enjoy helping others, you might consider a career as a caregiver.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates there are more than 700,000 professional companions or caregivers, making this one of the fastestgrowing occupations in the nation. The Bureau projects more than a 27-percent growth in this career category over the next 10 years.

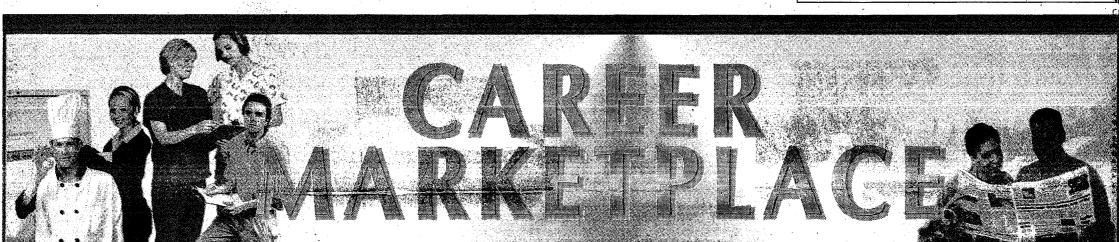
According to Home Instead Senior Care CEO and founder Paul Hogan, an aging population and longer life spans are indicators of an increasing demand for not only health care, but also in-home assistance. "The help and companionship afforded by a caregiver can keep seniors in their own homes longer and enhance their quality of life," Hogan said.

Seniors are not the only ones to benefit. For example, after relocating to a new city with her husband, a woman named Muriel Phelps decided she wanted to meet new people and take on new challenges. She had managed an office for 20 years and wasn't necessarily looking for a job when she discovered a hidden talent for caring for seniors. "In this day and age, people can have several careers," Phelps said of her newfound caregiving vocation. "It is one of the most fascinating periods of my life."

She has now been a professional caregiver for Home Instead Senior Care for three years and says the satisfaction of caregiving is being able to reach out and give other seniors the care they need. She and her seniors share many interests — a love of gardening, music, food — and they even shop together.

"I have been so blessed in my life," she said. "If I can share and make someone's life more interesting and fun, right until their last breath, I've accomplished something and made my life worthwhile."

For information on careers in caregiving, visit www.homeinstead.com/job.





Or E-Mail Your Ad To careers@hometownlife.com







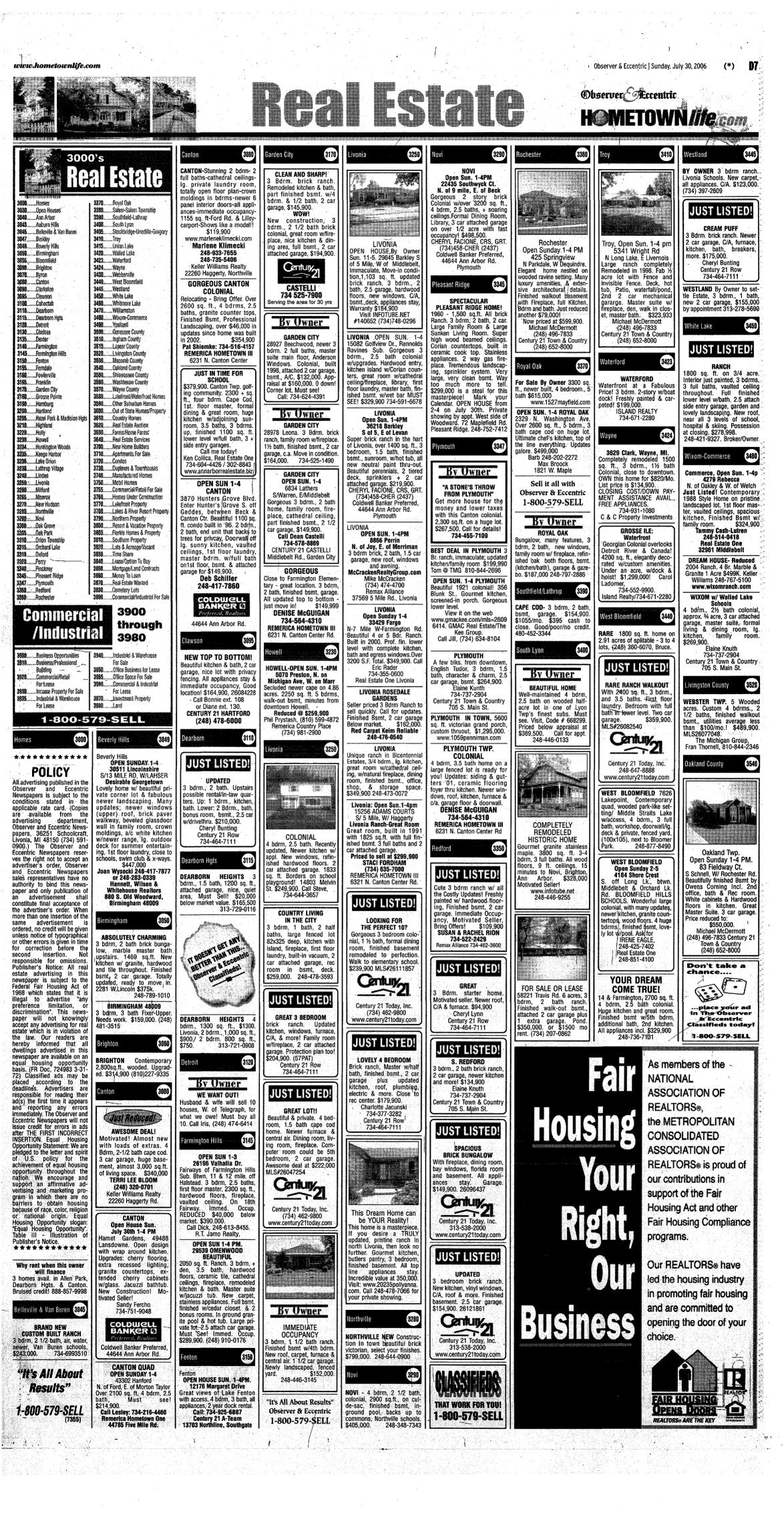
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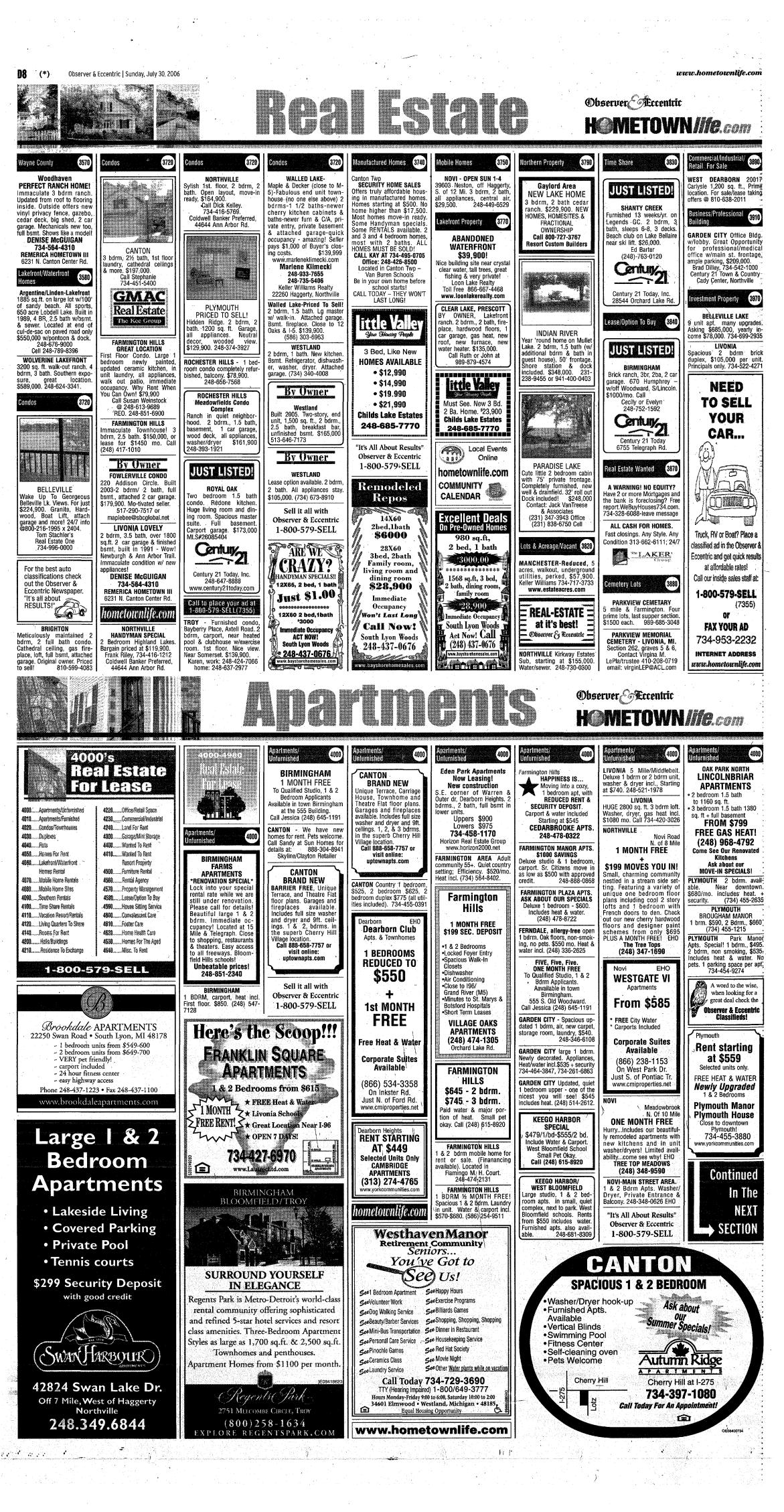
Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 30, 2006 (*)



(*) Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 30, 2006









'Smart' insulation may help prevent mold in walls

(NAPSI) - There's good news for homeowners and builders who want to control moisture and in some cases help prevent the growth of mold in the walls of their homes.

Mold – and in particular the dreaded black mold - not only can cause considerable damage to homes but pose a significant health risk as well, particularly for those with allergies.

It is not uncommon for a home sale to fall through during the inspection stage because mold is discovered growing behind wall and in the attics of many homes in southeast Michigan.

To battle this persistent problem, one manufacturer has developed a first-of-its-kind combination of fiber glass insulation faced with a breathable "smart" film. The product has been introduced by CertainTeed. Called DryRight[™] Fiber Glass

Shore Mortgage

Shore Mortgage will offer a free Homebuyers/FICO score seminar 7-9 p.m. every third Monday through August. Seminars will take place at Shore Mortgage, 1741 N. Canton Center Road, Canton. For reservations or more information, call (248) 433-3300.

Career Seminars

Keller Williams Realty will be hosting a Career Seminar at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 16, at the Livonia Office located at 36642 Five Mile in Livonia. There will also be a seminar offered at its Plymouth office located at 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100 in Plymouth, at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 10. Find out all you need to know about costs,

It works by allowing excess moisture to escape from wall cavities, which in turn lessens the potential for moisture accumulation.

Insulation, the building material exhibits excellent thermal and acoustical performance while at the same time helping reduce the risk of mold and mildew growth.

It works by allowing excess moisture to escape from wall cavities, which in turn lessens the potential for moisture accumulation. This advanced insulation helps people protect what may be their largest investment – their homes.

"Insulation is known for thermal and acoustical performance, but it is not typically associated

with helping to keep wall cavities dry and helping prevent mold and mildew growth. DryRight provides all four due to its smart vapor retarder component," said Howard Deck, president of CertainTeed's insulation group.

DryRight can be used in place of traditional insulation to forge an insulation system ideal for climates with frequent changing temperatures and humidity levels. Moisture management is: most important in very cold and mixed warm and cold climates.

To learn more about DryRight and where it is sold locally, go to certainteed.com or call (800)-782-8777.

A new kind of insulation helps reduce the risk of mold and mildew growth by allowing moisture to escape wall cavities.

BRIEFS

compensation, training, and prelicense requirements. RSVP: (734) 459-4700, Plymouth: (734) 266-9000, Livonia.

Building Industry Association

The Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan will present:

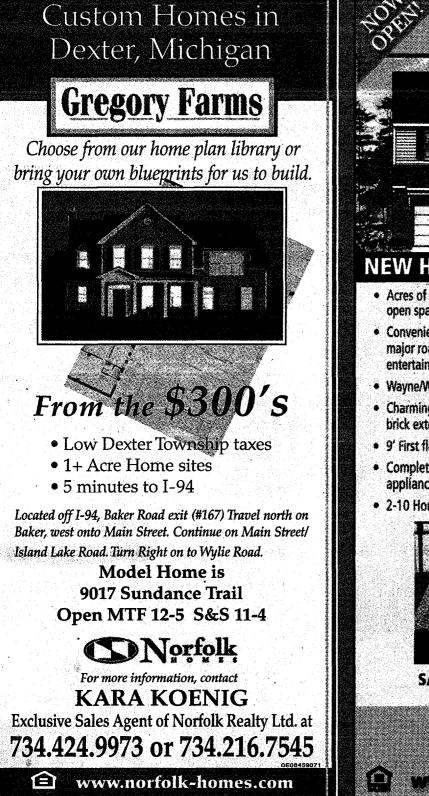
A development site tour of Partridge Creek in Clinton Township 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 2. The tour begins at Burton Katzman, 30100 Telegraph, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile in Bingham Farms. Parking is available on the south side, adjacent to the boundary of Bingham Office Park and Fitness USA. The community will feature 360 single family homes, 40 models

and already constructed homes, 600 condo units, senior housing and a 600,000square-foot lifestyle center. The community is developed by **Taubman Group and Trinity** Land Development. Registration fees, including lunch, are \$40 for BIA members and \$60 for nonmember building industry professionals. (248) 862-1033.

A Certified Graduate Builder Series seminar on "Introduction to Business Management" 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 3, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100 in Farmington Hills. Fees are \$140 for Remodelors Council members and \$160 for BIA members and guests. To register, call (248) 862-1033.



SUNDAY FEATURED HOMES







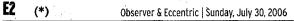


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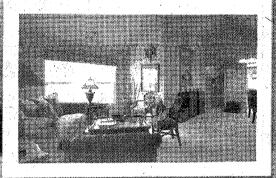


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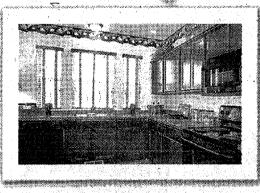
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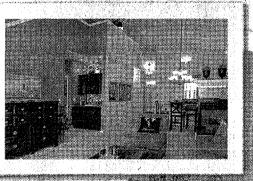
Manor living happens on a single-level with up to 1,655 sq. ft. with important amenities - kitchens with all appliances, laundries with washer & dryer, balconies or covered porches, ceramic tile in baths, fireplaces and cathedral ceilings, per plan, window treatments and attached garages, 2 bedrooms & 2 baths.

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GRAND OPENING

SEE WHAT'S



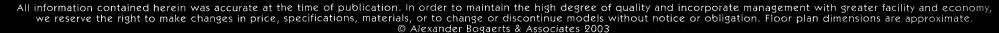
The Villas lifestyle emerges with enchanting 2 or 3 bedroom condominium homes with lofts, fabulous gourmet kitchens, convenient 1st floor laundries, rejuvenating master suites, ceramic tile in the baths, full basements and attached 2 car garages, up to 1,950 sq. ft. of space in all... all from the unbelievably low

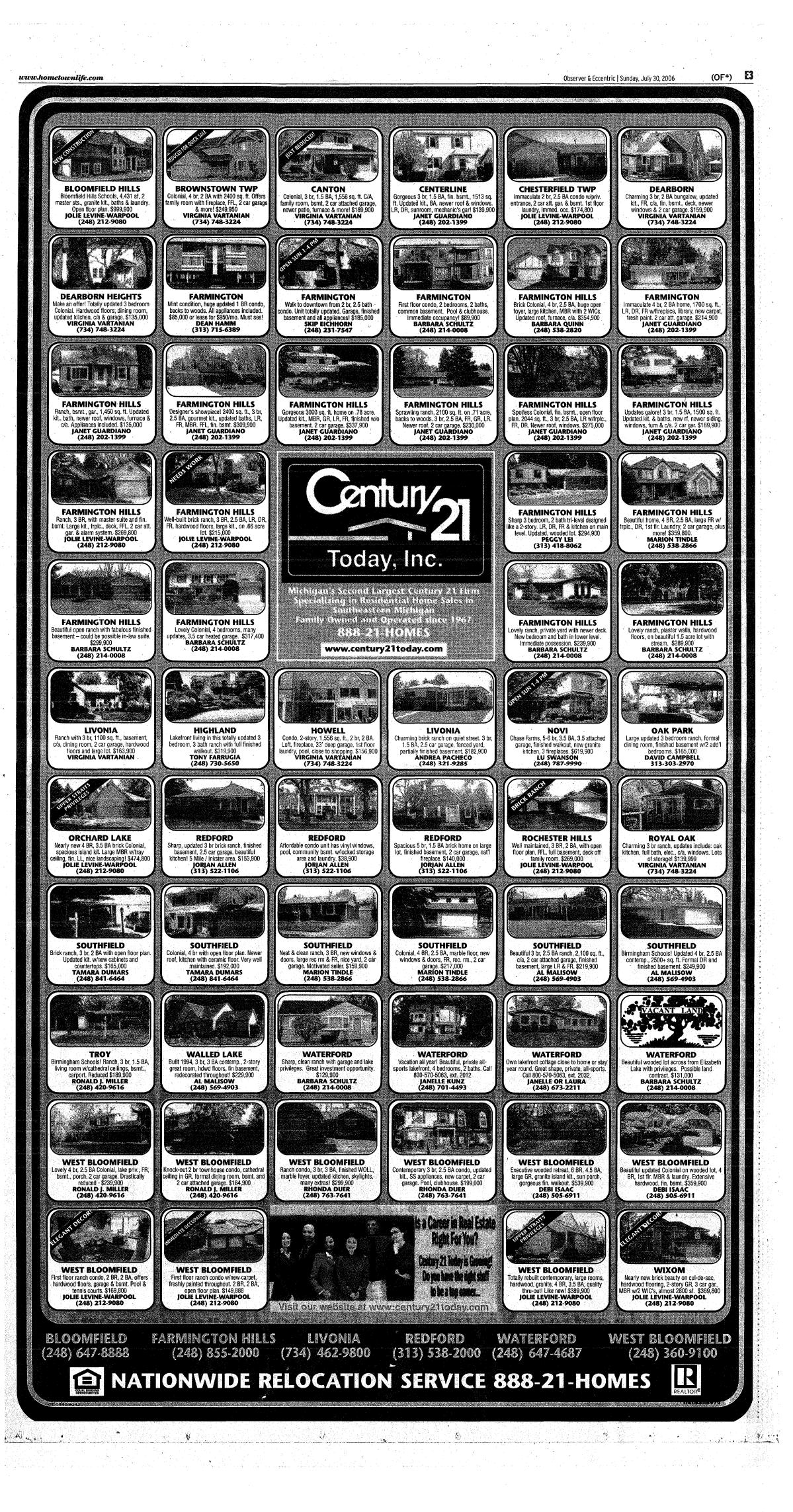


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E6 (OF)(E4*) Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 30, 2006

NEW HOMES

Family becomes center of attention in this home

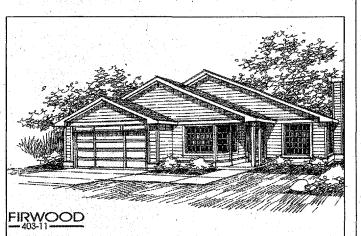
Ideal for a retired couple or a family who likes to be together, the Firwood (403-11) groups bedrooms at one end and formal rooms at the other.

Protruding outward from this family circle juts the hub of the family activity, the country kitchen, with eating bar and full pantry. Hot biscuits and fresh brewed coffee go down easily sitting in the breakfast nook, enveloped in sunshine from the front yard windows.

A glowing fireplace and an elegant vaulted ceiling lure guests from the foyer into the formal area. After a sit-down dinner, leave wining and dining behind, stand on the patio

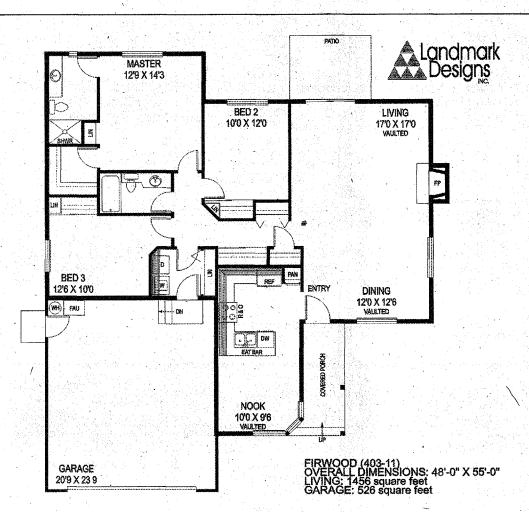
under the evening stars and take a deep breath. Come bed time, parents can breathe easy, knowing the children's rooms are next to the master suite, just in case a nightmare awakens the little ones and soothing is in order.

The master suite amenities include a private bathroom, linen closet, and a walk-in closet that provides plenty of room for any fashion lover. When that pricey fashion becomes just plain dirty laundry, it's a short trip to the full utility room, right off the garage.

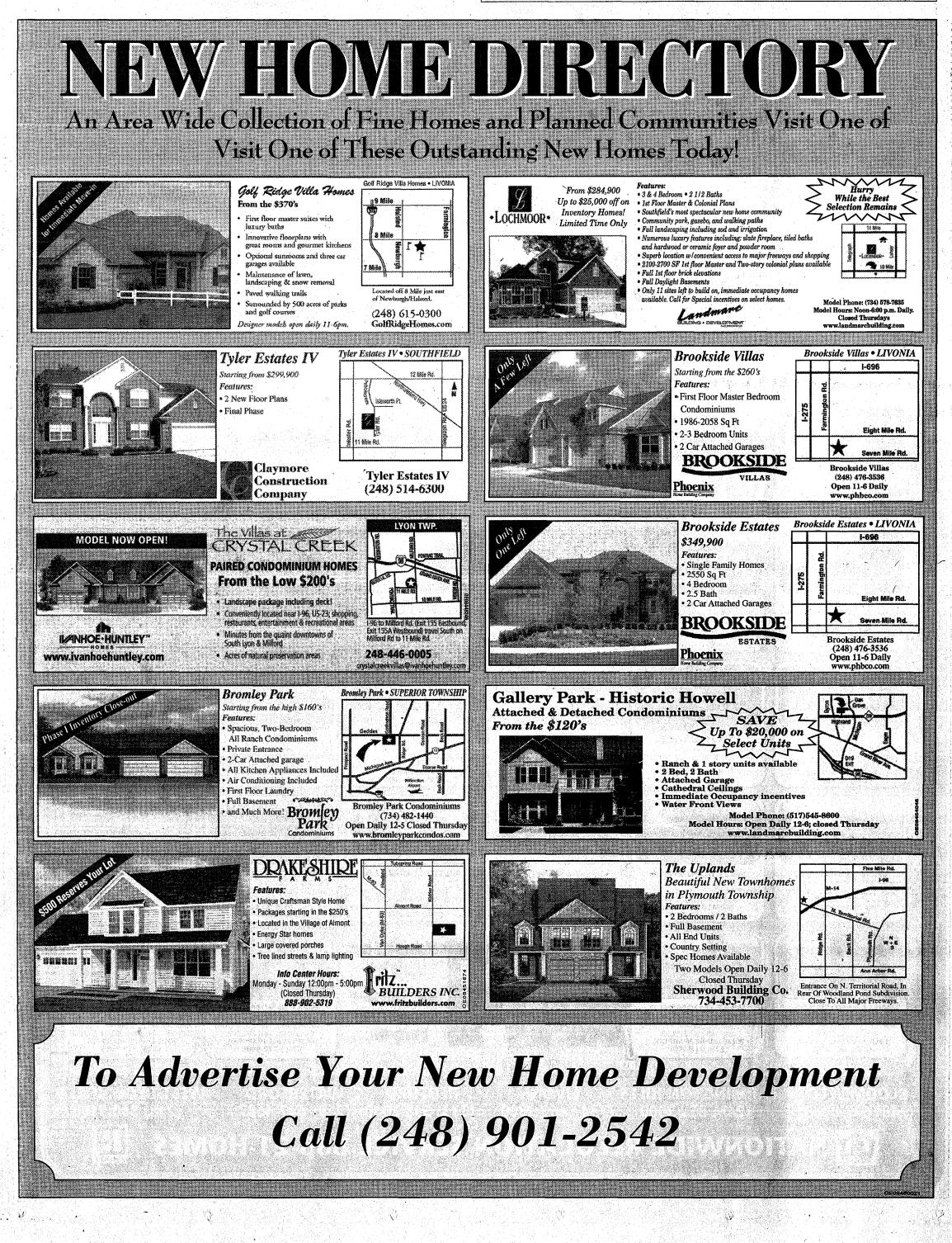


This medium-sized home is perfect for a city lot. Designed for living, the Firwood makes the family the cornerstone of this design.

For a study plan of the FIRWOOD (403-11), send \$15 to Landmark Designs, 33127 Saginaw Rd. E., Cottage Grove, OR 97424 or call (800) 562-1151. Be sure to specify plan name and number. Compact disks, with search functions are free of charge, to help you search our portfolio for you dream home (\$5 shipping and handling will apply).



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NEW HOMES

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Going from a sale to a close

I sold my house. What steps now have to take place to get the transaction to close?

Most purchase agreements are contingent upon a private inspection and a mortgage approval. This means that even after you have sold your house, the transaction may still not close if these two contingencies haven't been met:

The inspection: The details can vary based on what is in writing in the purchase agreement. Normally, the buyer has up to seven days to do an inspection. If within this time the buyer finds something "wrong" with the house he/she has the option to withdraw from the sale and get his/her deposit back.

Usually what happens is that the buyer may ask that the problem be fixed by the seller, get a repair allowance, or offer less money for the house.

Also, some cities require an inspection. The house must pass this inspection in order to get the Certificate of Occupancy required for closing. Not all cities in Michigan require this. However, if you are selling your house, it would



be a very good idea to check whether your city requires it or not.

The mortgage: The buyer normally has within a certain amount of time to apply for the mortgage.

You may be asking yourself that you thought that the buyer gave you a pre-approval, or a mortgage commitment, and whether that's the same thing as a mortgage approval. It isn't. If you read the fine print on the pre-approval it usually says that it's subject to several different conditions before the actual approval is received.

The purchase agreement normally gives about 30 days to get the actual full blown approval. The closing can not take place until this happens unless the buyer doesn't need the lender.

Lenders have different steps

that need to be taken to get the mortgage. The lender will check the buyers' credit report and their income. There are a number of different types of mortgages offered by lenders, some with no income verification.

Lenders then will work with the buyer to secure the mortgage. The buyers may have some blemishes on their credit report that must be repaired before getting the loan. An example of this is a debt sent to collections. This may have to be paid off before the loan is granted.

Once this takes place the lender will send an appraiser to examine the house. This is a very important step. The appraiser will examine the house and tell the lender how much he/she thinks that the house is worth. If the appraiser evaluates that the house isn't worth the purchase price, the buyer will most likely not get the mortgage.

The lender wants to be sure that in the event of foreclosure that the house is worth the mortgage. Therefore, if the appraisal comes out low this Lenders then will work with the buyer to secure the mortgage. The buyers may have some blemishes on their credit report that must be repaired before getting the loan. An example of this is a debt sent to collections. This may have to be paid off before the loan is granted.

scenario can torpedo the transaction. What then needs to happen is that the buyer and seller need to work it out. Either the buyer must get the difference from another source or the seller will reduce the price.

Michael Aldouby is a Realtor with Real Estate One. He has an M.B.A. with a concentration in marketing. Please feel free to call him at (734)748-9621 or e-mail him at michaelsellshomes@realestateone.co

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Kitchen design contest announced

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 30, 2006

Luxury appliance manufacturer Thermador®, which has been empowering cooking enthusiasts for more than 70 years, is calling on members of the designer community to "liberate" their kitchen designs for a chance to win cash and prizes totaling \$150,000 in the Freedom Collection Design Contest.

Now through April 2007, designers can submit their outstanding high-end projects that use Thermador's new Freedom Collection modular refrigeration and receive recognition for their work in a national advertising and publicity campaign.

The winners will be determined by a panel of experts, including special guest judge Candice Olson from HGTV's *Divine Design*, and will be announced at the 2007 Kitchen & Bath Industry Show (K/BIS) in Las Vegas in May.

For more information about rules and submissions for the Design Contest, visit www.Thermador.com.

Thermador's Freedom Collection debuted on the Fourth of July. It features a system of refrigerators, freezers and wine columns in different width sizes that offer new flexibility and convenience.

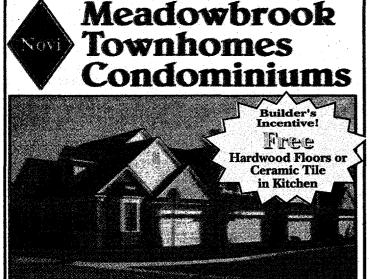
"Thermador has a legacy of introducing revolutionary appliances, such as the first built-in wall oven, that have changed the way we look at kitchen design, functionality and performance," said Franz Bosshard, president and CEO.

"The breakthrough Freedom Collection continues this tradition as it offers consumers the ability to mix and match their refrigeration to suit whatever needs they have in their home."



NEW HOMES

(*) Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 30, 2006



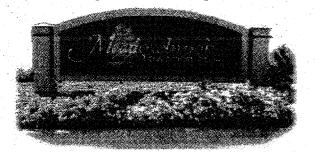
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Lowe's has this great idea for

a teen girl's room: Base cabinets and shelving units serve as a dresser and two bookcases. The middle base cabinet remains doorless for cubby-style storage; fabric drawers keep items packed away

This 24-inch aluminum water-heater pan is used to protect the plush carpet from spills during manicures and craft projects. In a light blue shade that complements the wall color, the carpet adds warmth, muffles sounds, and is a comfortable flooring option.

This teen wanted a hip, happening bedroom where she could prepare for each day, do homework, hang out with friends, and relax. But knowing that their daughter would leave for college in a few years, Mom and Dad needed to carefully select updated products and features that also would suit a future guestroom or home office.

The family began by choosing a color palette of soft blues, rich pastels, and crisp whites.

Then they decided on durable carpet, ample lighting, and lots of storage and display areas. They finished the room with a one-of-a-kind headboard and bedside shelving. The new space delights the teen, as well as her parents, and promises to be functional for years to come.

Lowe's has tips on rooms for teens

A. For a list of materials and instructions on how to build this simple headboard go to **Relaxing Stripes (Project #JA0601).** The mattress rests atop the bed frame for a clean, floating look.

B. An easy-to-hang chandelier on each side of the bed provides light for reading while lending a dramatic touch to the room. C. For a list of materials and

instructions on how to build these shelves flanking the bed, visit Girl's Room Side Tables (Project #JA0602).

For safety, a cord channel with a self-stick back is attached to the side of the headboard to contain the chandelier's hanging cord.

The family selected built-in

By attaching screw eyes to the top of five basic frames and weaving in ribbon, the teen finds a clever way to hang her favorite photos or prints.

kitchen cabinets topped with a solid-surface countertop and a simple mirror to create a dressing table. The countertop withstands heat from curling irons and hair dryers, while its aqua shade complements the wall color. The chrome-finish lamps, which provide task lighting, coordinate with the satin-nickel knobs. The creative teen embellished the shades with beaded fringe for added personality.

By attaching screw eyes to the top of five basic frames and weaving in ribbon, the teen finds a clever way to hang her favorite photos or prints.

INSTALLATION AVAILABLE

Lowe's can provide guaranteed professional installation of cabinetry, countertops, flooring, and interior lighting. For a teen boy's room,

Lowe's recommends: Base cabinetry serves as a desk and dresser space that the boys share. The teens customized the area with contemporary drawer pulls, mahogany lamps, and an enlarged outdoor photo. They also created a unique bulletin board by threading sisal rope through screw eyes attached to a piece of stained plywood. Clothespins hold messages and photos on the board.

In search of a more grownup pad, these teenage brothers moved into their family's basement. Their mission was to transform the large, cluttered space into a comfortable room for two. Luckily, the timeless, masculine look the boys wanted can suit a guest space or work area down the road.

www.hometownlife.com

A color palette of khaki, chocolate brown, and hunter green sets a nature-inspired stage for these outdoor enthusiasts. The room is split into zones for sleeping, relaxing, dressing, and studying. Personal touches - such as the custom storage unit and beds they helped build-let the boys' individual personalities shine. The result is a great space that these independent guys are proud to call home.

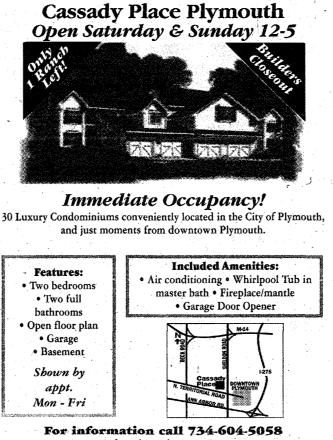
A. For a list of materials and instructions on how to build these simple platform beds, go to Twin Platform Beds (Project #JA0603).

B. For a list of materials and instructions on how to build this cubby storage unit, which separates the sleeping areas, go to Cubby Divider (Project #JA0604).

C. Arranged by the boys in a random pattern, khaki-colored and striped carpet tiles make a stylish statement. Perfect for kids' spaces, the tiles can be individually replaced if needed. D. Three tiered shelves display keepsakes and create a focal point for those entering the room.

A laminate countertop in a vivid hunter-green shade is easy to clean and durable enough for projects. A 48-inch dowel positioned between a pair of oak drapery brackets holds a roll of contractor paper (found in the paint department) for drawing.

While providing privacy, high-quality oak blinds are easy to operate and add a touch of nature. For more, visit www.lowes.com.



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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 30, 2006 partment Observer SEccentric HOMETOWN /ife.com 4000 4000 4020 4040 4050 4050 4050 Homes For Rent Condos/Townhouses Flats **Homes For Rent** Homes For Rent **Rooms For Rent** nfurnishe Unfurnished Continued LIVONIA - 2000+ sq.ft, 4 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, finished bsmt, fireplace, hardwood floors, \$1750. 734-812-2714 WESTLAND - 2 bdrm duplex DETROIT- 15337 Lamphere-WESTLAND **Birmingham Townhouse DEARBORN** Lower Flat 2 Cable & utilities, included. \$100 weekly + security, Call (734) 717-1719 Walled Lake 2 bedroom, 1 bath, finished basement, C/A, washer/dryer Fenkel/Lasher. Clean 2 bed-C/A bsmt, stove, refriderator Bedrooms, bath, 2 garages laundry facilities, basement From The LÖÖK JULY SPECIAL \$250 Security Deposit room, basement. \$550. \$695/mo. One Mo. Free 888 635-3304 photos: sublet.com Artesian-Warrendale. hardwood floors, \$895/mo 7710 & living room dinina Sharp 3 bdrm, bsmt, \$650. 248-476-6498 PREVIOUS plus Free Rent for July tinyurl.com/ds997 WESTLAND APTS. Pets ok. Available now. Occupancy WESTLAND - 2 bdrm, bsmt, Immediate Office/Retail Space For 4220 LIVONIA - Levan/7 Mile. Clean 3 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath ranch bsmt, garage. No smoking/ pets. \$1400. 248-388-2005 Call Faith (248) 761-3329. Excellent Condition, near all appliances, A/C, blinds, shed, gets neg. \$750+/mo. Section 8 OK. 734-397-8187 2 Bdrm, 1½ bath TOWNHOMES or FORD, UofM, SECTION Rent/Lease schools, Newly Renovated **BLOOMFIELD HILLS FARMINGTON 3 Bedrooms** \$700/mo. plus Telegraph & Maple (15 Mile). Spacious, country setting townhouse, end unit. 3 bdrm, 2.5 baths, 1500 sq. ft. + full Freewavs. 1 Bdrm
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"Entry-level is a term usually reserved for the no-frills, basic, cheapest entry in an automaker s line. The Dodge entry-level vehicle for 2007 is the Caliber (replacing the Neon), and even in its most basic configuration, you still get a lot for the money. And the R/T AWD version of the Caliber is definitely not your typical entry-level car; it s stylish, functional, and all-around cool.

The Caliber R/T is a five-door vehicle, available as a frontwheel or all-wheel drive. My first thought when I saw it was that it s the Dodge Charger s little brother, albeit a little brother with SUV-like proportions. The front fascia features chrome crosshairs with a black painted grille. The headlamps wrap from the grille to the fender and fog lamps are included, as well. The rear features an integrated spoiler and 18-inch aluminum wheels are standard (chrome-clad wheels are optional). It s a sharp, tough-looking package.

The interior is nicely done, as well. The chrome-bezeled instrument cluster is well laid-out and includes a tachometer, and coolant temperature gauge. The transmission lever is chrome-tipped, too. An outside temperature and compass display are optional and are included in a package with a universal garage door opener. The interior features some cool features, and I mean that literally; above the glove compartment is what Dodge calls a chill zone. It s a compartment that will hold up to four bottles or cans of your favorite beverage, and the compartment is cooled by air from the air conditioner. The center console holds a flip up compartment to hold a cell phone or mp3 player. There are plenty of cupholders and other storage areas built in, and there is a power outlet available, as well.

While leather seats are available (and are comfortable), power adjustable seats are not -everything is manual adjustable. The leather seats come in a package that gives you seats that can be heated. The passenger seat can be folded forward to create a table-like surface. 60/40 rear seats **Classifieds on the web:** are available that can also be folded flat, giving you a good amount of cargo space.

Of course, if you d prefer to carry passengers in the rear seating area, you can. While I wouldn't want to go crosscountry in the back seat, for normal driving distances there s



Marke Market and a star

2007 Dodge Caliber R/T AWD. Vehicle class: Compact car, Power: 4-cylinder engine. Mileage: 23 city / 26 highway. Where built: Belvidere. III. Base price: \$19,426. Price as tested: \$23,615.

enough room for two adults in the back. In the front, there s plenty of leg and headroom.

The Caliber R/T AWD comes with air-conditioning, tiltsteering column, leather-wrapped steering wheel, rear window defroster, theft deterrent system, keyless entry, power windows, locks and mirrors, and cruise control. A power sunroof is available an option.

The standard audio system is an AM/FM/CD system with a jack for an auxiliary source, like an mp3 player, and four speakers. You can upgrade to nine premium speakers, for to a package that includes six Boston Acoustic speakers with a subwoofer and two speakers located in the liftgate; those speakers can be turned out for tailgating. A Sirius satellite receiver (with one year of service) is also available as an option, as is a hands-free communication system.

So much for the aesthetics -how does it drive? Actually, its fun to drive. The standard powerplant for the R/T AWD is a 2.4-liter, four-cylinder, 16-valve DOHC engine that features variable valve timing and an intake manifold design with flow control valves. It ll give you good power for a fourcylinder. It s rated at 172 hp and 165 lb.-ft. of torque, and is $\vec{E}PA$ rated at 23/26 mpg -pretty good for an all-wheeldrive, and it takes regular fuel. For cold climate drivers, an engine block heater is available as an option.

It s mated with a five-speed automatic transmission with an auto-stick feature. You can shift it yourself, if you like,

but for most normal driving conditions you won t need to. Ride and handling are very good. The front suspension is

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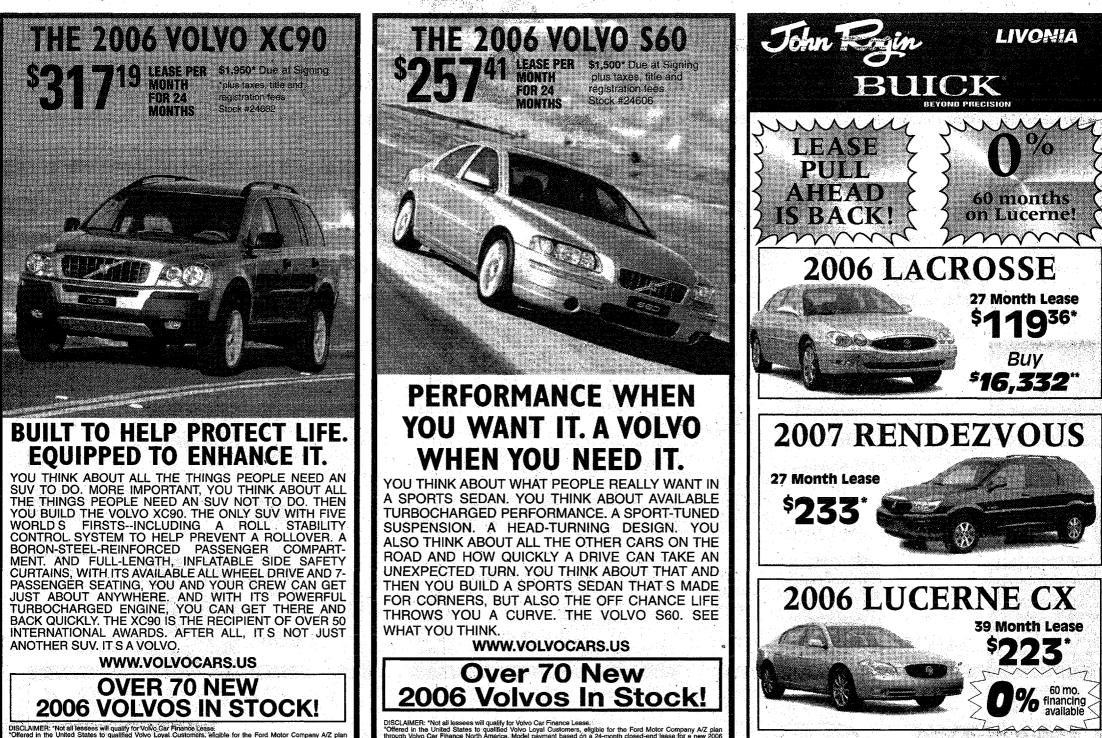
an independent MacPherson strut system, with coil-overspring gas-charged shocks and stabilizer bar. In the rear, it s a multi-link independent system with coil springs, link-type stabilizer bar and gas-charged shocks. It s a nice system for a compact car; rough roads will jar you a little, but the ride is smooth and quiet at highway speeds. Power-assisted rackand-pinion steering is standard, and the turning circle is tight enough for quick U-turns and for easy parking.

The R/T Caliber comes with anti-lock four-wheel disc brakes and side window curtain airbags. Side front seat airbags are optional.

The 2007 Dodge Caliber R/T AWD starts at about \$19,500. Add the leather seats, garage door opener, outside temperature and compass display, upgraded speaker system, power sunroof, satellite radio receiver, chrome-clad wheels, and hands-free communication system and you re up to about \$23,600.

At more than \$23,000, the R/T version of the Dodge Caliber isn t really entry-level priced, and, indeed, the R/T doesn t feel entry-level at all. There are less-expensive versions available, and if they re as good as the R/T, Dodge could have a winner of an entry-level car for quite a while.

Write Avanti NewsFeatures auto columnist Dave Menard at avanti1054@aol.com.



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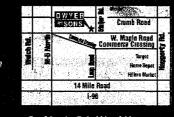
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