



Dance groups keep Polish culture vibrant

HOMETOWNLIFE - SECTION C

Plymouth Fall Festival is just around the corner



Beware of health dangers we face in the summer HEALTH - PAGE C6

SUNDAY August 13, 2006

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Observer

District gains help budget

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

Early enrollment projections indicate Plymouth-Canton Schools administrators might get their wish: Nearly 400 additional students for the upcoming school year.

The increase in enrollment, plus \$210 per student in additional state funding, could mean more than \$2.2 million to the district's general fund budget. The district, pending approval of the state Legislature, is set to get \$7,410 per student this year. As of Friday, projections indicate a K-12 head count of 18,612 students, which is 407 more than last year's official count. **Plymouth-Canton Educational** Park has the largest increase at 210 students, with the middle school adding 197 pupils.

The elementary total remains even; however, the number continues to grow. Last week, the elementary population was down by 90 students. At Tuesday's school board meeting, the elementary population the number showed a decline of 49 students. As of Friday, the elementary population was even with last year, and is expected to go even higher. "We're getting some students from private schools," said Superintendent Jim Ryan. "While we like to think we have a very good school district, we assume the economy has something to with much of the increase."



At Hermanns Olde Town Grill, owner Nick Hermann serves mini-corn dogs to Janis Mann. She's a member of the Sparkling Rubies Red Hat Society from Livonia.

Diners 'crawl' to get goodies

Road fund out of money City would have to bond again to finish

Your hometown newspaper serving Plymouth and

Plymouth Township for

120 years

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

When Plymouth voters passed a \$12 million bond issue for road repairs in 1996, the promise was to pave every one of the city's 32 miles of roadway within 20 years.

Ten years later, barely half the roads in the city's 2.2 square miles have been improved, and the fund is out of money.

"The original program was set up such that most of the repairs were to be done as resurfacing projects," said Shawn Keough, vice president of WadeTrim, a consulting municipal engineering firm in Taylor. "When we got to Ann Arbor Trail (from Union to Mill), they found there were numerous utility repairs – water mains and sanitary sewer – and the realization we needed to do it all together at one time."

)b

That stretch of Ann Arbor Trail

Ryan said the Miller Elementary population is down, as students and teachers relocate to Washington Elementary in Livonia for one year while

PLEASE SEE BUDGET, A4

Old Village event highlights local eateries

BY BRAD KADRICH STAFF WRITER

Unlike their Plymouth counterparts in the Red Hat Society, the ladies of the Livonia Sparkling Rubies had never been to Plymouth's annual Old Village Restaurant Crawl.

So when Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Fran Toney sent them an invitation, the ladies were eager to snap it up.

And, after eating at all the restaurants participating in the eighth annual crawl, they were certainly happy they did.

"We started at Station 885, because they had the biggest parking lot," Charlene Miller, speaking on behalf of about a dozen Rubies, said with a laugh. "It was a wonderful event (and) we came to have fun."

They weren't the only ones. According to Toney, more than 200 tickets were sold, not a record but still an excellent turnout.

"The people love this event," Toney said. "Old Village has lots of great restaurants, and this is a great chance

PLEASE SEE CRAWL, A4



Tom and Elizabeth Borg provided a little oldtime spice to the evening, greeting diners. was estimated to cost \$120,000. With the infrastructure repairs, the project ate up \$1.2 million of the road money. It was then city officials decided that in order to do the work properly, all road projects would include infrastructure repairs – if needed – therefore driving up the costs.

"Everything was wrong," admitted Commissioner Ron Loiselle, who was mayor when the bond issue was passed by voters. "The estimates were too low, 1997-98 saw huge increases in asphalt costs and we didn't have any forethought of fixing sewers. It was just poor planning."

Keough said the average cost of

PLEASE SEE ROAD FUND, A6

Local Lions bring circus elephants, tigers to town

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

As a charter member of the Plymouth Lions Club since 1948, Bill Fehlig of Plymouth Township has seen the service organization undergo a number of changes while helping to support various causes.

However, the 86-year-old Fehlig said there has always been one constant the past 58 years.
"The mission is still the same, and our motto remains 'We serve," Fehlig said. "I like to say 'We serve and we care.'

We are far more active in the community, and we take in and spend a lot more money than years ago," Fehlig said. "It's been part of my life for 58 years, so I've gotten a tremendous boost out of it. A lot of friends, a lot of doing good for the community. That's what Lionism is all about."

Since the mid-1980s, the Plymouth Lions

Club has sponsored the Kelly Miller Bros. Circus on the Central Middle School grounds every other year. The tradition continues Wednesday, when the big top will be raised at approximately 9 a.m., with performances at 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

The Lions – known mainly for their work with organizations that help the blind – spend approximately \$40,000 a year to help support the Penrickton Center in Taylor, which assists blind children who have a second disability; Leader Dogs for the Blind; Paws for the Cause; Michigan Eye Bank; and Bear Lake Camp near Houghton Lake, for blind and handicapped children.

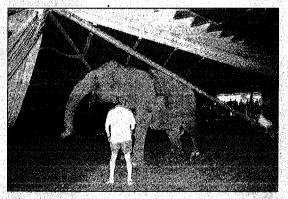
The Plymouth Lions also hand out scholarships to high school seniors, support the Plymouth Community Band, as well as build access ramps for handicapped residents in the city. "We have two main fund-raisers, the White Cane sale in April and the candy cane sales in November," said Doug Hincker, 63, of Plymouth Township, the Plymouth Lions second vice president. "We also have a booth at the Plymouth Fall Festival selling pretzels, smoothies, caramel apples and ice cream.

"Those events get us the majority of our money," Hincker said.

In fact, Hincker said the end of the club's fiscal year in June is the most fun for club members.

"At the June board meeting we get together to take a look at what the needs are in the community and spend the money we have left," he said. "It's one of the most fun times we have."

Advance tickets for Wednesday's circus are S9 for adults and S5 for children, and are available at Kroger in Plymouth, Busch's Supermarket, Wiltse's Pharmacy, Forest



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The tent goes up for the Kelly Miller Bros. Circus around 9 a.m. Wednesday at Central Middle School, with performances at 4:30 and 7:30 p.m.

Place Optical, Dairy King, Station 885 and Rebecca's Restaurant in Northville. Tickets at the circus box office are \$12 for adults and \$6 for children.

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PLYMOUTH PIPELINE

Old-Timers picnic

The annual Plymouth Old-Timers Picnic takes place noon Thursday, Aug. 24, in the pavilion at Plymouth Township Park.

A catered meal will be provided for \$8 per person. Longtime residents of the community should plan on attending!

For more information or to make a reservation, call Richard Sharland, (734) 453-466.

Senior Fest picnic

The annual Plymouth Senior Fest Picnic takes place 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 13, at Waterford Bend Park at Six Mile and Northville Road.

Tickets must be purchased by Sept. 6 at the Plymouth Community Council on Aging office, (734) 453-1234, Ext. 236. Tickets are \$6 and are available to residents only. The ticket includes a box lunch, entertainment and prizes.

Car wash for vets

The Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 528 Plymouth/Canton will host a car wash on Sunday, Aug. 20 from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. at the Lighthouse Carwash on Ford Road, which is located on the south side of the road between Haggerty and Lilley roads.

The owner, Paul Berry, donates all the cash proceeds to the chapter that will wash and dry your car this day.

Entertainment books

The Beckridge Chorale (formerly the Plymouth Community Chorus) has the

new 2007 Entertainment Books and is selling them to support their charitable and educational activities.

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, August 13, 2006

The book contains 2-for-1 and 50-percent-off deals for restaurants, entertainment, hotels, sporting events, plane fares, car rental, etc. Retail price is \$25; however, the chorale is offering them for \$20.

The books will be delivered, and can be ordered by calling Stanley Kovacheff, (734) 459-6289.

Craft show

Delta Kappa Gamma's 20th annual scholarship craft and home show will be held 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 21, at West Middle School, 44401 W. Ann Arbor Trail (southwest corner of Sheldon and Ann Arbor Trail) in Plymouth.

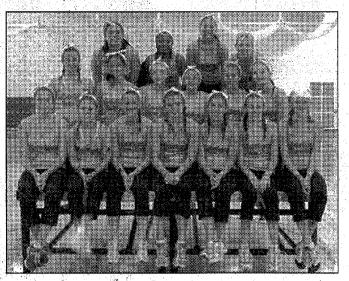
The show will feature more than 85 juried crafters and home vendors. Admission is \$2.

For more information, call (734) 254-0849.

Me and My Shadow

Young children and their grown-ups are invited to "Me & My Shadow" parent and young child classes at New Morning School. The classes are designed to be a fun, nurturing, and educational introduction to preschool for 2-, 3and 4-year-olds and their parents. Activities include music and finger-play, art and discovery projects, snack and story time, all centered around a learning theme.

New Morning School's "Me



Winning spirit

& My Shadow" classes provide

children to take their first steps

share wisdom from weekly dis-

one-on-one time for parents

and children and encourage

toward socializing with their

peers. Parents will gain and

cussions of developmental

milestones and parenting

Twelve-week sessions on

from 6-7:15 p.m. begin Sept. 11

and Sept. 13. Cost is \$102 for

call (734) 420-3331 or down-

www.newmorningschool.com/

load the registration form at

the entire session. To enroll,

Mondays and Wednesdays

strategies.

shadow.htm.

Publishing

The Canton Junior Varsity Chiefettes recently won several awards at the Mid-American Pom Pon Summer Camp. The squad placed first in Original Routine and Speed Learning, while earning a second place in Kick Line. The team also received the Peppy Pom Award. Squad members are: Abbey Karlinski, Ashley Postler, Kristina Crilley, Ashley Delbrocco, Harmisha Hoggat, Lauren Hutchings, Tara Latin, Michelle Nagy, Avery Ash, Alex Brekke, Emily Bouse, Jessica Grech-Cumbo, Kirsten Holland, Melissa Krug, Alexandra Macdiarmid, Lina Petryczkowycz, and Courtney Simpson. The squad is coached by Katherine Chamulak.

WHEN DESCRIBING EUROPE

"WOW" PRETTY MUCH SUMS IT UP

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12-Night Mediterranean Greek Isles

presentation

The Canton Recreation and Senior Center sponsors a presentation, "Writing and Publishing Your Book," 1-3 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 16. The presentation is hosted by local author Jim Gibson,

author of five novels, including the Anasazi Princess series. The center is located at

46000 Summit Parkway in Canton. For a free reservation, call Janet Brady, (734) 394-5485. More on Gibson can be found at

www.pentaclespress.com Victorian festival

The Northville Chamber of Commerce sponsors the 18th annual Northville Victorian

Festival Sept. 15-17, taking the community back to the "romance of the 1800s amid Northville's historic homes and tree-lined streets."

The festival starts with a kick-off parade at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 15 and, for the next two days, the streets will be closed to automobile traffic as townspeople, artists and business owners turn back the clock. Visitors can enjoy a shopping experience, old-fashioned games, food booths, an antique show and a fine art market.

The festival runs 6:30-11 p.m. Sept. 15; 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Sept. 16; and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 17.

For more information, call (248) 349 - 7640.

School supplies

The Plymouth Salvation Army is conducting its annual "school supply drive."

Included among the items they're looking for are notebook paper, pocket folders, pencils, erasers, colored pencils and back packs.

The Plymouth Salvation Army, which covers Plymouth, Canton, Northville and Belleville, is located on Main, just south of Ann Arbor Road. For more information, call (734) 453-5464.

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.

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.

www.hometownlife.com

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 for future generations.

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

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

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

Orchestra auditions

The Celebration Youth Orchestra holds auditions for the 2006-07 school year Aug. 25-26 at Evola Music, 7170 N. 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.

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



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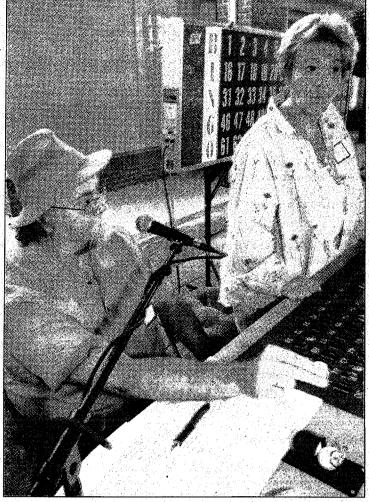
LOCAL NEWS

www.hometownlife.com

Organizers prepare for Fall Festival

Organizers of the annual Plymouth Fall Festival are getting ready for the annual festival, scheduled for Sept. 8-10. The committee organizing the event conducts its next

meeting at Plymouth City Hall 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 29. **Community Groups interest**ed in operating a food booth must be in attendance. Booth applications are available



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Organizers are getting ready for the 2006 Fall Festival, including the Business and Professional Women's bingo night, called last year by Ted Johnson and Kathy Swarthout.

MILITARY NEWS

Combat training grads

Army Reserve Pvt. Johnathon P. Navarre has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C. During the nine weeks of training, the soldier studied the Army mission, history, tradition and core values, physical fitness, and received instruction and practice in basic combat skills, military weapons, chemical warfare and bayonet training, drill and ceremony, marching, rifle marksmanship, armed and unarmed combat, map reading, field tactics, military courtesy, military justice system, basic first aid, foot marches, and field training exercises.

Navarre is the son of James Navarre of Canton and Kristina Navarre of Lakeview, Ohio. The private is a 2006 graduate of online at www.plymouthfallfestival.com.

The Plymouth Fall Festival is also accepting applications for its Craft Show that takes place during festival. This year the craft show will be moving to the lawn of the historic Wilcox House located at Ann Arbor Trail and Union Street.

Ten by ten foot spots will cost \$75 per day or \$150 for the weekend. Applications are available to download at

www.plymouthfallfestival.com Businesses also get the

opportunity to promote themselves during the festival. Applications are now available for businesses interested in booth space or entertainment sponsorship.

Access booth applications at www.plymouthfallfestival.com or call Colleen Brown, (734) 455-1614 or e-mail cbrown57@comcast.net.

The Plymouth Fall Festival is accepting registrations for the 51st annual Antique Car show (1976 and older) that takes

place during the Fall Festival weekend. Cars will be parked in down-

town Plymouth. The committee brings back the pre-registration cruise night Friday, Sept. 8, beginning at 6 p.m. Registration before Aug. 31 will be \$10 for one day or \$15 for two days. Door prizes will be given both days.

Applications will be available to download at www.plymouthfallfestival.com or for more info call Jim Jamieson at (734) 658 - 8585.

Indian Lake High School, Lewistown, Ohio.

M Army National Guard Pvt. Elliot G. Hardaway has graduat-

ed from basic combat training at Fort Sill, Lawton, Okla.

Army mission and received instruction in drill and cere-

traditions, and special training in human relations.

Denise Hardaway of Canton.

During the nine weeks of training, the soldier studied the

monies, rifle marksmanship, weapons, map reading, tactics,

armed and unarmed combat, military courtesy, military jus-

tice, physical fitness, first aid, Army history, core values and

Hardaway is the son of Kenneth Hardaway of Detroit and

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lights, camera, action

Avaion Films descended on downtown Plymouth for two days as part of a production for U.S. Cellular. The crew filmed in Kellogg Park and on Main Street near the park at Penniman, and then along Ann Arbor Trail.

Bella Mia fashion show set for Aug. 26

Bella Mia hosts its annual Fall Fashion Show at E.G. Nicks 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 26.

Cost for the event is \$23,

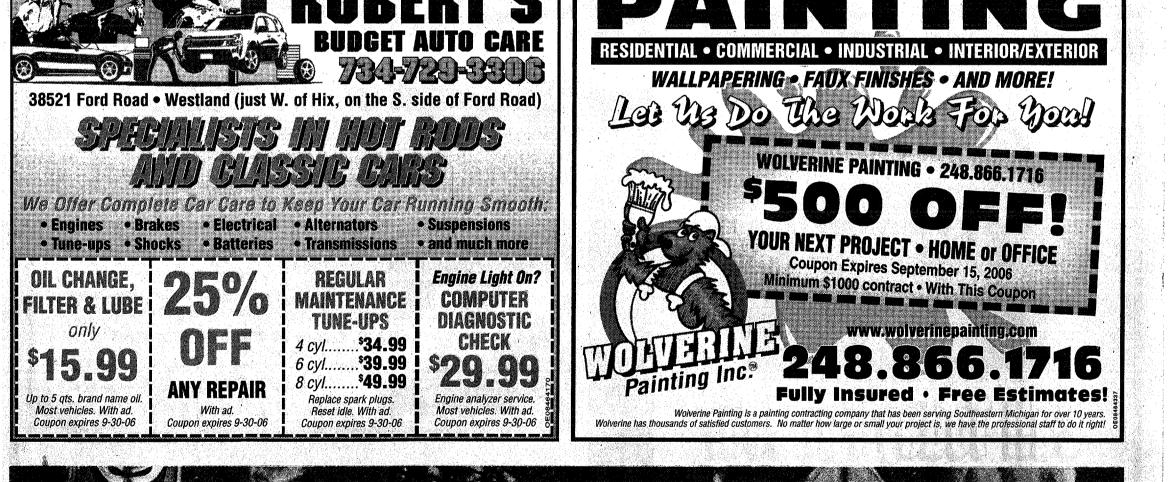
can be ordered with Visa or MasterCard by calling (734) 656-0057, or at Bella Mia, 535 Forest in downtown Plymouth. E.G. Nicks is located at 500

ion show and prizes. Tickets

Forest. For more information, call (734) 656-0057.

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LOCAL NEWS

BUDGET

FROM PAGE A1 Miller is being renovated.

"The Miller kindergarten is down, and I believe some of that is parents don't want to put their child on a bus to go to Washington," Ryan said.

Trustee Dianne Gonzalez expressed some concerns about split classes at the elementary level.

"Personally, as a parent, I would much rather have one or two extra children in my son's or daughter's class, than have a teacher who is dealing with two different curriculums and a split scenario," Gonzalez said.

Trustee Steve Sneideman expressed a view on split classes that represented a number of board members.

"I don't like splits, either, but I don't like large class sizes even more," Sneideman said. "I think this is a reasonable action to take to ensure we meet our class size goals. If there's a split that can be undone, and still maintain our class size goals and not add a teacher, then I'm for it."

Ryan is quick to point out that projections are an educated guess on a moving target. The good news is that

school doesn't start until after Labor Day this year, so we have an extra week of registration," Ryan said. "We know that some parents are notoriously late, with some registering their child the first day of school. I'm feeling pretty good at where we're going to land."

With addition of Workman Elementary in Canton Township - which will open for the first time in September - as well as some redistricting, only a handful of the 16 elementary schools are looking - at this time - at population increases. They include Bird, Field, Isbister and Tonda.

All five middle schools are projecting enrollment increases, with Discovery expected to have more than 1,000 students, which is up more than 60 students.

"(Principal) Roche LaVictor is out of sixth-grade lockers," Ryan told trustees.

The high school population is nearing 6,000 students, with each of the three high schools expecting to enroll just under 2,000 students each. Since voters turned down a bond pro-

posal in May that included a career and technical education center, Ryan said other space will probably be needed - possibly in the next bond issue - to make room for an increasing high school population.

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"There will never be a fourth high school, I don't believe you'll see a career and tech ed center, but we do need to consider some additional classroom space where we can house our students properly,' said Ryan.

Vice President Judy Mardigian said the district will have to come to grips with the growth, but it's a better scenario than many other districts, some of which are experiencing declining population resulting in the loss of state funding.

"We definitely have to look at how we're going to handle the middle school and high school growth," Mardigian said. "But, growth is a good thing. It's validation of the programs and things we do in this district."

afterglow party at Genitti's and

at 336 Main. Tickets can be

m. A percentage of the pro-

event, call (248) 543-1000.

Southeastern Michigan.

www.TheSocialConnection.co

ceeds will go to United Way of

For more information on the

purchased at

tbruscato@hometownlife.com (734) 459-2700

Supper Stroll highlights local eateries three hours of sampling and an

The Social Connection **Companies and Connektiv** Communities band together to sponsor the inaugural Summer Charity Supper Stroll in downtown Plymouth and Northville Wednesday, Aug. 16.

Guests will experience more than a dozen restaurants and bars as well as sweets and beverage boutiques, including 336

Main in Plymouth and Genitti's Hole in the Wall in Northville.

The Summer Supper Stroll will help downtown Plymouth ... gain exposure to hundreds of metro Detroit singles," said Regina Stocco, president of The Social Connection Companies.

Tickets are \$25 and include

to tap into the diners taking part in the crawl. To entice them, the Crawfords put out a spread of goulash and a chicken cashew salad.

"We're new," Ania Crawford said. "We thought it would be good exposure.'

The Dilly Dally Deli, on North Mill where Harvey's Deli used to be, is even newer. It won't officially open for another few weeks, but owners Patrick O'Neill and Frank Yaquinto (who also owns

Compari's and Fiama on Main Street) wanted to take advantage of the crawl crowd.

The deli will specialize in deli sandwiches, soups, salads and desserts, with daily specials.

"(The crawl) is an introduction to the community," said Judy Yaquinto, a co-owner and manager of the deli. "We're letting everyone know what we have and what we're about."

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

CRAWL

FROM PAGE A1

for them to show off." That's what drew Jeff and Ania Crawford into the event. The owners of the new Crawford's Kitchen on Starkweather, who opened their doors to diners a couple of months ago, hope to duplicate the success of Jeff's family's restaurant in Northville.

To do that, they were hoping

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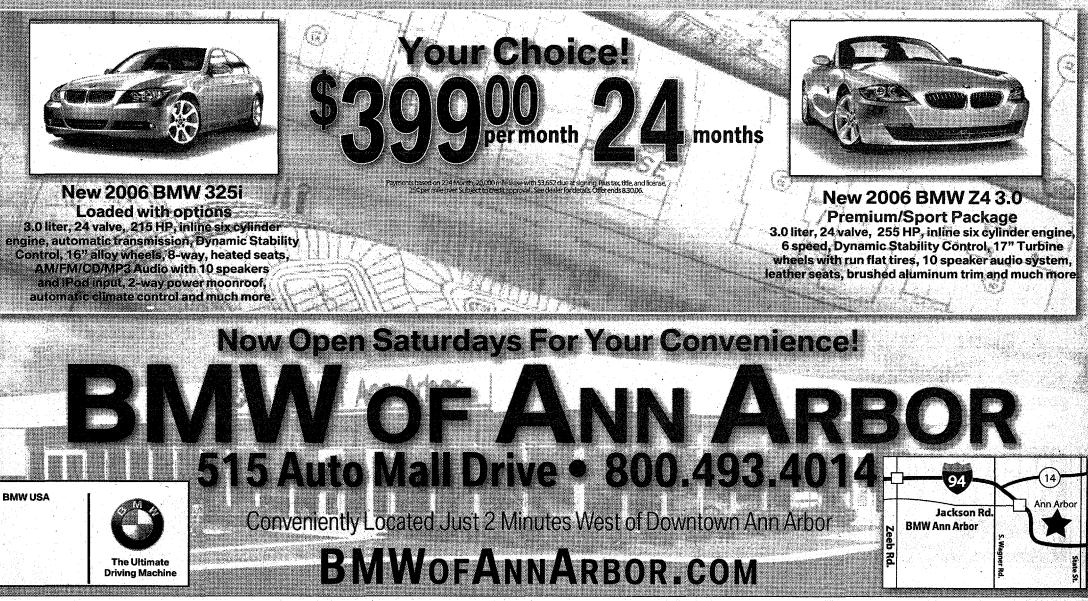


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LOCAL NEWS

ROAD FUND

FROM PAGE A1

repairing a mile of roadway is about \$900,000. With about 14 miles of city roads still needing attention, another bond issue would cost taxpayers who would have to approve another bond issue - an estimated \$12-\$14 million.

Sheridan Street was one of the first on the paving list after the bond issue was passed. Ten vears later, for various reasons, Sheridan has still not been paved.

"Sheridan is in pretty bad shape, and was identified as a

summer charity

UNISAMO

northville + plymouth

first-year program," Keough said. "However, every year, it was considered not to be a high volume street, without a history of sanitary and water main issues, so it fell off, one way or another."

Dave Antil, who has lived on Sheridan since 1998, said he thought his street was on the list several years ago, when the Ann Arbor Trail project (between Sheldon and downtown) was completed. Now. he's not sure he'd vote for another millage to pay for the remaining road improvements. "I was kind of mad when I

saw they were doing Union Street and another street (this

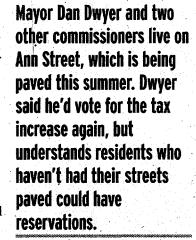
year)," Antil said. "It seems they haven't handled the first set of bonds the way they were supposed to. What's to say they won't do the same with the next set of bonds?

"It calls into question any other questions they make," he said. "You have to do what you say with the money, otherwise you can't trust them."

Mayor Dan Dwyer and two other commissioners live on Ann Street, which is being paved this summer. Dwyer said he'd vote for the tax increase again, but understands residents who haven't had their streets paved could have reservations.

"I feel an obligation, now that my street has been paved on other people's backs, to continue the program, and I would vote to continue the 2 mills," Dwyer said. "However, if you're going to tell a group of people who have already paid for 10 years that their street is not a targeted street in the next 10 years, I know what I'm voting if I lived on that street."

One of the positive notes, according to Keough, is a healthy reduction in the number of water main breaks during the 10 years of the pro-

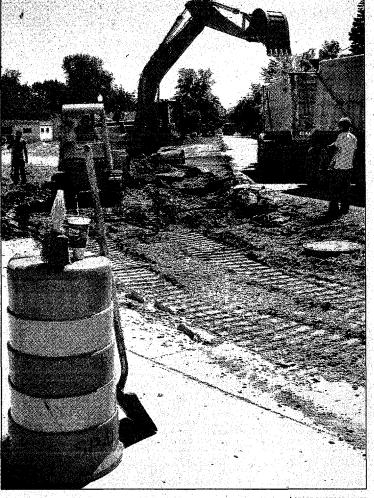


gram.

Loiselle said the commission has to go back to the voters in an attempt to finish the street paving program.

"I think we should finish the city because the roads need to be of good quality," Loiselle said. "But, ultimately, the people are paying the extra millage because we don't have the money in the general fund. If they're willing to pay the additional millage, we'll continue it."

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Crews have been working to reconstruct Union Street in Plymouth.

United Way earns national merit

After successfully completing all United Way of America membership requirements properly and on time, the **Plymouth Community United** Way has received its national certification.

Chief Executive Officer Marie Morrow said the requirements, including membership requirements certification, membership investment, income-and-expense survey and a database survey of generated resources, have to be certified annually.

"It is important for us to maintain a high standard of accountability and this is part of the process to document that our operations are transparent and meet or exceed United Way membership criteria requirements," Morrow said.

Community United Way reviewed and approved the Membership Requirements Certification April 20. The certification mandates completion of 13 requirements for United Way of America membership along with verification of the status of 40 indicators that demonstrate a United Way embodies the intent of the membership requirements.

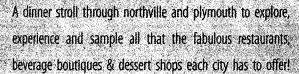
"It is critically important that all United Ways meet the highest standards and verify on paper that they have conformed to the stringent requirements of membership in the United Way system," said Brian Gallagher, president and CEO, United Way of America.

The Plymouth Community United Way is specifically involved in programs that influence positive character development and citizen train-

ing for our youth, build stronger families by addressing issues such as domestic violence and substance abuse, and provide services to our senior population. Needs of the disabled and mentally challenged are also meet through Plymouth Community United

Way programs and agencies. The Plymouth Community United Way is part of a system of over 1,320 United Ways. Each local United Way must complete United Way of America's requirements annually in order to retain its United Way of America membership.

Plymouth-Canton businesses and individuals interested in working with the Plymouth Community United Way can call (734) 453-6879 or go to the Internet at www.plymouthunitedway.org



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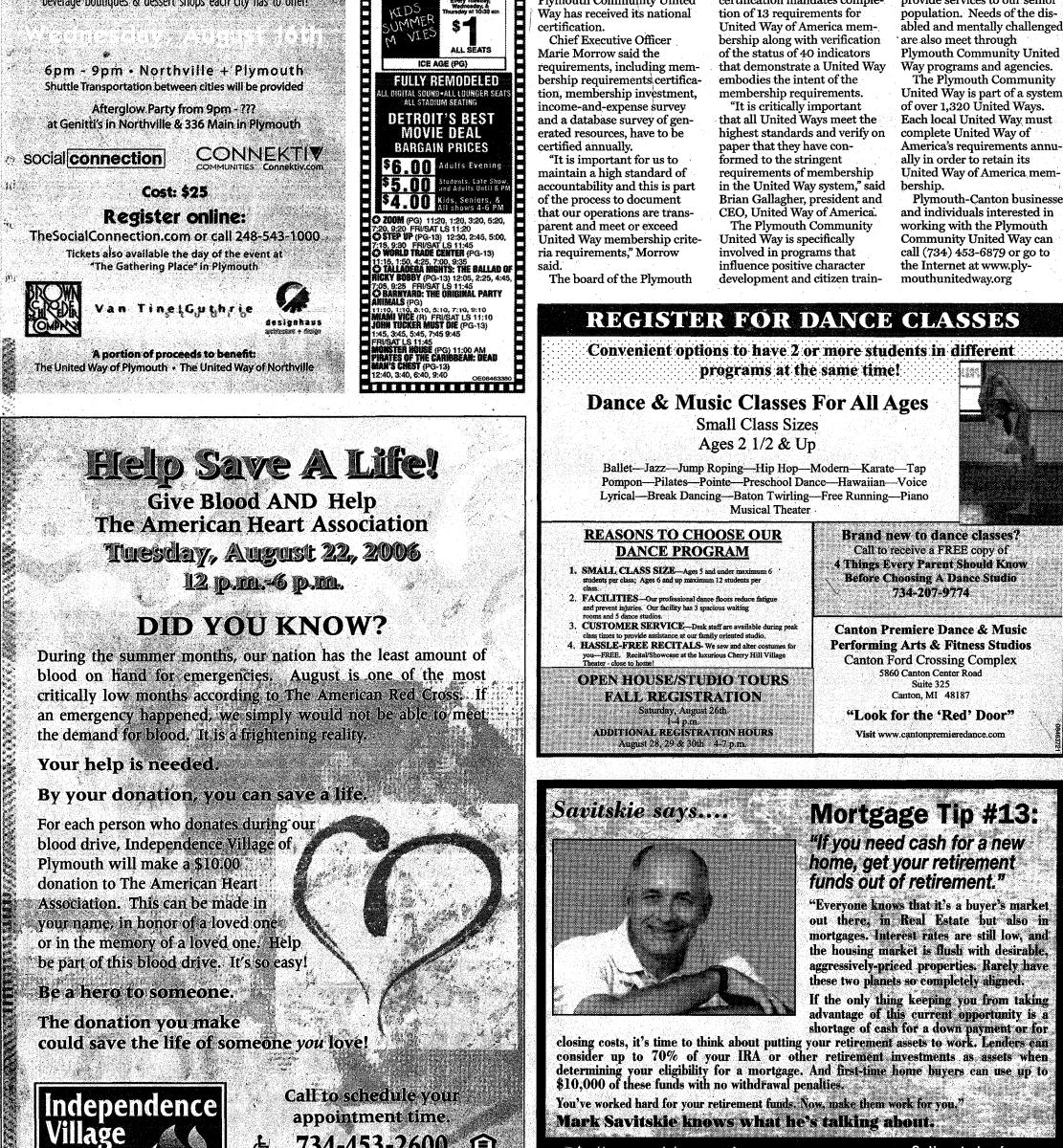
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Developer says 'airport city' will transform SE Michigan

It's been a long time coming, but at long last there seems to be serious movement toward what could be Michigan's largest single economic development opportunity in the coming decade: the Airport City ("aerotropolis") between Detroit Metro and Willow Run airports.

Troy-based real estate expert Stuart Frankel has announced an agreement to develop 150 acres of land in the Pinnacle Aeropark, an office and warehouse project south of Detroit Metro and east of the I-275/Sibley interchange. That should be just the beginning.



The Airport City project, Frankel told me recently, is "potentially the most transformative project for southeastern Michigan ever attempted. We want to make it such."

Emphasize the "we." A joint memo supporting the Airport City project has been signed

Power

by Wayne and Washtenaw counties, the various local government units around both airports and the Wayne

County Airport Authority. This week, it will be delivered to Jim Epolito, the CEO of the Michigan Economic Development Corp., or MEDC. (Full disclosure: I am the outfit's unpaid vice chair.)

With that goes a cover letter to Gov. Jennifer Granholm, suggesting "the state of Michigan needs to be an active participant and partner in this exciting economic development undertaking."

There is plenty of evidence to show that the potential is vast. A University of Michigan-Dearborn study shows that Detroit Metro Airport has a \$7.6 billion impact on the state's economy, including \$4 billion in airline tickets, hotel rooms and parking, plus \$2 billion in sales to Michigan companies.

The Airport City project has long been a gleam in the eyes of those visionaries who can see past next Tuesday. Now, at last, it might actually be getting some traction.

For years, experts have known that the area's combination of assets makes the site potentially one of the world's best. Those riches include what is now a first-class passenger facility (Detroit Metro), a good freight airport (Willow Run), easy access to road, rail and international water transport and 25,000 acres of largely undeveloped land in between.

Similar airport developments in Amsterdam, Hong Kong and Bangkok are producing hundreds of thousands of jobs. Here, this agreement to develop the Pinnacle site may finally be what breaks up the logjam of inertia. That Frankel, one of Michigan's

The Airport City project has long been a gleam in the eyes of those visionaries who can see past next Tuesday. Now, at last, it might actually be getting some traction.

most respected - and shrewdest - developers, is prepared to ante up millions of his own funds suggests the dreams aren't pie in the sky.

That's important, because the Pinnacle project has been dragging on since the late Ed McNamara, then Wayne County executive, launched the idea back in 1999. Now this developer intends to cut the ribbon by building 50,000 square feet of offices and 200,000 square feet of warehouse space. That should jump-start a project that has been the victim of endless Wayne County politics and the lack of an economically realistic development plan. And getting Pinnacle off the ground is important evidence the larger Airport City vision has the wings to fly.

The agreement between the various local governmental units is equally encouraging, if only because it demonstrates that the local powers are united at last in support of the project. Signing on are the cities of Taylor, Belleville, Romulus and Ypsilanti, together with Ypsilanti, Van Buren and Huron townships.

Cobbling together something that appealed to their various interests, combined with those of Wayne and Washtenaw counties and the Airport Authority, has not been easy. Wayne County Economic Development Director Mulu Birru deserves credit for patience and persistence.

Meanwhile, the new man at the MEDC, Epolito, has succeeded in regaining momentum and morale as the state's main arm dedicated to economic development. He has a terrific opportunity to take the Airport City project to a new level by putting planning and marketing muscle behind the project.

Nobody in state government (including the MEDC) has much money these days, but what is needed at this point is coordinated planning and evidence of firm state support.

That's relatively cheap, and Granholm would be wise to jump on board as evidence she's serious about adding jobs to the hardpressed southeast Michigan economy.

Frankel's right. The Airport City project could transform the area. And now that the local governmental units potentially involved have their act together, it is time for the state to jump in with both feet.

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

Resistance to school vouchers serves politics, not children affi eat

read Hugh Gallagher's July 30 Observer column "Drive for school vouchers serves

politics, not children" with suspicion, believing as I do that at least as an idea, vouchers could work to reshape the educational landscape and consumers' expectations of same, both for the better. While we disagree, I salute Gallagher's concern for balance in presenting links to advocacy groups on both sides of the voucher issue and in inviting this opposing comment.

Gallagher cited the Department of Education's National Assessment of Educational Progress report to indicate that while private schools perform better because

> of their selective admissions, when students with various disadvantages are factored out of the equation, private and public schools perform about the same. One must take care to avoid hasty acceptance of the criteria and methods for factoring variables out of the NAEP results,

for such legerdemain is not. unlike the gender-norming practiced in the military and

in firefighting to the possible impairment of those critical occupations. In any case, the ability of private schools to screen their applicants is often put forward as an argument against vouchers but in my view, that argument is more against excellence.

Paul

Seibold

NAEP statistics notwithstanding, Gallagher seems to acknowledge that by some discernible proportion, a number of public schools are "troubled," and I suggest that to advocate withholding the means from aspiring students to escape such schools is to advocate the forcible subjection of all to mediocrity.

As a voter on the losing side of Michigan's 2000 initiative for vouchers, I had supposed that the topic was totally defunct but what may have moved Gallagher to write about it now was the story in the July 9 Grand Rapids Press reporting that gubernatorial candidate Dick DeVos vowed in a 2002 speech to reopen the voucher initiative by "one person at a time speaking to another person in privacy." Gallagher characterizes this statement as proposing a stealth campaign but whether advocated through a media blitz or one on one, no voucher measure will take effect without approval by a majority of voters. Thus if DeVos persists in his goal expressed four years ago, I find his low-key strategy to be no more ominous now than a Vatican takeover of Michigan's educational infrastructure was likely under the 2000 initiative.

I was especially troubled by Gallagher's airy suggestion that "For those who want to

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While I agree that universal public education is a great hallmark of the United States, the duty to educate resides with parents; and parents of ordinary or lesser means can find themselves hostage to an education system they might not prefer.

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send their children to private schools, it's a great option" - omitting the key qualifier, "if only they can afford it." From the consumers' standpoint, I think the essence of vouchers is to make educational options affordable.

While I agree that universal public education is a great hallmark of the United States, the duty to educate resides with parents; and parents of ordinary or lesser means can find themselves hostage to an education system they might not prefer. It's ironic that by opposing vouchers, equality advocates should be upholding an arrangement in which private schools remain a preserve of the affluent.

Gallagher argues that all Michiganders should bear the cost of public schools with the analogy that not everybody rides on all of Michigan's roads, but my reply is that not every Michigan household has children to educate. As an analogy on the other side, I submit that a resident who has paid a cable bill over a period of time will appreciate the economies inherent in a competitive environment.

Finally, I can't help but suspect that, as implied by its very title, Gallagher's column is at bottom a defense of the public education establishment, or perhaps more precisely, a circling of wagons around the perquisites and prerogatives of the teachers' unions. Certainly the public schools as a totality have a purpose in keeping all funds to themselves. In what may be perceived as an improbable alliance between management and labor, they defend and promote that purpose with great vigor but whether out of altruism or self-interest is a matter for reflection.

As for me, I lament the plight of children in troubled schools, all the more because they have nowhere else to go. I also lament the future of excellence, as promising students in those schools continue to wait for the improvements that never seem to come. Must the speed of this convoy be the speed of its slowest ship?

Paul M. Seibold is a translator, member of the Michigan Bar and Army retiree who lives in Birmingham with his wife, Patricia, and daughter, So-Jin. The opinions expressed in this column are his own.

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COUNTY NEWS

Legislature approves death of Single Business Tax

BY ALEX LUNDBERG STAFF WRITER

The drive to repeal Michigan's Single Business Tax has reached fruition as the state Legislature voted to eliminate the tax by the end of 2007.

Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson kicked off the drive to repeal the SBT at his 2006 State of the County Address. He said the tax was stifling the state's economy by making the cost of business too high in Michigan.

The address started a petition drive that generated 150,000 more signatures than it needed. Because the legislation approved this week was generated by a petition drive, it is not subject to veto.

The SBT was created in the late 1970s in an effort to consolidate a number of business taxes into one, stable tax. The parcel of inventory taxes, corporate net worth taxes and others was unreliable and

tended to fluctuate.

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, August 13, 2006

But the state's economics have changed considerably since then. While it used to be the case that Michigan's economy was composed mostly of manufacturing jobs, it's now mostly service jobs. Under the SBT, service jobs are not taxed.

The SBT represents \$1.8 billion in tax revenues to the state - an amount equivalent to everything the state spends on higher education or corrections. When the tax ends, it will be up to the Legislature to decide how much of that revenue to replace.

Oakland County Democratic Party Chairman and County **Commissioner** Dave Woodward said certain state functions, namely higher education, need to be kept fighting trim or any benefit to the state's economy will be nullified.

"The bottom line is that the number one way to prepare workers for new jobs is to fund higher education," he said. "To

not come up with replacement funds will jeopardize our ability to attract businesses.

He said ideas like shifting the sales tax to service-economy workers or instituting business license fees are not going to replace SBT revenues. Until someone comes up with a replacement, he said, there's precious little reason for a business to relocate to Michigan at all.

"If I'm a business owner, why would I come to Michigan if I don't know what the tax plan is?" Woodward said. But will the SBT become an

issue in the November election? Former Oakland County **Republican Party Chairman** Paul Welday said the SBT will be the critical issue in

November. "The debate is jobs and the economy in Michigan," he said. "Where people stood in the debate about the SBT is something every candidate will have

to answer to.'

The right moves

Debbie Felton's Academy of Dance is expanding its range. The Livonia-based school is now offering classes for home school students. Boys hip-hop has been added to the course schedule along with traditional classes in ballet, pointe, tap and jazz, as well.

Felton is offering open house days 6-7:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday, Aug. 21-24, at the school, 16312 Middlebelt, between Five and Six Mile roads. The public is welcome to stop in and learn more about the academy.

Students can register for classes from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, Aug. 14, and Thursday, Aug. 17, as well as from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, Aug. 15-16. Felton invites all who are

interested to visit the expanded studio, learn more about new class offerings, and register to win a prize in an open house raffle. The new season of courses is less than a month away. It begins Wednesday, Sept. 6 in Livonia. For more information of class registration please calls (734) 524-0104 or visit the Web site at www.feltondance.com.

WHAT'S IN STORE Go to Beauty Camp

Secret Rituals Day Spa in Livonia is hosting a Skin Care and Beauty Camp for the second consecutive summer.

The hourlong two-day sessions will focus on skin care, make-up application, bra fittings, body image and self esteem building. It is targeted for girls between 12 and 16.

Owner Kelly Freeman said she organized the camp to draw younger clientele into the salon, though a lot of their parents are already familiar with the services.

From girls who idolize young stars like Lindsay Lohan to those with acne-prone skin, campers will learn how to appropriately care for their skin, rather than

cover it up with make-up. There are still six spots available. The program is hosted by a qualified esthetician. For a \$30 fee, campers will receive all the necessary supplies and a gift bag. Camp is held from noon to 1 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, Aug. 14-15, at the salon, Secret Rituals Day Spa, 31211 Plymouth Road in Livonia.

www.hometownlife.com

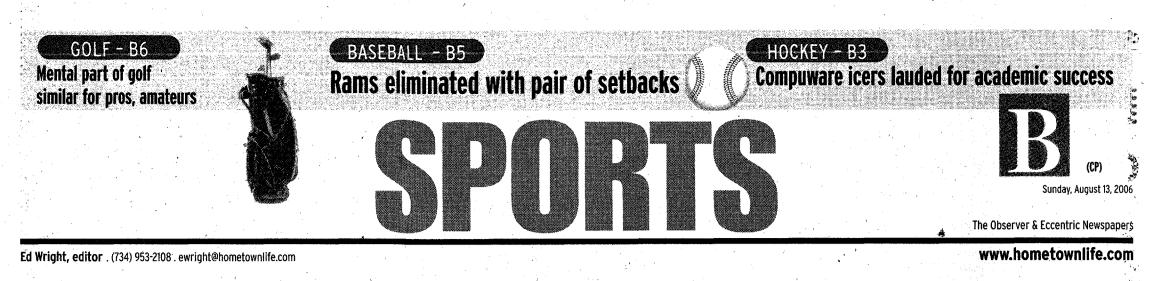
For more information, call (734) 422-3007 during regular business hours, which are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays.

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









Ignition kicks into high gear with solid summer

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

As well as things have been going for the Detroit Ignition the past few months, it wouldn't be surprising to see David Beckham or Ronaldo show up for one of the team's open tryouts in September.

Yes, the Major Indoor Soccer League's newest team has made significant strides since it was officially welcomed to the league in mid-April.

The biggest on-the-field news revolved around the acquisition of several All-Star-caliber players in the June expansion draft, most notably reigning MISL assist leader Carlos Farias and goalkeeper Sanaldo, who minded the net for the Baltimore Blast in the 2005-06



Carlos Farias

championship series. The most noteworthy off-thefield news included the signing of highly respected head coach Mark Pulisic and brisk season-tickets sales that have re-affirmed Ignition President Greg Bibb's belief that the metropolitan Detroit area is a prime location for an indoor-soccer franchise.

"Talent-wise, this was one of the best drafts I've seen, and I've been in the league for the past 10 years," said Bibb, who most recently served as the vice president and general manager for the MISL's Philadelphia Kicks. "We were able to acquire the rights to the top assist guy in the league last year (Farias) and the goal-keeper (Sanaldo) who played in the championship series. We also drafted four or five young players who I think are phenomenal athletes. Talent-wise, I think we did very well."

CHEMISTRY IS KEY

Bibb cautioned that talent alone won't win in the ultra-competitive MISL.

"It's tough to win in this league

PLEASE SEE IGNITION, B2

START 'EM UP!

WHAT: Detroit Ignition, a Major Indoor Soccer League expansion team; WHERE: The Ignition will play its 15 2006-07 MISL home games at Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth; the team will use High Velocity Sports in Canton as its primary practice facility; WHO: The Ignition has signed eight players as of Friday: Carlos Farias, Hewerton Moreira, Novi Marojevic, Kyt Selaidopoulos, Jonathon Greenfield, Sanaldo, Matt Johnson and Ricardinho; WHEN The season opener is set for Saturday, Nov. 4; training camp starts Oct. 3. HOW TO BUY TICKETS; Call (866) 436-4625 or visit

www.detroitignition.com.



Unde'feet'ed Polished tae kwon do skills bring Stobbe national titles, greater self confidence

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Even the simplest test of physical fitness was a struggle for Sarah Stobbe during her pre-tae kwon do days.

⁴I couldn't even do a push-up," admitted Stobbe, a 25-year-old Plymouth resident.

Over seven years, several hundred hours of training and three national titles later, Stobbe can do much more than a push-up thanks to the form of martial arts that emphasizes the use of one's hands, feet and fists. In July, Stobbe added to her collection of over 80 tae

WHAT IS TAE KWON DO?

Tae kwon do is a martial art originating in Korea. A combination of Chinese, Japanese, and traditional Korean fighting styles, the sport has become the world's most commonly practiced martial art, and is the national sport of Korea. In Korean, tae means "to strike or smash with the foot"; kwon means "to strike or smash with the hand"; and do means "art of" or "way of." (Source: Wikipedia Free Encyclopedia web site)





Schmitt excels

Canton swimmer Allison Schmitt, 16, contributed to Club Wolverine's first-place showing at the Conoco-Phillips USA Swimming National Championships held last week in Irvine, Calif.

Schmitt competed in two individual events and on three relays in the competition, which was filled with Olympic-caliber swimmers. She placed 44th in the 100meter freestyle (57.44) and 19th in the 200 freestyle. Her time of 2:01.95 in the preliminaries and 2:02.22 in the finals qualified Schmitt for the 2008 Olympic Trials.

Schmitt also swam an 100-meter leg on Club Wolverine's fifth-place 400-meter freestyle relay, a 200-meter leg on the team's second-place 800-meter relay team and she anchored the club's fifth-place 400 medley relay quartet.

Softball champs

The Gerou Softball Club won the playoff championship for the Session 1 men's Thursday night D

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sarah Stobbe, 25, is a three-time AAU national champion in tae kwon do. Stobbe's most recent title came in July in Knoxville, Tenn. kwon do trophies and medals in Knoxville, Tenn., when she outpointed five other high-kickers to capture her third consecutive AAU National sparring championship in the 18-to-35-year-old lightweight women's division.

Stobbe was introduced to the sport in 1999 by an ex-boyfriend, who was a tae kwon do instructor. The relationship eventually fizzled, but her passion for the sport kicked into high gear.

"When I started tae kwon do, I was extremely shy and physically I was not very strong," she reflected. "But in a short time after I started practicing, I saw such a quick change in my self-confidence and physical abilities. I fell in love with the sport."

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

Stobbe polishes her craft by practicing at least two hours a night, five nights a week. She also passes on her knowledge of the art to 40 students in a weekly class she teaches for the Plymouth Recreation Department.

"The hardest part in the beginning is picking up the form," she said. "You have to learn a pattern of all the kicks and punches and you have to understand exactly what you're doing — what this kick is supposed to be doing and what this hand should be doing. It's almost like learning a dance.



Sarah Stobbe displays the gold medals she has won in the last three National AAU competitions.

"The nice thing about the sport is that you can go at your own pace."

Stobbe, who works at a KinderCare in Canton, said she's only had to take her enhanced selfdefense skills outside of the competitive arena on one occasion.

"There was a guy at a club once who wouldn't leave me alone, no matter what I said to him," she said. "So I used a simple takedown I had learned in class. The bouncers came over to make sure everything was OK. Thank goodness that's the only

PLEASE SEE STOBBE, B6

recreation division at Canton's Victory Park. Gerou won three consecutive playoff games by one-run margins. The team, which fin-

ished second in the regular-season standings, defeated Signature, the regular-season firstplace team, in the championship game.

The core members of Gerou Softball have played together for more than 25 years and this is the team's third decade in which they have won playoff or division championships.

Team members includes Dr. Tom Gerou, Mike Gerou, John Gerou, Bill Otto, Dave Miller, Shane Borton, John Barry, John Parisho, Andy Cubba, Dan Dooley, Dean Allen, Harry Stoddard, Bob Tatro and Tony Bell.

Biffle car displayed

NASCAR fans can check out the No. 16 National Guard Ford Fusion car, raced by Greg Biffle in the Nextel Cup Series last February in Fontana, Calif., from 2-7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 18 and noon to 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 19, at Jackson Hewitt Tax Service, located on 33724 Ford Road, in Westland.

Jackson Hewitt is also collaborating with NASCAR to support its National Guard Heroes of the Year campaign, which spotlights a National Guard soldier monthly throughout the year. "Our local racing fans

won't want to miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see a race car up close," said Tracey Pawczuk, Operations Manager.

For more information, call Pawczuk at (734) 595-0658; or e-mail traceypjh@hotmail.com.

New football league offers youngsters noncontact fun

BY ED WRIGHT

STAFF WRITER

Is your elementary school-aged youngster ready for some football – just not the fullcontact version?

If so, the Michigan Youth Flag Football Association has just the program for him or her.

Beginning this fall, the MYFFA will be offering NFL Youth Flag Football leagues for Phymouth and Canton students i

leagues for Plymouth and Canton students in the second through fifth grades, as well as clinics for kids in kindergarten and first grade.

Each league team will consist of eight to 10 players, who will be grouped with students from their school. One league will consist of secondand third-graders; a second will include fourthand fifth-graders.

The format for league games will be 5-on-5 non-contact flag. Games will be played on a 25by 64-yard field (50-yard field with seven-yard end zones). The \$110-per-player entry fee covers the cost of eight practices and eight games. Each player will also receive a reversible NFL jersey.

"One of the nice things about the 5-on-5 format compared to the usual 11-on-11 is that every kid has an opportunity to get the ball on every offensive play," said Bryan Ledin, the MYFFA executive director. "In 11-on-11, if you're not the running back or quarterback, you probably won't touch the ball. With 5-on-5, there's one quarterback and four receivers, so everybody can be a superstar."

Ledin said similar leagues the MYFFA operate in Bloomfield Hills have experienced phenomenal success.

"There are around 600 kids in the Bloomfield leagues," he said. "The con-

cept is that it's an alternate to tackle football for the younger kids. The time commitment is a lot less as well as the financial commitment. We've found that this is a great feeder league for the tackle-football program, too."

The season will begin the week of Sept. 11. Practices will be held on either Monday or Thursday evenings with games being held Sunday afternoons at the Canton Sports Center.

The registration deadline is Friday, Sept. 8. To register, visit

www.MichiganYouthFlagFootball.com.

The one-hour fundamentals clinic for kindergarten and first-grade students will be held on six consecutive Mondays (6-7 p.m.) beginning Sept. 18 at the Canton Sports Center. The cost of the clinic is \$75, Ledin said. ewright@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2108



Three-mendous champs

A team made up of Observerland youth soccer players qualified for the next step in a national 3-on-3 tournament when it captured the U8 boys division of the Sports Illustrated for Kids Kickit 3v3 event in Warren. Pictured (front row from left) are Michael Pimlott (Farmington Hills), Jake Rosen (Livonia), (back row from left) Bowen Burdette (Plymouth) Coach Steve and Aidan Shennan (Plymouth).

LOCAL SPORTS

BZ. (CP) Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, August 13, 2006



period," Bibb said. "It's especially difficult if you're an expansion team. A, you have to find players. B, you have to make sure the players you do get can play the indoor game. And, C, your players have to have great chemistry.

"Chemistry in our sport is extremely important because of the spatial relationships on the smaller surface. Being a new team, it's going to take a while for our guys to mesh because we're bringing guys in from all over the place, so most of them have never played together before."

Having Pulisic as the one who's in charge of making sure the players mesh will be a plus for the Ignition, Bibb stressed.

"I think Mark will be great for this team," said Bibb, a Canton resident. "He was an All-Star player in this league years ago, so he knows what it takes to be successful. He was a blue-collar player who, through hard work and determination, became an All-Star. I think we'll see in our players the same kind of work ethic at both ends of the floor that Mark put forth when he played. I'm excited to have him

as our coach." **GOALS GALORE**

Fans who attend Ignition games expecting to see World Cup-like pace and scores are in for a pleasant surprise, Bibb said.

"The indoor game was created as more of a hybrid sport for North American fans who like action, a lot of scoring and a lot of points," said Bibb. "Why are touchdowns worth six points in football and field goals worth three? Because North American sports fans like points. Goals in the MISL are worth two points and long-range bombs are worth three, so you're going to see scores like 21-18, 17-15. With the three-point goals, no team is ever out of a game, even if it's down six late. You hit two long shots and you're right back in it."

Bibb said there's more of a sense of urgency in the indoor version of soccer compared to its outdoor brother.

"In the outdoor game, you might see three or four shots a game by one team," said Bibb. 'In the MISL, it isn't out of the question to see the two teams combine for 100 shots on goal. It's non-stop action.

"In the outdoor game, if you have a ball played to you, you can take a moment to decide what you want to do with it. In our game, you don't have the space to do that, so you'd better know what you're going to do with the ball before it gets to your foot, otherwise somebody's going to take it away from you."

CONTRASTING STYLES

The vast difference between the indoor and outdoor games makes acquiring players challenging, according to Bibb.

"It usually takes outdoor players an average of two to three years to adjust to the indoor style of play," he said. "And sometimes, they never adjust. I've seen very good outdoor players come into our league and struggle because their skills don't translate into what a good indoor player needs, and vice versa. Some guys who are stars in our league are good outdoor players, but they'll never make the national team on a professional level."

Being able to rely on a proven player like Sanaldo in net should prove to be a key element for the expansion Ignition.

"The goalkeepers in the MISL are like the quarterbacks in football and the catchers in baseball," Bibb said. "Just about everything - both offensively and defensively - starts with the keepers. They're the ones that start the fastbreaks a lot of the time, and on some nights,

they'll face 60, 70 or 80 shots. It's like, they can give up eight goals and it wasn't necessarily a bad game.

"To be a successful keeper in our league, you can't be a guy who falls apart every time you give up a goal. Guys like that just don't make it in this league."

SEE IT, BELIEVE IT

What would Bibb tell an average sports fan who may be on the fence when it comes to deciding whether to attend an Ignition game?

When I went to work for my first MISL team 10 years ago, I had never seen an indoor soccer game," he said. "I wasn't a soccer guy, I was a hockey guy. Well, the first game I saw, I was amazed at how much it was like hockey, with a little bit of basketball. I fell in love with it right away

"These are world-class athletes playing a sport in your own backyard on a small surface. And I'll guarantee you that these guys will give a good performance every game they play. Even those people who aren't necessarily huge soccer fans will realize very quickly the high level of athleticism and skill these guys have."

ewright@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2108

Open tryouts are set for Ignition

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Detroit Ignition President Greg Bibb will be playing the role of a much more pleasant Simon Cowell three times next month when he oversees a series of open tryouts for the Major Indoor Soccer League newest expansion franchise.

"The tryouts will be soccer's version of 'American Idol," Bibb quipped when referring to the three tryouts, which are set for Sept. 9 at the Soccer Zone in Grand Rapids, Sept. 16 at the Soccer Zone in Lansing and Sept. 23 at High Velocity Sports in Canton.

"All players that have soccer shoes, shin guards and a dream to play professional soccer are invited to attend. We have signed eight players (through

Aug. 11) and we're going to be carrying 20 on our roster, so we will be signing some players from the tryouts.

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Each of the tryouts are slated to begin at approximately 9 a.m. Interested players should visit www.detroitignition.com for tryout registration information.

All individuals who try out must be at least 18 years old and a high school graduate. There is a \$25 registration fee. The deadline for registering for the Grand Rapids session is Sept. 1; the Lansing deadline is Sept. 8; and the Canton deadline is Sept. 15.

[#]A significant number of MISL players got their start through open tryouts," Bibb said.

ewright@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2108

FALL SPORTS AT Canton's Eck takes city golf crown



Westland's Earl Kent earned the distinction of being overall medalist in the 2006 City Golf Championships held Aug. 5-6 at Fellows Creek Golf Club in Canton.

The two-day tournament crowned champions for the Cities of Canton, Wayne and Westland, including open, women's, seniors and super senior divisions.

Kent carded rounds of 79-75 for a two-day total of 154, nich also earned him Westland honors ahead of Brad Trevis, 81-76-157; Murray Brooks, 75-83-158; Rick

Fontaine, 88-81-169; and Bob Decker, 88-94-182.

Canton honors went to Ken Eck, who shot a 161 on rounds of 76 and 85. He was followed by Ross

Gerulis, 79-84-163; Jim Selberg, 90-77-167; and Jim Wood, 90-89-179.

The Wayne title was shared by former Wayne Memorial athletic director Bill Hawley (83-80-163) and Keith Kiesznowski (82-81-163). Third place went to Teddy Salvadori (86-82-168) followed by Mike Lorenz (86-83-169) and Jim Newman (88-85-173).

The open division title went to A.J. Quimby, who fired a 157 on rounds of 77-80. Greg Gliha (85-79-164) took second, while Rudy Rosas (82-83-165) and Kevin Pollack (84-81-165) tied for third. John Sobczak (100-86-186) and Bo Whitworth (106-98-203) rounded out the group.

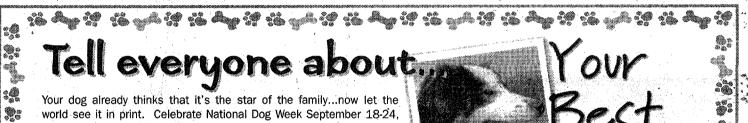
In the women's division, Sandy Felan ran away with the title with a 164 total on rounds of 80-84.

She was followed by Darlene Hawley, 106-100-206; Virginia Sexton, 102-110-212; Karen Morey, 116-109-225; Fran

Whited, 118-107-225; and Linda Granfieldt, 116-115-231.

Wayne's Chuck Cline captured the seniors division with a 171 on rounds of 88-83, four shots ahead of Buddy Stover of +Wayne, who carded a 90-85-175. Doug Tompkins of Wayne (90-88-178) added a third followed by Bill Martens (87-92-179), Jerry Maynor (95-91-186) and Whit Whitworth (108-102-210).

Westland's Bob Weibel won the super seniors division with a 175 total on rounds of 93-82. Ivan Jimenez of Wayne was runner-up with a 90-92-182.



COMING THIS WEEK! love TONIGHT, 8/13 • 7:00 PM BROOKS & DUNN

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THIS FRI., 8/18 • 8:00 PM TED NUGENT wsg ALEX WINSTON

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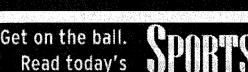
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Angels say 'halo' to first place

The Angels recently captured the 10U championship in the Greater Canton Youth Baseball & Softball Association, compiling a 15-0 record. Pictured (front row from left) are Olivia Neumann, Zoe Foster, Tracy Moore, Emilie Hawks, Danielle Deasley, Abby Jankoviak, (back row from left) Jaqueline Bryden, Rachel Winters, Nikki Switalski, Madison Koval, Ali Eggenberger and coach Jeff Eggenberger. Not pictured are Courtney Simpson, Nicole Sturgeon, Catherine Baker and Paige Graham.

Compuware icers lauded for academic success

Compuware Youth Hockey Director Todd Vatson announced recently that two ompuware Midget Major players have ceived academic scholarship awards for their ellar work in the classroom.

Defenseman Brian Rieckoff has earned the idwest Elite Hockey League's Scholarship ward, while forward Jim McCusker will be recipient of the Barbara Ann Karmanos cademic Award.

Additionally, 49 other Compuware youth ockey players won MWEHL Academic wards in 2005-06.

"As an organization, we're proud of Brian, m and all the players," said Watson. "We elieve it's important to perform well in the assroom and on the ice. Time management is sential to be able to succeed in both. The vards are a credit to Brian, Jim and the rest 'the players and their parents."

On the ice, Rieckoff scored two goals and 14 sists in 22 league games, while McCusker llied seven goals and five helpers in 21 consts. Including tournaments, the Compuware Midget Majors went 35-22-2 last season. Rieckoff's MWEHL scholarship is worth \$1,000 to the college of his choice. Rieckoff will be attending Michigan State University this fall after graduating from Dearborn High School. McCusker is trying out for the Alpena IceDiggers of the North American Hockey League this summer and could return to the Compuware squad next season.

"Brian, in our minds, represents the tradition of excellence in the Compuware organization," said Compuware Youth Hockey assistant director Randy Paquette. "If you look at the entire Compuware Hockey organization, from top to bottom, the majority of our student athletes are carrying grade-point averages of 3.0 or better.

"The one thing these kids learn here is discipline — not only in the locker room, but also when we travel and when it comes to their studies. They have to find the time to complete their studies, whether it's in the car with their parents while going to a game, or study time when we're on the road."

LOCAL SPORTS



DTE Energy at oakland university BROOK

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, August 13, 2006

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(CP) **B3**

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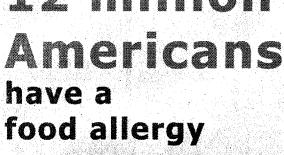
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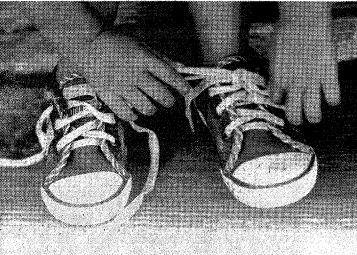
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BASEBALL

Rams eliminated with pair of 1-run setbacks

BY BRAD EMONS STAFF WRITER

After being shut out in Monday's opener, the Michigan Rams tried to open the floodgates in Tuesday's double-elimination All-American Amateur Baseball Association Tournament held in Johnstown, Pa.

The Rams battled back from eight runs down, but the result was another one-run loss, 11-10, in 12 innings to Cleveland (Ohio) after falling, 1-0, in 10 innings, to Altoona (Pa.) in the AAABA opener.

"It was a tough two-and-out," said Rams manager Rick Berryman, whose team was representing the 20-and-under Livonia Michigan Collegiate Baseball League. "We matched up with the two teams we played, but could not get the key hit when we needed it."

Against Cleveland in game played in Portage (Pa.), the Rams (26-13-1) trailed 8-0 until the

bottom of the sixth before rallying for four runs. Altoona answered with two in the top of the eighth, but the Rams closed the gap to 8-6 with two more runs before sending the game into

The Rams used a total of five pitchers with Eric Lawrence, a pickup from the first-place Michigan Bulls of the LMCBL, suffered the loss. He went the final five innings, allowing just the one run on five hits and one walk. Lawrence struck out four.

extra innings with two in the ninth.

Pat Tretter, who went 4-for-6 with a double, homer and five RBI, knocked in the game-winning run scoring Christian Valperino in the top of the 12th to end the four-hour marathon.

The Rams, meanwhile, nearly won it in the bottom of the 11th when Matt Nickels' long fly was hauled in at the 380-foot mark.

And in the 12th, the Rams put a runner at second with 1-out, but couldn't cash in as Gary Pierpont, who worked three scoreless innings in relief, got the victory.

Pierpont led Cleveland's 17-hit attack going 4-

for-7 with an RBI, while Jedd Cordisco and Valperino each contributed three hits.

The Rams used a total of five pitchers with Eric Lawrence, a pickup from the first-place Michigan Bulls of the LMCBL, suffered the loss. He went the final five innings, allowing just the one run on five hits and one walk. Lawrence struck out four.

Steve Karchefske started, allowing three runs on three hits and a walk in 4.2 innings. All three runs were unearned. He was followed by Mike Sacha, Bobby Henderson and Andy Paulun.

"We went through a flock of pitchers," Berryman said. "Lawrence came in and did a good job, the only exception was the one run." Scott Cain went 2-for-4 with a 3-run homer for

the Rams. Teammate Sam Palace also homered, was hit twice and knocked in a pair of runs. Other Rams hitting standouts included Billy Anderson, 3-for-6 with an RBI; Eric Vojtkofsky, two hits and two RBI; Ryan Shay and Rob

Campbell, two hits apiece.

Altoona edges Rams

Ryan Booney's RBI single scoring Austin Homey with two-out in the top of the 10th inning gave Altoona (Pa.) the 1-0 opening round victory over the Rams at Lilly Field.

Winning pitcher Todd Verndorfer went nine innings, allowing just six hits and one hit batsman. Ian Caster got the save in relief, fanning two and allowing just one its.

Losing pitcher John Fileccia (Albion College) went 9.2 innings and scattered seven hits. He fanned 10 and walked only two. Mike Sacha came on for the final out.

"Both pitchers pitched good games," Berryman said. "We had a runner at second with nobody out and at second and third twice with one out and couldn't score. We hit the ball, but we didn't get the timely hit."

Altoona, which did not collect its first hit until the sixth inning, was led by Homey, who went 2for-2. Jeremy Potter, Brett Webley, Josh Farbaugh and Matt Young collected the other Altoona hits.

Andrew Stafford (Oakland University), Kyle Hurtt (Michigan State) and Anderson each went 2-for-4 in the loss. Wayne native and Catholic Central High grad Vojtkofsky (Spring Arbor University) collected the other Rams hit and a sacrifice.



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to Bay Harbour) did a magnificent job. The par four #18 is an outstanding finishing hole with an approach shot over water. The only issues with Shepherd's Hollow are a couple of guirky holes in this 27 hole layout. Great Clubhouse and food too.

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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.

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LOCAL SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, August 13, 2006

BASEBALL TRYOUTS

B6

(CP)

The Tigers, a U12 Plymouth/Canton travel baseball team, will be holding tryouts for the 2007 season on Monday, Aug. 28, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tryouts will be conducted by professional baseball coaches at Massey Field, which is located on Plymouth Road, just east of Haggerty.

Eligible players must be younger than 13 years old by April 30, 2007. For more information, contact Larry at (734) 812-3280.

Tryouts for the 2007 U13 Canton Alley Cats travel baseball team will be held at Heritage Park Sunday, Aug. 27, beginning at 4 p.m. Players should arrive 20 minutes early to register.

The Alley Cats compete in the Kensington Valley Travel League as well as in several USSSA tournaments each season.

To be eligible, players must be 13 years old (or younger) as of April 30, 2007. For more information, contact head coach Glen Potter at (734) 844-8941 between Aug. 20-27.

Tryouts for the 2007 Vipers, an 11-and-under Plymouth-Canton travel baseball team, will be from 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 20, at Plymouth Township Park (field No. 2), which is located off Ann Arbor Trail (between McClumpha and Beck roads). Eligible players must by 12 years-old by Aug. 20, 2007. For more information, contact Tony Boucher at (734) 454-4992 or tboucher14@yahoo.com; or Don Clark at (734) 455-1224 or arg8@aol.com.

The Pirates 2007 14-andunder baseball team, which repesents the communities of Plymouth and Canton, will be conducting tryouts on Wednesday, Aug. 23, at 6 p.m., and Sunday, Aug. 27, at 2:30 p.m. at Heritage Park in Canton Township. Heritage is located behind the Canton Township offices on Canton Center Rd., ust south of Cherry Hill. Players must have a birth date

on or after May 1, 1992, and enjoy playing at a competitive level.

The team is expected to participate in a total of approximately 40 games – both league and tournament - beginning in April of 2007. Players will also have the option of participating in a fall baseball league beginning in mid-September.

For more information, contact coach Bruce Price at (734) 635-7497

The Canton Yellow Jackets 10U travel baseball team will conduct tryouts for the 2007 season on Saturday from 11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at Heritage Park (field #1). The team will be coached by Bill Flohr. For more information, contact Flohr at pteridactyl@sbcglobal.net or (248) 761-9694.

The Plymouth Grizzlies travel baseball team is seeking an additional player for the fall 2006 season. Interested 11- and 12-year-olds should contact Rob Sudz at (734) 420-058. Players must be residents of or attend school in Plymouth, Plymouth Township or Canton.

Tryouts for the 2007 under-14 Motor City Chiefs travel baseball team will be held Saturday, Aug. 12, at 10 a.m. at UAW Field, located at 48055 Michigan Ave., just west of Beck Road.

The Chiefs are seeking tournament-quality players to compete in the Kensington Valley **Baseball-Softball Association** Elite League.

If you cannot make the scheduled times, and to confirm tryouts, send an e-mail to

Mayger22@aol.com. Tryouts for the under-11 Motor City Chiefs travel baseball team will be held on Saturday at 2 p.m. at UAW Field, located at 48055 Michigan Ave., just west of Beck Rd. The Chiefs are seeking quality players for a highcaliber team. If you are unable to make these tryout times, or have any questions, e-mail Ken Gaffney at kgaffney8@yahoo.com.

ast week's Buick Open at Warwick Hills was a perfect example of how golf, in the end, can be very similar for professionals and amateurs. Believe it or not, when it comes to the

mental game of golf, nerves and distractions. you are not that much different than some of the professionals who competed in the **PGA** Tour Links to event.

The untold the Game story of the Buick Open, **Michael Patrick** the one you and Shiels I can relate to,

golf professional John DalCorobbo. DalCorobbo, 41, is the director of golf instruction for Michigan State University's Forest Akers Golf Club.

DalCorobbo received an exemption to compete in the Buick Open - or rather, earned his berth in the event - because he won the 2005 Michigan PGA Championship last August at Shanty Creek Resort. The Michigan PGA Championship field was comprised not of PGA Tour players, but rather, over 200 of the state's best golf professionals most of whom work at country

STOBBE

FROM PAGE B1

time I've had to use it in a noncompetitive way."

DAD'S A BELIEVER

Among the people she has

clubs, golf courses and practice ranges. DalCorobbo is one of the better players and a fine instructor in the Michigan PGA Section, having won the 1998 Tournament of Champions and been named the PGA's "Teacher of the Year" in 2005.

So DalCorobbo got a shot at the big time, a "club pro" in a field of PGA Tour professionals...and he had almost a full vear to think about it. since he won the Michigan PGA Championship last August.

"I've had a lot of time to try to get my mind in the right place and be ready for this, DalCorobbo said the week before the Buick Open after a strong finish in this year's Tournament of Champions at Boyne Mountain. "You know, if I make the cut, that's great. But if I don't, people really don't expect a club pro to do well against PGA Tour players. But personally, I don't enter any event without expecting to be competitive and without thinking I have a chance to win."

He had a couple of practice rounds at Warwick Hills Golf and Country Club on Monday and Tuesday before the event, including one with Tour player Dudley Hart, and had hit the ball well. DalCorobbo's children and family were excited. He was in good shape - rested and ready.

"Being a police officer, my

tive of me while I was growing

up," Stobbe said. "But now that

he sees what I can do, he does-

n't worry about me as much any

dad was naturally overly protec-

So much build up became such disappointment during Thursday's opening round.

Mental part of golf similar for pros, amateurs

"I can tell you that I felt like I was playing golf on seven espressos," DalCorobbo told me after the round. "I just couldn't calm myself down. I couldn't find my normal focus."

DalCorobbo said the excitement of playing in a PGA Tour got to him.

"You definitely know you're alive when you play in that setting. It's a real rush," he admitted. "When I got to the eighth green the spectators were lined three-deep. I tried to prepare for it, but that's the kind of thing a club pro doesn't normally see."

DalCorobbo said he got distracted by the festival-like atmosphere and activities that take place during a PGA Tour event.

"The crowds were cheering and hooting and yelling and there were trucks moving around and I tried to focus on each shot, but I didn't hit the ball well and I didn't putt any better. I missed putts inside nine feet about eight times. Hence my score."

DalCorobbo's opening round score was nine-over-par 81. By contrast, Tiger Woods had opened with a six-under-par 66 - 15 strokes better than DalCorobbo - and Woods wasn't even in the lead.

On the PGA Tour, the field is cut in half to the lowest 70 players (plus ties) after the first two rounds. Unless a player makes the cut, he doesn't make a check. After opening with an 81 on Thursday, it was very unlikely that DalCorobbo could possibly play well enough on Friday to make the cut.

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Then the bad news got even worse: DalCorobbo would not be allowed to play his second round on Friday - he'd been disqualified for signing an incorrect scorecard.

"After 20 years of playing golf, that was the first time I'd ever done that," he explained. Typically I check the card, then I let the official scorekeeper go over it again. I think there was some frustration involved with that. Definite frustration."

DalCorobbo will try to bounce back when he defends his title at the 2006 Michigan PGA Championship in late August at Eagle Eye Golf Club in Lansing - his hometown.

Golf is a game that beats you down much more often than it lets you up," DalCorobbo admitted.

We can all relate to that sentiment, can't we?

Michael Patrick Shiels, golf columnist for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, is a member of the Golf Writers Association of America. He may be contacted at MShiels@aol.com.

impressed with her unique selfmore. I think my friends feel defense skills are her dad, Marc, safer when they go out with me who is a deputy chief for the too? Westland Police Department.

Even though she competes in at least two tournaments a month, Stobbe has been able to

dodge injury for the most part. "I've been lucky," she said. "I've had a black eye and my hip went out of socket once, so I've

been fortunate. I've given more injuries than I've received." Stobbe's long-term goals include owning her own tae

kwon do facility. Not bad for somebody who, not long ago, couldn't do a push-up.

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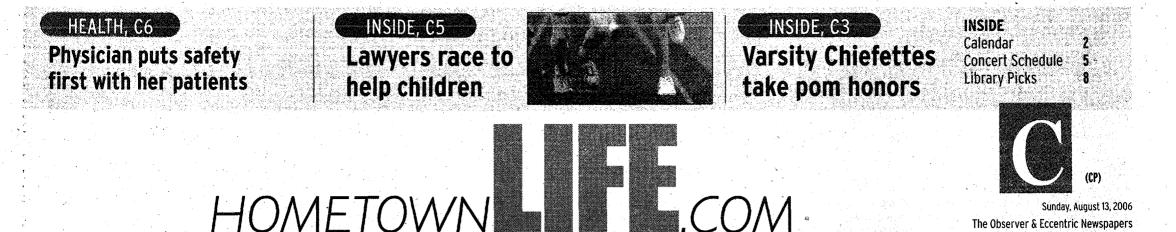
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Brad Kadrich, editor . (734) 459-2700 . bkadrich@hometownlife.com

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The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Managing those bad moods in the home

oods can bé contagious. Imaginé you have a throbbing toothache. You sit down in the dentist's chair in pain. The dentist enters the room in a cheerful mood. If you catch the dentist's mood, you relax a bit and he breezes through the procedure. If the dentist catches your mood, what would happen? He'd wince when you winced. As your knuckles turn white grabbing the arms of the chair, his knuckles turn white grabbing his instruments. As your panic grows, his panic grows. My guess is you would never go back to that dentist again.

People in helping professions meet others' sadness, anger and pain with an attitude of acceptance and a belief in their ability to be helpful. Imagine meeting your children's hostile moods with acceptance and a belief in your ability to be helpful.



Parenting Corner Marilyn Suttle

It isn't always easy to be accepting and helpful. Just try dealing with a mouthy teen, who insists on skipping the family reunion picnic to wait in line for tickets to a concert. When you hear her disrespectful tone, it's so tempting to escalate the conflict instead of staying conscious enough to defuse it.

When my son was 3 years old, he was angry about

having to get dressed. Instead of using skills, I caught his mood and got angry with him. He mirrored my anger and got even more angry. I got angrier back. Right in the middle of one of those, "Yes, you do," "No, I don't," kind of arguments, I realized that I had reduced myself to the maturity level of a preschooler. I was reflecting his mood instead of responding to it.

To respond in a helpful way, start by understanding that it is OK for children to feel what they feel. It's OK for a teenager to feel disappointed about missing a concert to attend a family reunion. It's OK for a preschooler to feel angry about getting dressed. restore good f once their bad feelings are accepted. While unacceptable actions need to be limited, permitting feelings helps children cope with their frustrations and move forward more easily. To keep your child's hostile mood from spreading to you, take a moment to challenge yourself to choose your mood. If you respond with compassion, it changes the dynamic. For example, in a mood of compassion, I could have said, "I can see how angry you feel. It's not easy to stop playing to get dressed and rush off to preschool. Sometimes doing what needs to be done can be really hard."

Staying alive

Dance groups keep Polish culture vibrant

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Megan Boyttcher is proud of her Polish heritage. Even though her Krakowiac costume is heavy and hot, she says the dance is the "most fun" of all the choreography she performs with P.R.C.U.A. Syrena Dance Ensemble, a school affiliated with the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America. P.R.C.U.A. was established in 1873 to unite and help Polish immigrants.

From September to April the 9-year old Livonia girl practices the dances from various regions of Poland on Wednesday nights at St. Michael's Orthodox Church in Redford. Then in April students don different regional costumes for a recital. This year the ensemble celebrated 30 years of keeping Polish dance and song alive, including the Krakowiac from Krakow, one of the country's oldest and largest cities.

"I'm having fun making friends and learning new dances," said Megan Boyttcher, a Hoover Elementary student who started dancing at age 2. "You do need to practice a lot for all of them.

Megan and her brother Daniel, 4, are following in their mother Gail's footsteps. Abigail, 2, will join them in September. Gail Boyttcher

they've learned Polish language, to count in Polish and sing songs."

Christine Lewandowski is trying to keep the culture alive not only by enrolling daughter Amy in dance classes, but by opening Polanka Market in Livonia to sell imported and Polish food with her brother Lech Zochowski. She immigrated from Bielsk Podlaski in 1981 and has her mother mail costumes made in Poland for Amy, an 11-year old student at St. Robert Bellarmine in Redford.

"She (Amy) is keeping up with Polish heritage, Lewandowski said. "The costumes are very traditional and the dances — the Polka, Krakowiac, Oberek. My favorite part is the Presentation Ball when kids graduate from high school and are presented to society at a dinner dance. They do special dances and the girls wear beautiful white gowns."

As Syrena's director, Patricia Steven is working to keep the dance ensemble/school alive. At one time, more than 100 students enrolled annually. Today, the number has dwindled to about 20.

Syrena is looking for children interested in learning about their Polish heritage through song and dance. Registration is 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 6. Call (313) 563-1761. For inforon, visit nadance.com or www.prcua.org and click on Syrena. Currently there are 10 P.R.C.U.A. schools in Michigan for kids age 3 through high school. Tuition is \$35 a month for one child, \$50 for two or more. "Nowadays, everybody is forgetting where they come from, so we'd like to get them back into that," said Steven, whose grandparents came from Poland. Steven studied dance in Poland for a month when she was 16. "I've had four boys who've danced. It's something I get to share with my boys. It's difficult to get boys to dance. You have to start them when they're young. It's helped them with their sports. They're more sure of themselves. It makes them a well-rounded person."



Allison Galanty of Dearborn and Joseph Ferracciolo of Livonia perform in Slask costumes.



never danced as child so she wants daughters Jessica, 8 and Rachel, 7, to have the opportunity. Both are students at St. Michael's School in Livonia.

"They do community service projects," said Crachiola of Livonia. "A lot of kids are from Catholic schools in the area.

"Over the years, it's kind of become less cool to do ethnic dancing, but we have been growing. Families are looking According to director Dawn Rahn, the Centennial Dancers boast a total of 42 families with 78 kids. From Sept. 8-10, parents will pitch in to help run the Polish kitchen at Plymouth Fall Fest to raise funds for the group by selling kielbasa and pierogi. The group's dancers take to the stage in a colorful display of their heritage at 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 9. Among them will be Madison and Kennedy Rahn, age 10 and 7. "We want to promote the Polish heritage," said Rahn, a teacher at St. Michael's. "When someone calls asking us to perform we don't say no and we don't charge, but do take donations."

Sometimes, everyone is in a good mood, then something unexpected happens. Do you remember the feeling of fear flooding through your body the first time your child got hurt playing a sport or the first time your toddler took a tumble head first on the floor? Everything inside of you wants to gasp and come running. When you do, your child is often more impacted by your mood than the mishap.

Have you ever seen a toddler who after bumping into something, looks around the room to see if mommy or daddy saw? If her parents aren't around, she's fine, but if they are anywhere in sight, the crying begins. I remember my sister's wise words of advice. She told me not to overreact when my toddler fell. She said, "Instead of panicking, stay where you are and just ask if he's OK. When you panic, they panic." It worked like a charm. Unless he was really hurt, he'd just pick himself up and keep playing.

The parent, not the child, is responsible for changing the emotional climate of the home. It's up to you to model healthy ways of handling life's upsets. If you find yourself catching or spreading a bad mood, don't beat yourself up. Instead, do your emotional homework. Start by congratulating yourself for noticing what you did that was unhelpful. Not until vou become aware of your behavior, do you have any hope of changing it. Noticing it means you are making progress.

It takes awareness, planning and practice to become effective. Since the odds are good that someone in your family will be in a bad mood again some time soon, you can plan a more helpful response now, so that when you are in the situation, you don't blindly fall back into your old way of reacting. By putting these principles into place, you vaccinate yourself against catching future

bad moods and raise the emotional intelligence of your whole family. Marilyn Suttle helps people create happier. more pro-

ductive relationships with esteem-building skills and strategies. Visit her Web site at: WWW.SuttleOnline.NET. years.

"Abigail is very excited because her brother and sister have been in it for years," said Gail, whose grandfather immigrated to the United States as a teenager. Her parents and grandparents spoke Polish at home. "It's important because of the friendship. It's a Polish Roman Catholic base and they believe in the same things you do."

TRADITION

Costumes are passed down from child to child in the Michelle Ferracciolo family in Livonia. She's hoping this fall son Anthony, 3, will join his sister Julia, 8, and brothers Joseph, 7, and Dominic, 4 in the group. Michelle danced with Syrena 12 years.

"They're dancing with the same teacher who has taught for the past 30 years, Shirley Galanty," said Michelle Ferracciolo whose great grandparents were Polish immigrants. "Along with dancing

P.N.A. CENTENNIAL DANCERS

The Polish National Alliance Centennial Dancers learn to give of themselves while spreading the word about their Katherine Chmielewski of Canton and Joseph Ferracciolo of Livonia perform the Krakowiac, a dance from Krakow, one of the oldest and largest cities in Poland.

culture. In addition to their April recital at Clarenceville High School in Livonia, the young dancers visit nursing homes and dance on their float in the Plymouth and Northville July Fourth parades, and on Labor Day in Hamtramck. Although Donna Crachiola's

parents came from Poland, she

The cost for a P.N.A. member to dance is \$200 for the year, a nonmember \$300, and includes costumes. For information, call (734) 462-0247. Practices are held Wednesdays for ages 4 and up.

Ichomin@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2145

Early business lessons lead to his success

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

IDTT

Steven Jackson says he first learned about business through his route as an Observer Newspapers carrier at age 11 or 12. It was hard not to absorb the basics of good customer service when all four of his siblings delivered the hometown paper at one time or another in Garden City.

Nearly 40 years later, Jackson

credits his success as president/CEO of Hungry Howie's to not only his faithful patrons, but employees. Like the Bloomfield Hills business man they learned from the bottom up.

"It's really all about people," said Jackson, a Bloomfield Hills resident who over the years has lived in

Westland, Canton and Farmington Hills. "I've had people who worked for me for years, some almost 20 years. One thing that gives us credibility is the VPs in the company all worked in stores, managed and worked through the business so when they sit across from a franchisee they understand and have lived those issues."

Jackson began his career as a delivery driver for a local pizzeria after graduating from Garden City East High School in 1972 and enrolling in the elementary education program at Eastern Michigan University. About a year later he left the business owned by Jim Hearn to work on Ford's Wayne Assembly line but as graduation day neared, Jackson realized teaching positions were few and far between.

Hearn had sold the Garden City pizzeria and purchased a small Taylor hamburger shop which he transformed into the first Hungry Howie's in 1973. Jackson dropped out of school to become Hearn's partner and open a second location in Southgate in 1976.

FAMILY AFFAIR

Through the years, Jackson's wife, Sarah, answered phones and made sub sandwiches. Today, she is controller for the franchise division. All three of his children, Jennifer, 30, Andrea, 28, and Steve Jr. 25. worked in the stores during their summers off from college. Jennifer is now director of marketing. Steve Jr. works in franchise development.

PLEASE SEE SUCCESS, C3



Steve Jackson is CEO of Hungry Howie's Pizza.

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, August 13, 2006

CALENDAR

AROUND TOWN

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.

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 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)

BELLETIRE

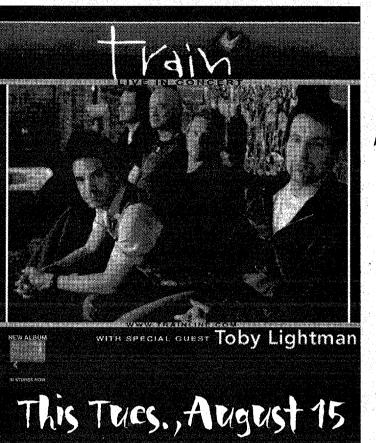
CITIZENS

655-1159. St. Mary Mercy Hospital is located at 34675 Five Mile, at Levan, in Livonia

The Livingston County Genealogical Society meets 7 p.m. Sept. 7 at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints 1041 Grand River in Howell Speaker Sharon Brevoort will talk about "Timelines and Chronologies: Placing Your Ancestor in Historical Context." A help session starts at 6 p.m., and the public is invited. For information, call Margaret, (810) 227-7745

Fibromyalgia workshop The National Wellness Foundation sponsors a free fibromyalgia workshop 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 30 at the Carl Sandburg Library in Livonia. To register for the free workshop, call (248) 426-0201. Seating is limited. Flea market

The Livonia Historical Society hosts a Flea Market 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 10, at Greenmead Historical Park and Newburgh and 8 Mile in Livonia.



TICKETS AT PALACENET.COM, THE PALACE BOX OFFICE

AND ALL ticketmaster . CHARGE AT 248.645.6666.

MEADOW BROOK

Food and refreshments will be available, and the village will be open for tours noon-3 p.m. For more informa-

Genealogical society

23 (6:30 p.m. sign-in) at The Farmington Players Barn Theater (32332 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington

tion, call (248) 477-7375

Farmington Players auditions

Auditions for "Moon Over Buffalo,"

which will run Nov. 17 to Dec. 2, are

scheduled for 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug.

Hills). This is a door-slamming, madcap farce from the award-winning author of "Lend Me a Tenor" (Ken Ludwig), where everything that could go wrong does! For more information and script availability, please call the director, Brian Tupper at (248) 553-4506 and leave a message. Please visit www.farmingtonplayers.org for the complete audition notice with role descriptions and requirements. 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

mail pennyhomalley@aol.com **Tournament of charities**

Tournament of Charities golf event to benefit children and families in southeastern Michigan takes place at the State Course of the Year, Fox Hills Golf and Country Club in Plymouth Aug. 28. Registration and breakfast begin at 9 a.m. with the 18-hole shotgun at 10:30 a.m. The cost of the tournament is \$1,200 and includes four rounds of golf for a four person team, four sets of thank you gifts, four pairs of Nike golf shoes and four seats at the banquet at the end of the day. Arbor Hospice & Home Care joins Open Door Ministry, Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries, For the Kids Foundation, Joy of Jesus, Band of Angels, Children's Therapy Fund and Promise Village: Home for Children in benefiting from the generosity of MTOC and participants of the golf tournament. To register for this event, please contact Arbor Hospice & Home Care at www.arborhospice.org, email laren@arborhospice.org, or call 734-662-5999, x120 You can also register at www.mtocgolf.org and indicate your support of Arbor Hospice & Home Care.

Movies in the park

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, Aug. 18, "Racing Stripes," in Elizabeth Park in Trenton. For more information, call (734) 261-1990. Charity golf

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Penny O'Malley, (734) 429-8137 or e-The fourth annual Michigan

Club in Plymouth Aug. 28. Registration and breakfast begin at 9 a.m., with the 18-hole shotgun start at 10:30 a.m. Arbor Hospice & Home Care joins Open Door Ministry, Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries, For the Kids Foundation, Joy of Jesus, Band of Angels, Children's Therapy Fund and Promise Village: Home for Children in benefiting from the generosity of MTOC and participants of the golf tournament. This distinguished golf tournament concludes with a banquet and live and silent auctions. Everyone is encouraged to join the evening festivities, which kicks off at 4 p.m. To register for this event, please contact Arbor Hospice & Home Care at www.arborhospice.org, email laren@arborhospice.org, or call (734) 662-5999, Ext. 120. Registration can also be done through the Michigan Tournament of Charities Web site, www.mtocgolf.org and indicate supporting Arbor Hospice & Home Care. Hospice training

Heartland Hospice is looking for caring and dedicated people with an interest in serving terminally ill patients and their families in Washtenaw, Livingston and western Wayne counties. Volunteers provide services such as friendly visiting, patient transport/patient outings, errand running, grief support and clerical services. Spring volunteer training is approaching. For more information contact volunteer coordinator Candice Jones at (888) 973-1145. Literacy Council tutors

helped so many, which is just what

golfers at the fourth-annual Michigan

Tournament of Charities will do when

they play at Fox Hills Golf and Country

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

Grief support New Hope Center for Grief Support is a Christian-based bereavement outreach and resource center located in Northville. Age appropriate groups for widows and widowers are provided in various locations in southeastern Michigan including groups for young widows and widowers and their children between the ages of 4 through the teen years. Groups for parents who have lost a child, adults who have lost a parent, pet loss, and other

specialized groups are offered at various times of the year. All services for adults and children are offered at no cost to the participants. If you are grieving or know someone who is, please call the office at (248) 348-0115 for further information about services provided by New Hope Center for Grief Support, or visit www.newhopecenter.net.

www.hometownlife.com

CLUBS

Rotary A.M.

The Plymouth Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M. meets at 7 a.m. every Tuesday at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer. New members are always welcome. Contact Mark Hammar, president, Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M., by calling (734) 455-6620.

Fibromyalgia/Chronic Fatigue

The Great Lakes Fibromyalgia and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Association will meet 1-3 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month at Merriman Road Baptist Church on Merriman south of Ford. There will be a guest speaker at each meeting. For information call Lucy Rowley 734-462-1768 **MOPS** meet

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

Mosaic

osaic MOSAIC is a group where Moms come equipped for the important task of 0.1 mothering. It presents speakers on child and family issues, has smallgroup discussion time, crafts and brunch. Child care is provided. It meets at Plymouth Baptist Church, in 42021 Ann Arbor Trail, on the first and third Tuesday mornings of each month, September to May. Contact Resha at (734) 207-0658 or resha@iuno.com

Moms Club

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Moms Club of Livonia-S/Plymouth, Canton and Westland offers a variety of activities for stay-at-home moms and their children. For more details, call Birthe at (734) 458-8143 or Kimberly at (248)231-6120. 1.1 DAR

The Sarah Ann Cochrane Chapter-Daughters of the American Revolution meets the third Monday of each month except January, July and August. A group with ancestors who fought in American Revolution. Call (734) 420-2775 for further information.

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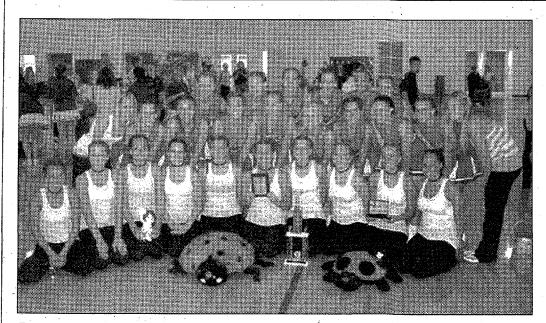
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HOMETOWNLIFE

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, August 13, 2006



Pom prowess

The Canton Varsity Chiefettes recently won several awards at the Mid-American Pom Pon Summer Camp. The squad placed first each night during evaluations and was named Grand Champions on the final day, placing first in Original Routine, Speed Learning and Kick Line. Also, the team won the Showmanship Award and the Peppy Pom Award, the squad seniors won first place in the Senior Routine competition, and senior Kimberly Martin was chosen from the 280 camp participants for the Smile, Sparkle, Shine award. Sixteen members of the squad earned spots on the Mid-American Pom Pon All-Star Team. Squad members are Front row (from left): Ashley Hoffman, Daryn Gordon, Kim Martin, Jennifer Novak, Katelyn Wade, Rachael Susterka, Karly Sasena, Britney Myslinski, Katelyn Ward, Nicole Battaglia. Second row (from left): Coach Jenny Kesler, Brooke Graham, Jessica Lee, Lindsay Phipps, Brooke Julien, Kristen Beyer, Suzanne Russell, Nicole Sheldon, Destinee Loftis, Camp Assistant Katie Churchill. Third row (from left): Emily Nairn, Katie Schwalm, Brittney Kopchia, Sarah Graves, Courtney Fravala, and Michelle Smiley.

Detroit kids experience nature

"The earth gives us everything we need," writes a young earthworm in the popular children's book The Diary of a Worm by Doreen Cronin.

This month, 38 students from Detroit elementary schools got to experience Mother Nature firsthand and brush up on their reading skills, too, during a literacy program at the Environmental. Interpretive Center on the campus of the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

The YES Foundation's KinderCamp, housed at the EIC for the past six weeks, enrolls students in kindergarten through second grade in the Detroit Public Schools who are recommended for extra literacy education.

This year, the camp's selection of books included naturethemed favorites such as The Very Hungry Caterpillar and The Tiny Seed by Eric Carle, and In the Tall, Tall Grass and Where Once There Was a Wood by Denise Fleming. When the program finishes this week, each child will receive their own copies of the books they read.

With the assistance of several U-M-Dearborn graduatelevel education interns, the students spent each Monday through Thursday morning reading, working on phonics skills and exploring fun nature-based activities to reinforce their learning. Fridays were reserved for field trips with naturalists.

"The benefit of a program like this is the amount of exposure and experience they're getting," according to Jaclyn Wharfield, one of the U-M-Dearborn interns teaching for the program. Children living in the city might not have the chance to experience all that nature has to offer, she said, but the KinderCamp students saw live deer, groundhogs and other wildlife during their visits.

"Someday, I'll be a star. With my own dressing room.

I'll have fans and flowers and be the greatest ballerina

the world's ever seen! I can't wait!"

It's about more than dance.

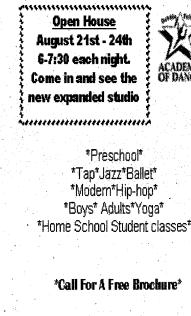
It's about motivating young people to be the best they can be

KinderCamp coordinator Michelle Morden said having the program at the EIC allows the students to learn about their habitat while improving their reading skills, and the creepy, crawly bugs and other creatures hold their interest.

"It eliminates walls and creates possibilities for the children," Morden said.

Transient and operating out of different classrooms during its first two years, KinderCamp "found a home" at the EIC this summer thanks to a partnership cultivated by education professor Seth Hirshorn.

"The camp had been in different places, but the facilities weren't really good for it," Hirshorn said. Feeling that U-M-Dearborn's metropolitan presence was a good fit, Hirshorn introduced YES Foundation president and CEO Julia Richie to professor Orin Gelderloos, director of the EIC, and the partnership was formed.



Debbie Felton Academy of Dance **Tenence Comers Plaza** 16312 Middlebelt Road Livonia, MI 48154 (between 5 & 6 Mile Roads) 734-524-0104 www.feltondance.com

SUCCESS FROM PAGE C1

"We started opening stores with friends and relatives and by 1980 had a dozen locations," Jackson said. "I pressed Jim to franchise this. We hired attorneys and went through the process of putting it together. In 1981, Jim went to Florida and started opening stores. We had our first franchise in the beginning of 1983."

"I feel we have a superior product. What sets us apart is our flavored crust pizza developed in the early 1980s. A franchisee was playing around and adding sesame seeds to the crust then another tried it.'

By 1986, Hearn and Jackson had formed a distribution company to help control costs and product consistency. As of two weeks ago, Hungry Howie's had 543 stores with 92 franchise agreements to be developed in the next two to

four years. Jackson says they receive about 500 inquiries a month

"Hungry Howie's is the 11th largest pizza chain with more than 500 locations in 17 states, \$254 million in sales and plans to open 50 new stores a year. The bulk of the stores are in Michigan and Florida but we're as far west as California, as far south as the tip of Texas. The plan is not to have one store in every state but regional strategic groups. We have close to 220 locations just in the state of Michigan."

Jackson's business plan is paying off. About a month ago, Eastern Michigan University bestowed an honorary degree on him for his accomplishments.

"Proud is probably the first word that comes to mind," said Jackson, 51. "I always thought about finishing, but I was so busy with the business."

While Jackson is excited

even prouder of another award.

"In 2004 Pizza Today magazine named Hungry Howie's pizza chain of the year," Jackson said. "It's like winning the academy award of the industry."

Success hasn't changed Jackson though. He fondly remembers the friends he made while growing up in Garden City. They continue to remember the good old days as well. Jackson chuckles when he talks about Bob Mason, one of his best friends from high school. Mason and Jackson vied for the honor of most valuable player on the track team. Mason won. Shortly after their 25th reunion, the Westland resident mailed it to Jackson saying he should keep it for the next 25 years.

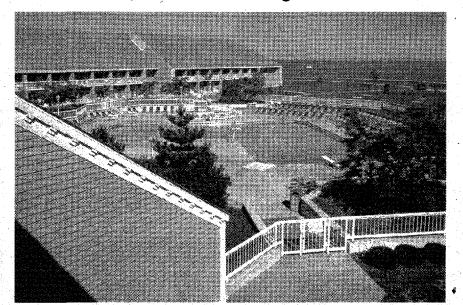
about the honorary degree, he's Ichomin@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2145

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Indoor and outdoor swimming pools Several miles of hiking and biking trails Children's activities

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Marina **Basketball** Tennis Saunas Jacuzzis Shuffleboard Horseshoes

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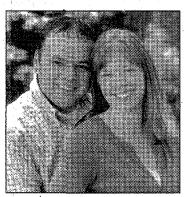
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ANNOUNCEMENTS



C4

(*)

Loschiavo-Middleton James and Barbara Loschiavo of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Lori Ann Loschiavo of Livonia to Nicholas Keith Middleton of Livonia. The bride-to-be is a 1994 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and a 1998 graduate of Michigan State University. She is employed as a financial analyst in Southfield. The prospective groom is the

son of William and Barbara Middleton of Ortonville. He is a 1995 graduate of Lake Orion High School and a 1999 graduate of Michigan State University with a degree in mechanical engineering. He is employed as an automotive design engineer in Ann Arbor. An August wedding is planned for First United Methodist Church of Farmington.



WEDDING

ANNIVERSARIES



Ronald and Diane Hackett of White Lake announce the engagement of their daughter, Melissa Hackett, to David Fox of Plymouth, the son of Linda Fox of Farmington Hills and Dale Fox of Livonia.

The bride-to-be is a 1992 graduate of Walled Lake Central High School and received a degree in nursing from Oakland Community College. She works as a registered nurse at Botsford General Hospital.

The prospective groom is a 1991 graduate of Livonia Franklin High School and received a degree from Schoolcraft College. He works as a firefighter-paramedic for the Plymouth Community Fire Department.

A September wedding is

Ferstle-Charles

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Ferstle of Troy announce the engagement of their daughter, Jacelyn Kay, to Joshua Charles.

follow.

Jacelyn is a 1997 graduate of Troy High School. She received her bachelor of science degree from University of Michigan in Chemical Engineering in 2002, and is currently working as a environmental engineer and project manager for Secor International Inc.

Joshua of Tecumseh, Mich., received his bachelor of science degree from Western Michigan University in Aeronautical Engineering in 2002, and is currently working as a program manager for Lear Corp.

Joshua and Jacelyn will be married in late September at St. John's Chapel in Plymouth Township. Joshua and Jacelyn plan to live in Plymouth with their dog, Rigby.

NEW VOICES



Cole E. Schlaud

Rick and Amy Schlaud of Canton announce the birth of their son, Cole E. Schlaud on May 24, at St. Joseph Hospital, Ypsilanti.

planned for Our Lady of Good

Counsel Catholic Church in

Plymouth. The reception will

be at Fox Hills Country Club.

A honeymoon to Aruba will

He weighed 3 pounds, 13 ounces at birth. His grandparents are Rudy and Louella Cervantes of Canton, Kathy Schlaud of Lapeer and Lindsay Schlaud of Columbiaville.



Hoffman-Noonan

Nancy Lynn Hoffman and Patrick Stephen Noonan, both of Canton, were married on June 3 at Glen Oaks Country Club in Farmington Hills with a reception following.

The bride's attendants included matron of honor Kristie Stephenson with daughter, Kiele, and bridesmaids Beth Davis, Melanie Mikosz, Becky Uryga, Molly Noonan, Jennifer Kable, Colleen Kashawlic and Jill Mitchell. The groom was attended by

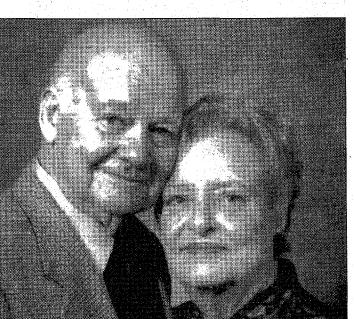
best man Josh Pang and groomsmen J.P. Lake, Nathan Gray, John Wright III, Nathan Johns, John Stephenson, Mike Martin and Eric Sarrault. Flower girls Morgan Brown

and Riley McCleary as well as ring bearers Tyler Jackson and Nolan O'Harran were also members of the wedding party. The couple spent 10 days honeymooning in St. Maarten and will be making their home

Schmidt 50th

in Leesburg, Va.

Ray and Pat (Sievert) Schmidt, of Farmington Hills, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 21, 2006. The couple was married on July 21, 1956, in Southfield and have lived in Farmington Hills for 47 years. They are the proud parents of four children, Craig (Chris) Schmidt, Dale (Sue) Schmidt, Eric (Andrea) Schmidt and Terri Schmidt (deceased); and grandparents of Brad, Kali, Paige and Matt (deceased). Ray is retired from Livonia Public Schools and Pat is retired from hospital administration. The couple enjoys spending winters in Florida, traveling and "RV-ing." They



Richardses celebrate 50th

anniversary

Gordon and Glenda Richards will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Sept. 1. They were married Sept. 1, 1956, at the First Methodist Church in Ferndale and have lived in the same location in Westland for 46 years.

They have six children, Gordon, Geri, John, Jim, Craig and Jeannie. They have 16 grandchildren.

Glenda has been a past volunteer at the Cooper Elementary School for 20 plus years. She is a past officer of the Parent Teacher Association and a past member of the Parent Education Group at Whittier Junior High School. For the

past 18 years she has been a volunteer member of the Garden City Hospital Guild Association.

Gordon served 4 1/2 years in the U.S. military. He served as a paratrooper and was a veteran of the Korean War and is a member of VFW Post 3323 in Westland. He is past president of the Westland Youth Association. He was a charter member of the Arbor Trail Estates Civic Association. He attended Lawrence Institute of Technology and Wayne State University/ He is retired from Sperry Corp. where he worked for 26 years.

They will celebrate their anniversary with a family gathering.



celebrated their anniversary

with family.



Glenn and Dianne

Fritsch 50th anniversary

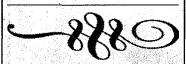


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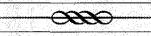
ANGELINE IRENE FIELD (Nee FERRETT)

Age 82 of Highland formerly of Lexington and Rochester Hills died August 9, 2006. Beloved wife of the late Howard R. Field; loving mother of Randall (Amy) of South Lyon, Thomas (Georgianna) of Dexter, Mark (Kathy Jo) of Ann Arbor, Nancy (Gary) Musgrave of Highland, Anne (Jeffery) Scott of Farmington, and Jennifer (Patrick) Hilber of Rochester Hills. Funeral Services have taken place. Share memories and leave tributesa at www.mem.com



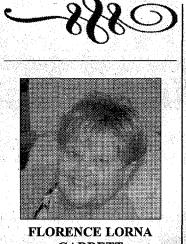
JOSEPH F. WROBEL

Age 82, August 11, 2006. Loving husband of Lorraine. Dear father of Joseph (Julie) and James (Kris). Beloved grandfather of Jacob, Joshua, Alex, and Rachel. Funeral Liturgy Tuesday, 10am, at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward (btwn 13-14 Milé), Memorial tributes to The Parkinson's Foundation. View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com



NEAL LANPHEAR

75 longtime resident of Age Plymouth, passed away August 11,2006. Mr. Lanphear was the man-ager for the Coldwell Banker, Schweitzer-Bake real estate office in Plymouth for the past ten years. Member of the Plymouth real estate community since 1966. Moved to Plymouth in 1943 and graduated from Plymouth High School in 1949 Korean war veteran in the US Army Loved to fish and hunt and spend his time at his cottage in Harrison, Mi. Survived by his loving children Duane, Mary Ellen (Jimmy) Hover, Diane (Glenn) Keen, Suzie (Chris) Dominique. Loving grandfather of John, Kristine, Jamie, Haden, Haley, Victoria, Nathan, Austin, Logan. Dear son of Agnes Lanphear and brother of Bud (Janet) Lanphear. Funeral service Monday 10:00am at the Schrader Howell Funeral Home 280 South Main, Plymouth. Visitation Saturday -9pm and Sunday 2-7pm. Internment Bethlehem Cemetery, Ann Arbor.



GARRETT

Age 55, of Westland, passed away August 8th, 2006. Beloved mother of Doug (Shannon), Christy (Amy), Jeff (Kim); grandmother of Megan and Savanna; sister of Mary, Susan (Gary), Buddy (Paula), Peggy (Mike), Betty (Mark), James (Karen); and dearest aunt to many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents Bud and Jane Stewart of Detroit. Florence was born on December 4, 1950, in Detroit, Michigan. She spoke fondly of her childhood and her sisters and brothers remained her best friends throughout her lifetime. Florence raised three children while putting herself through nursing school. She took great pride in being a mother and in being a nurse. She was outstanding at both. For 26 years she was a cancer nurse at Harper Hospital and the Karmanos Cancer Institute. She worked tirelessly on behalf of thousands of patients and earned the love and respect of the many people she touched. Her greatest joys came from seeing her children find love and start families. Her grandchildren were the light of her life. Seeing them made her smile and laugh with a pureness of joy. Florence will always be remembered for her strength of character, for her courage in handling all that life threw her way, and for being the rock that everybody could lean on for support. She will be so very missed by all those who knew and loved her. Funeral Services were held Saturday at R.G. & G.R. Harris, Funeral Home, Livonia. Please sign the online guestbook at

www.rggrharris.com Memorial contributions may be made to the Florence Lorna Garrett Nursing Scholarship at Schoolcraft College or to the Karmanos Cancer Institute.

Let others know...

When you've lost a loved one, place your notice on our website and in "Passages"...a directory located in every edition of your hometown newspaper.

Observer & Eccentric

Call 1-800-579-7355



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

Deadlines: Friday 4:30 PM for Sunday Wednesday Noon for Thursday Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.

e-mail your obit to oeobits@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





Reckers' 50th anniversary Pat and Pete Recker of Livonia celebrated their 50th anniversary on Aug. 11. They were married in 1956 at Holy Family Church in

Nazareth, Pa. The Reckers have three sons: David (Lori) of Libertyville, Ill., Thomas (Karen) of Lafayette, Ind. and James of West Bloomfield, along with eight grandchildren.

Pete Recker is a retired purchasing agent, having been employed by Ford Motor Co. for 32 years. Pat Recker is retired from Comerica Bank. To celebrate their golden anniversary, the Recker family enjoyed

Mazureks' 50th anniversary

Ronald and Delphine Mazurek of Westland are celebrating their 50th anniversary. The couple was married Aug. 18, 1956, at St. Cunegunda's Church in Detroit.

They have seven children, 15 grandchildren and one greatgrandchild.

The children are Kathleen Mazurek, Ronald Mazurek, Laurie Cirino, Debra Kolnitys, Gary Mazurek, Kenneth Mazurek, and Mary Kay Abraham.

Grandchildren are Caitlin, Michael and Derek, children of Ron and Julie Mazurek; Jennifer, daughter of Laurie and Nick Cirino; Tim, Jillian, Michelle, Erin, Dale, Dana and

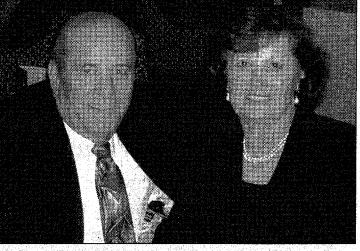
Fritsch of Livonia are ebrating their 50th anniversary. They were married Sept.8, 1956 in Detroit.

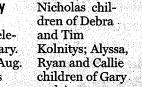
The couple has three children, Pat and Patty Fritsch of Livonia; Kathy and Kevin Summers of Livonia; and Susan and **Emma Stitt of Peachtree** City, Ga.

children.

teering at St. Aidan's church, wintering in Florida. Glenn is retired from AAA in

A party is planned at DeLuca's for family and friends





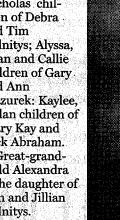
and Ann Mazurek: Kaylee, Nolan children of Mary Kay and Rick Abraham. Great-grandchild Alexandra is the daughter of Tim and Jillian Kolnitys. Ronald is

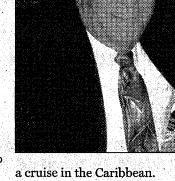
retired from General Motors and Delphine is retired from Oakwood Hospital.

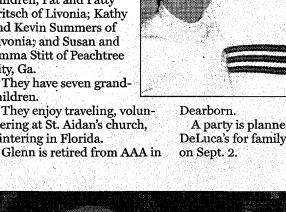
They plan to celebrate their



Frankenmuth with their children and grandchildren.







HOMETOWNLIFE

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, August 13, 2006

Read Sports

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

PLANNING COMMISSION

Barristers race to help needy kids

The Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association hosts its **Barristers'** Section Ninth Annual Race for Kids to benefit the Salvation Army's Denby Center for Abused and Neglected Children and Family Services Saturday, Aug. 19, at the Belle Isle Casino in Detroit.

www.hometownlife.com

Last year, supporters helped raise \$6,667.57 to send the children to an overnight summer camp. This year the barristers continue in their efforts to reach the \$10,000 mark in contributions to benefit the center.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. with the 5K Race starting at 9 a.m., and the One Mile Fun Walk/Run at 9:15 a.m.

Registration is available online at

www.detroitlawyer.org, or onsite on race day from 8:30-8:45 a.m.

If registering and/or paying on-site you must bring payment in the form of a check, made payable to DMBAF.

Entry fee is \$25 for runners or walkers, and includes T-Shirt, awards, refreshments, entertainment, and plenty of activities for the kids. Also, don't forget to bring your pups. Our Dog Zone will be in effect again this year.

Organize a team from your firm, company or school, and challenge another team to beat your team in both size and speed. Contact your Barristers

Board representative if you are interested in forming a firm team.

For those unable to make the race, they can show their support by mailing contributions before August 19, to 9th Annual Barristers' Race For Kids, Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association Foundation, 645 Griswold, Suite 1356, Detroit, Michigan 48226.

Make checks payable to the DMBAF. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

For more information, contact Said Taleb, race chairperson at (313) 983-4443 or send e-mail to staleb@plunkettcooney.com.

CONCERT SCHEDULE

MUSIC IN THE AIR

Here's the schedule for the Music in the Air concert series, sponsored by the Downtown Development Authority; concerts are 7 p.m. Fridays in Kellogg Park:

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

🖬 Aug. 25 – Steve King and the Dittilies

Sept. 1 – Lady Sunshine and the X Band

MUSIC IN THE PARK

Here's the schedule for the Music in the Park concert series for kids, sponsored by Center; concerts are noon Wednesdays in Kellogg Park: 🔳 Aug. 16 – Guy Louis, Chautauqua Express 🖬 Aug. 23 – Matt Watroba

STORAGE USA

Notice is hereby given that on (August 21st 2006), Tate & Co. Auctioneers, Executive Administrator for Storage USA an Extra Space Company, will be offering for sale under the judicial lien process, by public auction, the following storage units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be cash only. Storage USA reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: Storage USA, 6729 CANTON CENTER RD., CANTON, MI 48187 AT 12:30 PM.

ALAN RAY BROWN	D153 10x20	Elect grinder, shop vac, large craftsman's tool box, Big Daddy gun cabinet
DANIEL LATOWSKI	E181 10x10	Moose head, Antlers, Marlin Fish, Golf clubs, Snow blower, Ect
ROD O DAVIS	E186 10x10	House Painting Equipment
KAREN GRADY	I324 10x15	Tool box, 8' ladder, elect . saw, refrigerator, furniture
HESTER BARKSDALE	I316 10x15	Misc. Household goods & Collectibles
DIANE BROWN	K396 10x20	Display cabinets, H units, Settee, Misc store equipment
Publish: August 6 & 13, 2006		OE08459286

	Designation
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	by fire locat
DATE OF HEARING:	Wednesday, A
TIME OF HEARING:	7:00 P.M.
PLACE OF HEARING:	Plymouth To

PROPOSED ACTION: Request Approval of a Class "A" Permit to the tion of House destroyed ted at 44471 Marc Trail. August 30, 2006

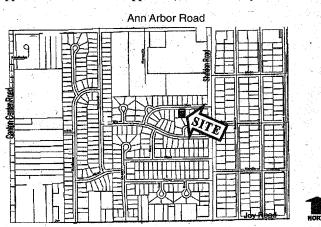
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(CP)

ownship Hall, 9955 North Haggerty Road

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of Plymouth Charter Township has received an application requesting Approval of a Class "A" Designation to Permit the Reconstruction of house destroyed by fire located at 44471 Marc Trail, pursuant to Zoning Ordinance No. 99, Section 27.3-3. The subject property is located in a Single Family Residential District, (R-1). The property is located north of Joy Road, east of Baywood Rd., south of Ann Arbor Road, and west of Sheldon Rd., at 44471 Marc Trail.

Application 1937/0806. Applicant, John and Mary Ann MacLaren



LEGAL DESCRIPTION: For parcel description, see tax records based on Tax ID No. R-78-058-01-0055-000.

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 meeting/ 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

> > OE0846388

Publish: August 13, 2006

Golf tournament to benefit children and families

A summer days worth of fun never helped so many. Golfers at the Fourth Annual Michigan **Tournament of Charities** (MTOC) will do just that. This event has been benefiting children and families in southeastern Michigan for four years, donating almost a quarter of a million dollars last year.

This fourth annual event will take place at the State Course of the Year, Fox Hills Golf and Country Club near Plymouth, on Aug. 28. Registration and breakfast begin at 9 a.m. with

the 18-hole shotgun at 10:30 a.m. The cost of the tournament is \$1,200 and includes four rounds of golf for a four person team, four sets of thank you gifts, four pairs of Nike golf shoes and four seats at the banquet at the end of the day.

Arbor Hospice & Home Care joins Open Door Ministry, **Detroit Rescue Mission** Ministries, For the Kids Foundation, Joy of Jesus, Band of Angels, Children's Therapy Fund and Promise Village: Home for Children in benefiting from the generosity of MTOC and participants of the golf tournament.

To register for this event, visit www.arborhospice.org, send e-mail to laren@arborhospice.org, or call (734) 662-5999, Ext. 120, or register at www.mtocgolf.org.

the Plymouth Community Arts Council, New Liberty Bank and **McCully Educational Resource**

OE0846401

1891 (C)

CANTON POLICE PUBLIC AUCTION

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JM2UF4146K0762000

Public Auction at Budget Towing, 876 Railroad, Ypsilanti, MI 48197 August 21st, 2006 10:00 AM Ford Mustang 1FABP41A8KF249204

PLYMOUTH TWP. POLICE DEPT.

734-354-3232

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given that on 08/18/06 at 9:00 a.m. at B&B Towing,

934 Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth, MI 48170, a public auction of the

SPRINT

PICKUP

Publish: August 13, 2006

following

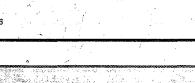
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Hugh Gallagher, editor . (734) 953-2149 . hgallagher@hometownlife.com

More heart attacks on Mondays

Mike from Novi e-mails that he's heard you can be more prone to suffering a heart attack on a Monday and wants to know why.

Mike, an interesting study from the British Medical Journal seems to bear that out. The 10year study suggests that 20 percent more people die of heart attacks on Monday than on any other day of the week! The study focused on 80,000 men and women who died of heart attacks between 1986 and 1995. The study showed that women, with no history of heart disease, were 20 percent more likely to have an attack on Monday



compared to 19 percent of men. The study suggests that the stress of returning to work after the weekend could be to blame. So try to ease into your work week and your heart will thank you for it!

Peter's **Principles**

Peter Nielsen

and is ready to take his training to the next level. Craig, you may want to think about heading for the hills. World-class athletes have been

running up hills for years to get

Craig from Harper Woods e-mails

that he's been jogging for months

the most out of a workout. But, don't try to climb Mt. Everest in a single day! Make sure that you're in shape by running on a flat surface for at least two months before taking on hills. This will help the calves and joints prepare for the added strain of uphill running. Once you start running hills, work your way up gradually. Start by running up the hill and then walking back down. If done properly, hill running can help you reach the peak of fitness and endurance you've been looking for!

If you have a health or fitness question you would like answered in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, email 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.

Health talk Safety for children and adults is physician's priority

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Even though temperatures have dropped from near 100 degrees, Dr. Niru Prasad is cautioning readers "to be careful." In the latest installment of her Health Talk program on cable television, the Bloomfield Hills physician talks about heat-related illnesses with guests Dr. Elizer Basse, chief of emergency medicine at North Oakland Medical Center in Pontiac, and Dr. Mahmoud Elghoroury, a pediatrician in Rochester Hills.

Prasad warns golfers need to dress appropriately and limit their time on the course when temperatures rise unexpectedly to a dangerous level. Outdoors, children and young babies less than 2 years old should cover their head, wear dark glasses and drink plenty of water. Senior citizens should take the same precautions.

Prasad posts a variety of health tips, related and unrelated to heat, in nearly four-dozen articles on her Web site at www.doctorniruprasad.

"At least for the next two weeks, there's still cause for concern," Prasad said. "If they develop cramps, dizziness, just don't feel good, they should seek help. If symptoms are mild, they should stop doing whatever they are doing and go inside and drinks lots of water and electrolyte containing solutions like Gatorade. Joggers should carry electrolyte solutions with them because they're already losing fluid (by running).

"Through sweat we lose sodium. For athletes and children, they could develop cramps in



Dr. Niru Prasad (right) recently hosted a summer illnesses program on her Health Talk cable television show with guest, Dr. Mahmoud Elghoroury, a pediatrician in Rochester Hills.

the legs. It could be due to the loss of potassium.

"For people with heat stroke, they develop a high temperature and there won't be any sweating. This requires calling 9-1-1."

During her 15 years in the emergency rooms at Henry Ford Medical Center, West Bloomfield and St. Joseph Mercy Oakland Hospital in Pontiac, Prasad has seen everything from severe head traumas caused by falling or not wearing a helmet while bicycling, to broken bones resulting from summer activities as benign as walking.

Prasad sees her Health Talk program as a community service

to help people stay safe and well. Each week, she invites experts to talk about prevention. She recommends senior citizens put on comfortable shoes before taking their next stroll to prevent falls and the resulting hip or forearm fractures. And everyone should be leery of animals. She's seen cat, dog and even rac-coon bites in the ER. One woman was regularly feeding a raccoon on her deck when bitten. She required a series of rabies vaccines.

"My whole aim of life is helping people," said Prasad, 66. "I raised four children and none of my kids ever missed a school

day, and they were all active with sports."

Shortly, she'll tape a back-toschool safety segment for the cable show. Prasad frequently speaks in the community on topics such as immunizations for children and college students. Her book, How to Keep Your Child Safe and Healthy, published in 1999, offers valuable information. Visitors to her Web site can read it online, or purchase a copy at www.amazon.com. Orphan Medical Network International, a Michigan-based charity, has distributed about 10,000 copies of the book in Zambia, Kenya, Haiti and India. She also donated copies to needy families enrolled locally in Women, Infant & Children (WIC) and Head Start programs, to name a few.

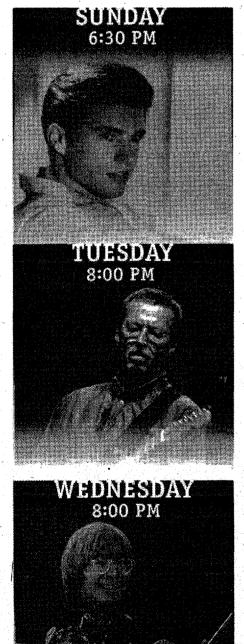
Board-certified in pediatrics and emergency medicine, Prasad served a fellowship at Children's Hospital of Michigan in Detroit after graduating from Patna Medical College in Bihar, India, where she lived until 1965. It was at the hospital that she witnessed the living circumstances of underprivileged children. The experience inspired her to write the handbook for parents.

Today, Prasad is semi-retired and practices occupational medicine for General Motors and DaimlerChrysler. Her cable show, produced by Zachary Florance, can be seen on **Bloomfield Community** Television Channel 15 in Birmingham, Southfield, Franklin and Bloomfield Hills.

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risk factors and self-management

while participating in interactive

ond-through fifth-grade students

Friday, Aug. 14-18. Cost is \$175. Call

(734) 398-7518. Camps are located in

tive health education center where

kids can see real germs grow, crawl

through a giant intestinal tract, and

learn about body systems, at Saint

Panic and anxiety program to help

cope with panic, anxiety and agora-

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panic and anxiety noon to 1 p.m.

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with coupon at Borders, MHAM

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Tuesday, Aug. 15, learn how to eat,

drink and sleep to reach your optimal

Center Road, Canton. No charge. Call

Presented by Francesco and Daisy

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required. Call (734) 591-3530 or send

Township District Library, 25320 West

Six Mile. Appointments begin at 9 a.m. Costs range from \$109-\$129. To sched-

ule an appointment, call (800) 697-

Space is limited. Pre-registration

e-mail to sarich@richassoc.com.

Saturday, Aug. 19, at the Redford

Garripoli, producers of the PBS docu-

Healing for the 21st Century, 10 a.m. to

Michael Brackney, D.C. 6:15 p.m.

levels of health, at 8524 Canton

interested in attending the meetings,

Mondays, and 6:30-7:30 p.m.

call (732) 940-9658.

Benefit days

647-1711.

Wellness seminar

(734) 455-4444.

Qi Gong workshop

LifeLine Screening

attitudes and current thoughts affect

phobics, learn to control panic attacks

Canton Center Road, Canton.

Panic relief

Joseph Mercy medical center, 1600 S.

Health Exploration Station, an interac-

C7 (*)

Sund

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

9721. Pre-registration required. Divorce support

Legal aspects of divorce with attorney Susan Elkouri discussing issue such as child support, custody, property settlement, pensions, spousal support, post-judgement issue, etc. 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 22, at the 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

Women's cancer walk

The Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute presents a one-mile noncompetitive walk with all profits to benefit women's cancers research and awareness programs 9 a.m. Sunday. Aug. 27, at the Detroit Zoo, Woodward Ave. and I-696, Royal Oak. Gates open at 8 a.m. \$10 for adults age 13 and up, \$5 ages 2-12, free for children under age 2. For information, call (800) KAR-MANOS. Register online at www.cancerwalk.org. Form a team and win prizes or join the Red Shoe Club to donate only. Visit Web site for details. Fibromyalgia workshop

6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 30, at Carl Sandburg Library in Livonia. To register for the free workshop, call (248) 426-0201.Meningitis vaccinations Parents, be sure your student is immunized for bacterial meningitis. The Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan is offering vaccinations at its Oak Park office Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The office is at 25900 Greenfield . Suite 600. Walk-ins welcome, advance registration is preferred. Call (248) 967-8755 for more information.

UPCOMING

Tai chi classes

Open house the week of Sept. 4, classes start week of Sept. 11 and run 7 p.m. Monday-Thursday, at the Taoist Tai Chi Society of Michigan, a nonprofit, at 38121 Ann Arbor Road, east of I-275, Livonia. Call (248) 332-1281. **Common pediatric conditions**

6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 7, in classroom I of the Ellen Thompson Women's Health Center at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor. Features Dr. Harvey Leo talking about asthma and how life threatening food allergies pose a significant issue for both adults and children. Dr. Scott Moore discusses ear infections and their causes and treatment options. Pediatric neurologist Dr. Brian Woodruff focuses on childhood

headaches and seizures, symptoms and diagnosis, and treatment options. Pre-registration required. Visit wwwsjmercyhealth.org or call (734) 712-5800. Mini health fair

Livonia Parkinson's Support Group is hosting a Parkinson Mini-Health Fair 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 9, at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, east of Farmington Road. An Ask the Doctor sessions with Dr. N. Taylor, D.O., a neurologist, will be offered. Vendors with information about Parkinson's Disease will also be available. For information, call (734) 421-4208.

Benefit performance

The Rat Pack is Back goes smoke-free for a performance Sept. 12, at the Gem Theater in Detroit to benefit the American Lung Association of Michigan's research, education and advocacy initiatives. The show recreates one of the famous Las Vegas performances with Frank, Sammy, Joey and Dean. Tickets are \$50, \$110 for a special pre-show and VIP dinner at the Century Grille Restaurant, Call (248) 784-2030

Empowered to care

A training series focusing on providing care and support 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays, Sept. 13, 20 and 27, and Oct. 4, 11, 18 and 25, in the 2 East A Conference Room at Botsford General Hospital, Farmington Hills. Weekly topics include teaching listening and communication skills to build empathy, helping children to deal with grief, how to talk to the dying, learning to be sensitive in our diverse world, the impact of religion on health care delivery, ministering to the mentally ill, and the cycle of substance abuse and treatment options. Cost is \$35 for all sessions or \$6 per session. For information or to register, call (248) 471-8850. This series is especially helpful for clergy and church/synagogue workers, health care providers) pastoral care volunteers, and family members.

Kidney disease walk

To find a cure for Polycystic Kidney Disease 10 a.m. (9 a.m. registration) Saturday, Sept. 16, at Rotary Park, 32184 Six Mile, Livonia. Pre-register online at www.pkdcure.org and follow walk links to Detroit Walk. Fee is \$15 adult, \$10 age 12 and under. For more information, call (248) 478-5159 or (248) 632-1328.

Bariatric surgery decision requires research, commitment

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Paula Magid is not only a cheerleader for laproscopic bariatric surgery, but the educational program at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia. Four years ago, she had the open surgery procedure which required a 12inch incision in her abdomen, but that wasn't the most painful part of her life changing decision. It was going it alone after the surgery without any knowledge of dietary changes and behavior modification.

St. Mary Mercy Hospital offers a four-hour education program to see patients through the decision-making before surgery and transition period after undergoing the minimally-invasive laproscopic Roux-en-Y gastric bypass. The evaluation process before surgery takes about 6-8 weeks and includes physical and psychological assessments.

The next educational seminar takes place 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 20, in the hospital auditorium. Speakers are Surgeon Tallal Zeni, MD, medical director, Minimally Invasive and Bariatric Surgery; and Magid. For information, call St. Mary Mercy Hospital (877) WHY-WEIGHT. To register, call (734) 655-2692. "They have to be committed, have to attend support group after surgery to make changes permanent," said Magid, bariatric program

director. "For me, the hardest part was overcoming the fear of surgery. I was afraid of not being able to enjoy food. You can still enjoy food. It's about controlling portions and

choices."

Shelly Salazar and coworker Veronica Davis went through the process together. The two women work in the billing department at Livonia Radiology Group at St. Mary Mercy Hospital. Salazar, 50, has lost 117 pounds since her Sept. 26 surgery. Davis works out nearly every day and has lost 160 pounds since her surgery Oct. 31. She even ties Pilates bands around her legs to exercise at work. Before the surgery, it was hard for the 40-year old woman to even walk up stairs.

"It's so much more than getting the surgery," said Davis, who at 270 pounds admits to still having a long way to go.

Many major hospitals offer bariatric surgery in the area. Dr. Tallal Zeni, an M.D. who directs the minimally invasive and bariatric surgery program at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, says when selecting a surgeon it is important to ask about mortality rates. It should be less than one-half percent. He's had no deaths out of 200 surgeries performed.

Henry Ford Hospital **Bariatric Surgery Center in** Detroit has been named an American Society for Bariatric Surgery (ASBS) Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence, a designation that recognizes programs with a demonstrated track record of favorable outcomes. Henry Ford Hospital offers gastric bypass and lap band surgeries. For information, call (313) 916-9782.

Beaumont Hospitals in Royal Oak and Troy offer both lap band and gastric bypass. An informational seminar takes place 4-5 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 15, at the Beaumont Health Center, 4949 Coolidge, north of 14 🐢 Mile, Royal Öak. For information, call (888) 899-4600 or visit

beaumonthospitals.com and type in "bariatric surgery." There is no charge for the seminar, but registration is required.

Öakwood Hospital in anil. Dearborn offers free monthlyin informational sessions on bus bariatric surgery as well. Foith information, call (800) 543-5M WELL, or visit oakwood.orgc

Currently, the University of Michigan Hospitals offer only gastric bypass surgery 1977 for adults, but plan to add ned lap band surgery in fall, and ow pediatric bariatric surgery insi a couple of months.

For information, call (734) 936-5738, or visit www.med.umich.edu/baria csurgery.

Bariatric patients at Providence Hospital are sent to the St. John Oakland Hospital program in Madison Heights. St. John's Center for Comprehensive Weight Loss is an all-inclusive, centralized clinic that provides pre- and post-oper-29 ative care for Roux-en-Y gas3 tric bypass patients. For information, call (866) 823and Alter 4458.

Crittenton Hospital in Rochester doesn't have a forst mal program, but surgeons I no do perform bariatric proce-pag dures. For information, caller the physician referral line at an (888) 904-4325. roit

Garden City Hospital air offers adjustable gastric binding and gastric bypass. For information, call (734) of 458-4259.

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Disc Herniation?

JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY 18829 Farmington Road Livonia, Michigan 48152 Phone: (248) 478-7860 **INJECTIONS AND PRESCRIPTIONS**

Arthritis Today

If you have rheumatoid arthritis and develop a flare, your doctor can treat you in several ways. One approach is to add to your medications, a second is to give you a higher dose of the medicine you are taking now. The third way is to keep your medication as it is and inject the joint or joints giving you the most trouble My approach is the third way. I do not like to add medications to a patient s regime if I can avoid doing so. The reason is that any new medicine brings not only a benefit but a risk. In most instances neither your past experience nor laboratory testing can identify that you are susceptible for a particular drug toxicity. Furthermore, adding a drug may create an interaction with a medication another physician is prescribing or plans to prescribe.

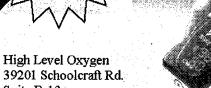
New FDA Approved Technology Treats Herniated Discs Without Drugs or Surgery

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 OE0846026

Taking higher doses of a medicine you are using now may bring you to the point of toxicity to that drug. With certain medicines such as cortisone, raising its dose invariably causes unwanted side effects such as osteoporosis, raised blood pressure, higher blood sugars, and increased cholesterol levels.

In contrast, a steroid joint injection has its cortisone effect limited to the joint injected. Also, the injection gives immediate relief, usually within a day. Often treating a major joint stops the flare in other joints and ends the need for more drastic changes such as adding or increasing medication. Finally, if the injection does not resolve the flair, you can turn to these other measures.

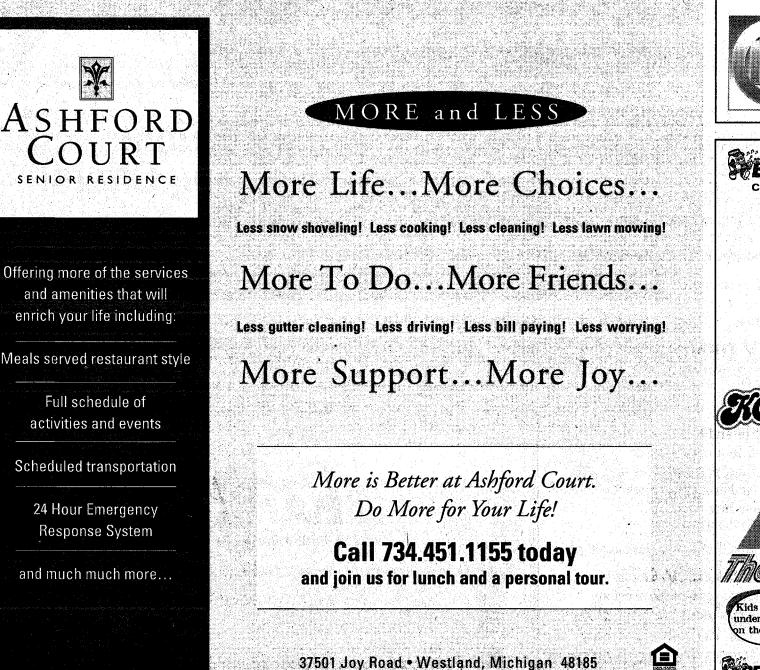
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- A curriculum that encourages personal and social development.
- All Van Buren schools are accredited by the North Central Association (NCA).

Contact Van Buren Public Schools at (734) 697-9123, ext. 209 to receive your schools of choice application. Your child must be five-years-old on or before December 1st of the given school year to be eligible for kindergarten.





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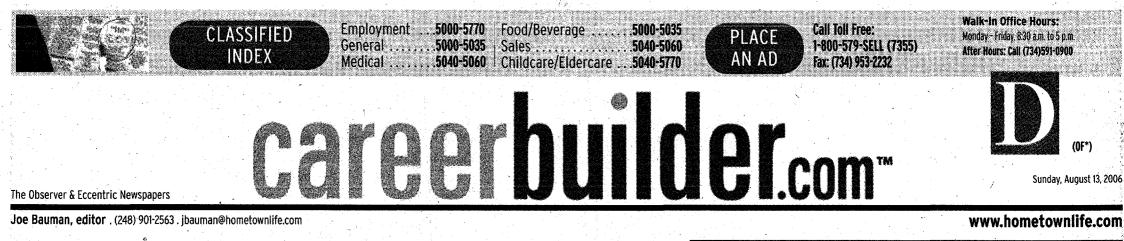
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Chiropractors find career rewarding

BY JULIE BROWN STAFF WRITER

When Dr. Kim Shunkwiler was looking for a fulfilling profession, he chose chiropractic medicine. The Wayne resident is a 1987 graduate of Life Chiropractic College in Marietta, Ga., where he earned a doctor of chiropractic degree.

"It's a great career," said Shunkwiler, who has his own practice on Wayne Road in Westland. "The old prejudices are coming down. It's fun to help people."

At the time he was in school, an undergraduate degree wasn't required as it is now to enroll to study chiropractic medicine. "The curriculum is very similar to medical school except we don't study pharmacology," he said. Students do their internship while in school, working extensively with patients.

"People want choices, they want' alternatives," he said. He finds people seek less invasive and more effective treatments.

"Very rewarding career," Shunkwiler added. "Whenever you can help change somebody's life for the better it's rewarding."

There are opportunities to specialize in such things as being a chiropractic radiologist or to work in a group setting. Shunkwiler incorporates clinical nutrition into his practice. Chiropractic is a health care profession that focuses on disorders of the musculoskeletal system and nervous system, and the effects of these disorders on general health. Chiropractic care is used most often to treat neuromusculoskeletal complaints, including but not limited to back pain, neck pain, pain in the joints of the arms or legs, and headaches, according to the American Chiropractic Association Web site.

Doctors of chiropractic – often called chiropractors or chiropractic physicians – practice a drug-free, hands-on approach to health care that includes patient examination, diagnosis and treatment. Chiropractors have broad diagnostic skills and are also trained to recommend therapeutic and rehabilitative exercises, as well as to provide nutritional, dietary and lifestyle counseling, according to the Web site.

Dr. Michael Brackney practices on Canton Center Road in Canton with brother and fellow chiropractor Brian. Michael Brackney attended Henry Ford Community College and graduated from Parker College of Chiropractic in Dallas, Texas, in 1996. His brother is a graduate of Logan College of Chiropractic in St. Louis, Mo.

"Chiropractic should be part of everyone's health care team," said Michael Brackney, a Canton resident. He finds the work rewarding, citing such things as a woman being able to lift a grandchild or a patient gaining productive days due to fewer migraines.

"I like to watch people's life get restored to them," he said. Brackney noted the key to chiropractic medicine is work with the body's nerves and getting them to heal.

"We have a lot of science behind us," Brackney said. "The science of it is so proven." He recommends patients check Web sites for good credentials and training of chiropractors.

Brackney agreed that chiropractors refer patients to other health care providers when necessary: "We let them know where they need to go."

The most common therapeutic procedure performed by doctors of chiropractic is known as "spinal manipulation," also called "chiropractic adjustment." The purpose is to restore joint mobility by manually applying a controlled force into joints that have become hypomobile - or restricted in their movement - as a result of a tissue injury. Tissue injury can be caused by a single traumatic event, such as improper lifting of a heavy object, or through repetitive stresses. In either case, injured tissues undergo physical and chemical changes that can cause inflammation, pain, and diminished function. Manipulation, or adjustment of the affected joint and tissues, restores mobility, thereby alleviating pain and muscle tightness, and allowing tissues to heal.





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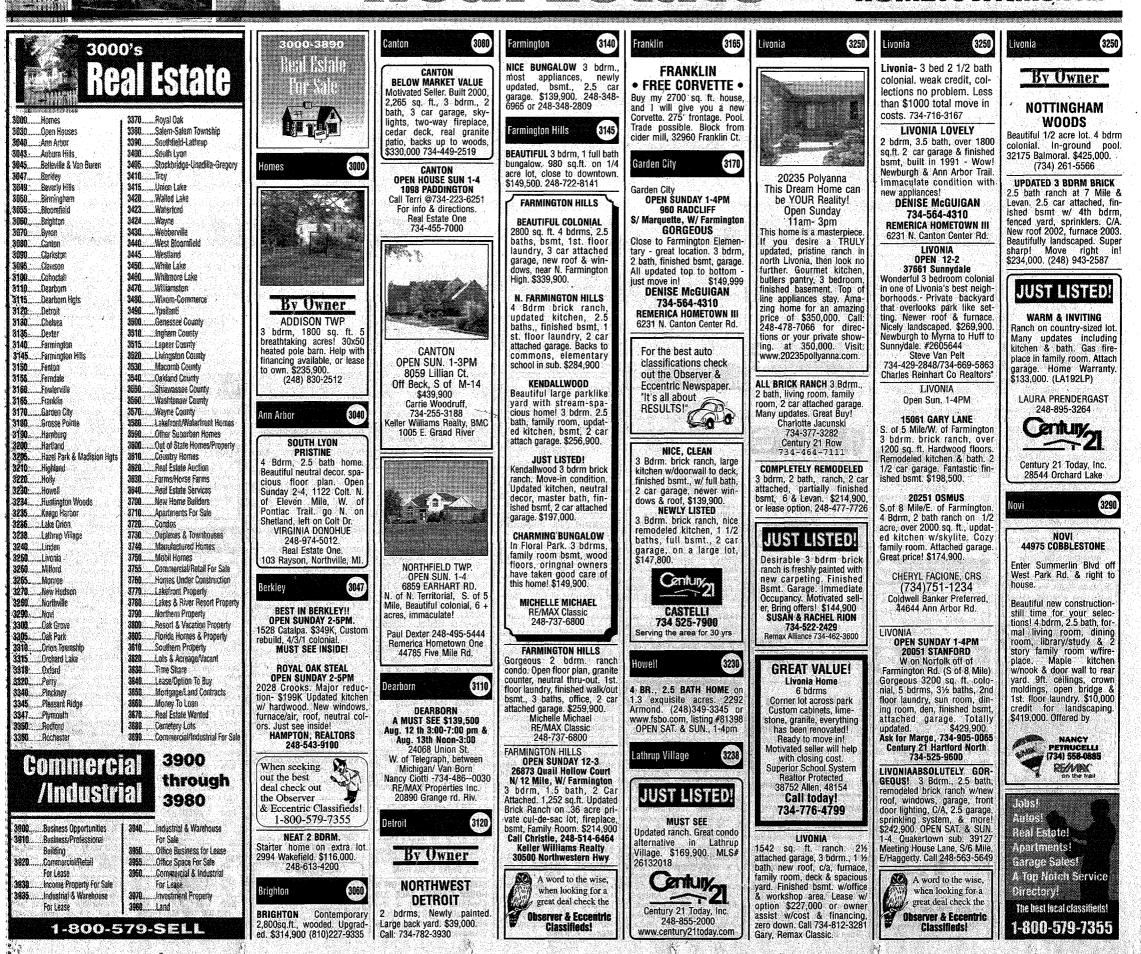
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* 6 line maximum. Must be prepaid. No photos will be returned.



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Let there be light: Shining a light on skylight myths

(NAPS)-One of the best ways to add natural light to a room is also one of the most frequently overlooked.

Modern skylights let homeowners add balanced light, beauty and a sense of space to most any room in a home. Yet myths about skylights sometimes prevent homeowners from having them installed, either during construction of a new home or after purchasing an existing residence.

For instance, research shows that many people mistakenly believe that a skylight is bound to leak at some point. But industry experts say preventing leaks is simply a matter of proper installation and using flashing matched to the unit being installed.

"Skylights from reputable manufacturers are built to be totally dependable, just as are quality windows," said Joe Patrick, senior product manager with VELUX America, a leading skylight manufacturer. "Anytime a hole is cut in a roof or frame of a home, the potential for air or moisture entering exists. But proper installation techniques and materials can take care of those concerns," he explains.

CONTROLLING HEAT AND LIGHT

Another point often lost on homeowners is that skylights offer as many or more accessories to control heat and light as do vertical windows. There are Venetian blinds to adjust the light and cellular shades to diffuse it. Lightblock shades can totally or partially block light, which is especially useful in bedrooms, while exterior Heatblock awnings can prevent heat from entering rooms during hot weather but admit needed heat on colder days. The latest technology is electrochromic glass in skylights that can be darkened or lightened electronically by remote control without blocking the view of the sky.

SAVING ENERGY

"And even before accessories are considered," Patrick said, "skylight

For information on skylight selection and the benefits of natural light, call (800) 283-2831 or visit www.veluxusa.com. For government information on window and skylight energy efficiency, visit www.energystar.gov, and for independent agency information, you may visit either www.nfrc.org or www.efficientwindows.org.

glazings are among the best in the industry. Quality units employ double-pane construction with argon gas between low-E coated panes for control of heat gain or loss. These glazings control up to 83 percent of the sun's fade-causing rays and resist condensation so well that a home can contain up to 50 percent more humidity before condensation will occur."

There are even impact glass models available that meet the strictest code requirements for wind-borne debris protection in hurricane-prone and other high-wind areas.

SAVING MONEY

Another good reason to consider upgrading existing skylights or adding new units is to qualify for a tax credit of up to \$200 under the **Energy Tax Incentives Act. Details** are available at

www.energy.gov/taxbreaks.htm. For information on skylight selection and the benefits of natural light, call (800) 283-2831 or visit www.veluxusa.com. For government information on window and skylight energy efficiency, visit www.energystar.gov, and for independent agency information, you may visit either www.nfrc.org or www.efficientwindows.org.



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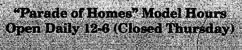
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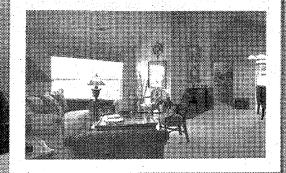


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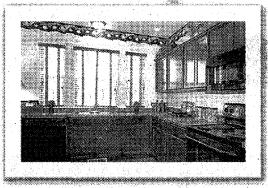
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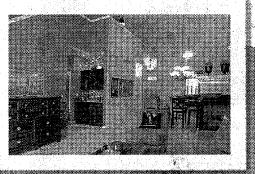


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All information contained herein was accurate at the time of publication. In order to maintain the high degree of quality and incorr orate management with greater facility and economy or to change or discontinue m Alexander Bogaerts & Associates 2003

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NEW HOMES

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, August 13, 2006

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of March 20-24, 2006, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office, plus some from Oakland County. Listed below are cifies, addresses and sales prices.

Conton	
Canton	
6773 Ardsley Dr	
43735 Bannockburn Dr	1
42058 Cherrylawn Ct	\$
39857 Fox Valley Dr	
41496 Glade Rd	
51104 Gold Ridge Ln	
43130 Hadley Ct	
41471 Haggerty Woods Ct	\$
15563 Hanford Rd	
19060 Hawksburry Rd	
51127 High Meadow Crossing S	
1272 Hunters Cir	
2690 Hunters Ct	\$
19425 Lansdowne St	
365 Manton Blvd	\$
1054 Ravensfield Dr	\$
i1097 Sleepy Hollow Ln	\$
1139 Sleepy Hollow Ln	\$
i1140 Sleepy Hollow Ln	\$
1378 Westfield Cir	\$
Farmington	
1546 Farmington Rd	\$
Farmington Hills	
in the second	

37548 Burton Ct

\$147,000 \$213,000 \$205,000 \$195,000 \$210,000 \$381,000 \$212,000 \$200,000

Garden Citv 28905 Dawson St 28662 Elmwood St 32456 Rosslyn Ave Livonia 33691 Eight Mile Rd 14901 Arcola St 15308 Bainbridge St 29446 Bobrich St 29502 Bobrich St \$265,000 36229 Club Dr \$211,000 11812 Farmington Rd \$437.000 11858 Farmington Rd \$145,000 29760 Hathaway St \$340,000 29849 Hoy St \$157,000 14210 Katie Ln \$250.000 29720 Mcintyre St \$206,000 37932 N Laurel Park Dr \$276,000 30947 Orangelawn St 39115 Orangelawn St \$288,000 \$270,000 19387 Rensellor SI \$248,000 11316 Sunset St 18294 University Park Dr \$270,000 32501 W Chicago St 33967 Wadsworth St \$275,000

28953 Ramblewood Dr

23217 Springbrook Dr

20970 Sunnydale St

28057 W 11 Mile Rd

30821 Franklin Rd

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Franklin

\$248.000 45435 Andes Hills Ct \$195,000 41635 Blair Dr \$195,000 24467 Bramblewood Dr \$195,000 22859 Cranbrooke Dr 22859 Cranbrooke Dr \$385.000 49988 Drakes Bay Dr \$280,000 25020 Hadlock Dr 24224 Hampton Hill St \$124,000 26666 Island Lake Dr \$206,000 50529 Langley Dr \$118,000 40768 Lenox Park Dr 40787 Lenox Park Dr 23635 N Rockledge \$108,000 \$191,000 24826 Olde Orchard St \$160,000 1715 Paramount St \$100.000 24773 Reeds Pointe Dr \$80,000 24875 Reeds Pointe Dr \$103,000 49732 Timber Trl \$168,000 Plymouth \$170,000 13120 Graefield Cir \$159,000 671 Jener Pl 12935 Lehlanc \$135,000 \$260,000 9412 Oakview St \$155,000 14956 Robinwood Dr 1199 S Sheldon Rd \$235,000 \$172.000 320 W Ann Arbor Tri \$178,000 12653 Wendover Ct 45523 Woodleigh Way \$140,000 \$167,000 Redford \$105,000 8910 Brady \$190,000 13568 Centralia \$125,000 19475 Dalby

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\$742,000	14030 Lucerne	
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\$300,000	19721 Macarthur	
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\$312,000	20048 Negaunee	
\$330,000	25447 Plymouth Rd	
\$134;000	18804 Poinciana	
\$99,000	26309 W Seven Mile Rd	
\$121,000	24428 W Chicago	
\$568,000	9648 Wormer	
\$581,000	Westland	
\$754,000	2185 Ackley Ave	
	31175 Cooley Blvd	
\$325,000	2151 E Butler Cir	
\$127,000	32203 Harvard St	
\$265,000	8761 Liberty Blvd	
\$164,000	36493 Newberry Estates Dr	
\$236,000	36620 Newberry Estates Dr	
\$59,000	360 Pattingill St	
\$190,000	460 Ravencrest Ln	
\$362,000	8011 Ravine Dr	
\$315,000	36030 Schley St	
	2450 W Miller Cir	
\$162,000	35236 Wallace St	
\$142,000	7385 Woodview St	
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\$160.000

\$79,000

\$73.000

You're not stuck with stippled ceilings

BY MORRIS AND JAMES CAREY FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

From Doug of Winchester, Va.: "I live in a house that has stippled ceilings throughout. This was put on several years ago to hide imperfections. Is there a way to get rid of this texture so I can have smooth ceilings?"

Yes, you can have smooth ceilings again. The stippling effect is simply paint applied with a special stipple roller. If the paint used was latex, you can wet the paint and then scrape away.

If the paint used was oilbased, it will be slightly more difficult.

First. do a wash of the ceiling

with synthetic TSP. Once dry, do a light sanding with 80-grit paper on a sanding pole.

Finally, you can "float out" the surface with drywall joint compound.

Use a wide joint compound knife to spread thin layers of the compound into the voids on the ceiling to make a smooth surface. You may need to apply more than one layer. Keep in mind that you will need to wait for the first coat to completely dry before adding other coats. Sanding each coat is also recommended.

Once your ceiling is smooth, you can paint normally, or apply a textured finish of your choice and then paint.



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E3 (*)

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CANTON - Just minutes from Downtown Plymouth, New construction, 2 or 3 bedroom condo with 2 car attached garage, 2.5 baths, large deck for leisure living, for as little as \$219,900. Call for weekly specials.

\$219,000 (ColmbSq) 734-261-3731



CANTON - RANCH CONDO ON THE 26TH FAIRWAY! Instantly appealing. Upgrades thruout. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, den, large great room. 2-way fireplace. Deck. Beautifully decorated. Call Carol



GARDEN CITY - A must see! Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch with open floor plan. New whirlpool appl., jetted tub in main bath. Fin basement with wet bar. Newer furnace, C/A, HWH, hardwood floors, custom window treatments, Marble sills. Call Joan Landry. 248-790-7087 \$164,000 (H6805)

denotes

.



LIVONIA - Excellent location in popular sub. Colonial with 1829 sq. ft. 4/5 bedrooms, 1.5 baths & treed private backvard. Large deck, covered porch, fireplace, finished basement. Newer furnace, roof, kitchen and bath. N off Schoolcraft to Brookfield to E. on Scone, Call Michael Price. 734-216-9920 \$233,900 (S32486)



PLYMOUTH - INSTANTLY APPEALING ! One-half acre of beautifully designed landscaping invites you inside this great updated Cape Cod. Hardwood floors thruout the main floor. Finished basement. \$3,000 toward closing costs. Call Carol Husse

(26110759) 734-751-9563 \$325,000



LIVONIA - Lovely well maintained Livonia brick bungalow. 3 bedroom (3rd BR being finished). 1,228 sq. ft. all major upgrades done - furnace, C/A, glass block, copper plumbing, elec, windows, vinyi trim, newer carpet & much more. Call Joan Landry.

\$129,900 (19995)

1



ALLEN PARK - Completely updated! Just listed! Mint condition ranch. 3 BR, 1 1/2 baths. Jetted tub in main. Large master BR. Family room with Pella French doors. Pella windows. Large updated kitchen. Visit www.14655michiganave.com or call Nancy Warson.

(M14655) \$172,900 248-470-6404



LIVONIA - Well maintained, 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch located in Green Brier Estates Sub. .5 acre lot with mature trees. Home also has a Florida room and a 2.5 car garage. Call Larry Hatfield.

(M16810) 313-820-9711 \$255.000



LIVONIA - Great open floor plan with cathedral ceilings in the great room and master suite. Lots of windows, private back yard. Basement plumbed for bath. Library/ office with bay windows & French doors. Call Jim Donohoe.

Livonia (734) 591-9200 38705 Seven Mile Road, Suite 150

248-790-7087 \$299,900

(L10218) 313-570-5511 \$209,900 (G35709)



REDFORD - Location, quality, value & charm. This attractive 3 BR, 2 bath, brick ranch has it all. Updates include roof, windows, doors, kitchen, finished basement. Appliances stay, Landscaped & pool. Call Mike Judge.

\$135,675 (R9121) 734-591-9200



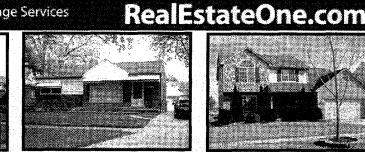
NORTHVILLE - Ranch Condo 2 bedroom walkout attached garage end unit bathed in sunlite. 2 bedroom walkout w/attached garage. Updated include: roof (04), furnace A/C (6/05), carpet (6/05) freshly & decorated in neutrals. Move in ready. Call Mary Marinelli

(R830) 313-909-6983 \$196.000



LIVONIA - 4 BR, 2.5 bath ranch in NW Livonia w/master suite. Updates include: roof, furnace, A/C, windows, elec, fin bsmt, deck, oak kitchen. Natural fireplace in living room. New on market! Quick occupancy! Call Jim Donohoe.

313-570-5511



REDFORD - Beautiful 3 bedroom brick ranch. Updated, new roof, copper plumbing updated elec. Furnace & air. Remodeled kitchen. Newer oak cabinets & floor. Hardwood floors. New bath in basement. Must see! Call Kevin Tindall.

\$136,500 (117414) 734-673-3624



REDFORD - Outstanding Bungalow! Too many features to mention! Kitchen upgraded in 05, 3 baths on all levels, screened patio, finished patio, finished basement, heated w/electric 2 car garage, additional sheds. Call Larry Hatfield.

(L9967) 313-820-9711 \$185.000



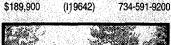
DETROIT - The best deal in the neighborhood. 1,255 sq. ft. newer kitchen with lots of counter space. Large formal dining room; attached 2 car garage with breezeway. Finished notty pine basement w/wet bar. Large fenced yard; 1 year warranty. Call Jim Donohoe. \$99,900 (S17300) 313-570-5511



bedroom, 2.1 bath Colonial, Neutral thruout, Very large bedrooms. Master bath w/jetted tub & separate shower. Family room w/ fireplace. Hardwood floor in foyer. New paver patio. Plymouth/Canton schools. Call Carol Hussey (26112452) 734-751-9563 \$315,000



LIVONIA - Brick ranch, 3 bedroom, 2 bath finished basement, completely updated: kitchen, new roof, windows, furnace, A/C, carpet & freshly painted - 2 car detached garage, landscaped & fenced yard. Call Mike Judge





FARMINGTON HILLS Completely updated & priced to move! Low fees too! New carpet, hardwood floors, remodeled kitchen, newer furnace & A/C, new doorwall to deck, new windows overlooking commons/tennis court. Tons of storage. All appliances stay! Call Jim Donohoe. \$112,900 (T30038) 313-570-5511



NEW HOMES

www.hometownlife.com



Natural light shines through in this model

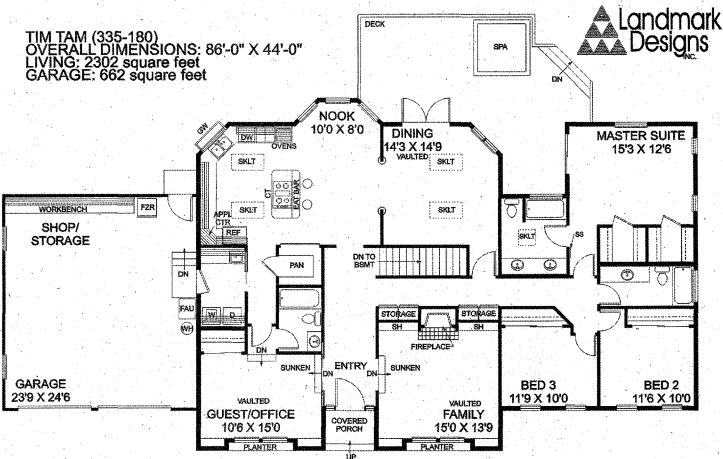
The eye-catching brick work that fronts the country/contemporary Tim Tam (335-180), contributes to the enormous curb appeal of this elegant home.

The promise of the twin facades flanking the entryway are realized in two unique rooms as you make your way into this attractive dwelling. To the right is a large, sunken living room. A nine-foot ceiling enhances an already spacious area.

The gas fireplace makes this a cozy spot for conversation

with friends or to read a good book on a chilly winter evening. Shelves for displaying your favorite collectibles abound. On the other side of the entry, step down into the sunken, guest/office. Vaulted, nine foot ceiling, shelves and a private bath make this room both an attractive office and guest suite.

One entire side of this floor design is given over to the sleeping area. This arrange ment is ideal for parents with smaller children. Privacy is maintained, while still being



near enough to respond to a child's needs. The gracious master suite features large walk-in his and her closets, security system, private sky lit bathroom with twin basins and personal access to the extensive back deck and spa. Conveniently separated from the master suite by a full bath, are two almost identical bedrooms, each with ample closet space.

The bountiful, vaulted dining room adds that touch of charm to any formal occasion. Skylit's and plenty of windows afford natural illumination while dining with friends and relatives

The sky lit kitchen, with range, built-in dishwasher and central eating bar creates an unhurried atmosphere for the cook in the house. Meals may be served informally in the multi-windowed breakfast nook or at the eating bar.

A huge walk-in pantry, with shelves for canned goods and a full bath line one side of the hail. A handy utility room

For a study plan of the TIM TAM (335-180), send \$15 to Landmark Designs, 33127 Saginaw Rd. E., Cottage Grove, OR 97424 or call (800) 562-1151.

takes the other up. The two-car garage is equipped with shop, built-in workbench and plenty of extra storage and a central vacuum system for easy cleaning.

For a study plan of the TIM TAM (335-180), 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). Or you may order or search online at www.ldiplans.com.





BRIEFS

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.

Oakland Builders Institute

The Oakland Builders Institute will offer: ■ A 16-hour seminar to help students pass the Michigan state builder's license examination, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday/Sunday, Aug. 26-27, at the Best Western ConCorde Inn of Rochester Hills, 1919 Star-Batt Drive. The course is for those who want to subcontract construction of their own homes, real estate investors and building tradespeople. Cost is \$205, including manual, sample questions and test application. A \$25 deposit is needed by Aug. 24 to Oakland Builders Institute, 1277 Dutton Road, Rochester Hills 48306. Call (800) 940-2014 or (248) 651-2771 to register during business hours, or register online at www.buildersinstitute.com

■ In cooperation with Henry Ford Community College an eight-hour seminar, Basement Remodeling, 6-10 p.m. Monday/Wednesday, Aug. 28 and 30, at the Dearborn Heights campus, 22586 Ann Arbor Trail. The seminar is designed to help people make better use of basement space. The instructor will explain space planning, meeting building codes, insurances, permits, estimating materials and the basics of construction. Cost is \$95 for residents plus \$10 for textbook and materials, or \$104 for nonresidents plus \$10 for textbook and materials. Pre-registration with payment by Aug. 24 to Henry Ford Community College, (313) 317-1500.

A 16-hour seminar, How To Build Your Own Home, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays, Sept. 9 and 16, at the Hilton Suites Hotel, 2300 Featherstone Road, Auburn Hills. Designed for those who want to contract their own home construction as well as those who want to work with a builder, the course details each stage of construction as well as rights and responsibilities. Cost is \$220 including textbook and a book covering home building information pertinent to southeast Michigan. Pre-registration with payment by Sept. 7 to Oakland Builders Institute, (800) 940-2014.

Remerica Country Place

Broker/owner Dan Clem bought the Remerica Country Place franchise in 1991. At that time, he was the only agent. Today, it has more than 170 agents operating out of the office at 44205 Ford in Canton. In 2005, Remerica Country

Place had sales in excess of \$100 million and paid out more than \$2.4 million in commissions. Clem attributes the growth to: pay plans he calls revolutionary and exclusive; large investments in technology; and providing top training at no additional cost.

"By only charging a small monthly fee and letting our agents keep the vast majority of their commissions, it has allowed our company to add agents that otherwise couldn't afford to become real estate agents," Clem said. "We expect this trend to continue and our goal is to expand this office to over 1,000 agents servicing the entire metro Detroit area."

In 2005, they expanded operations to include an additional 1,200-square-foot training facility and administrative office. For more, see www.RemericaCountryPlace.c om.

CMU project

JM Olson Corporate has been awarded a \$5 million renovation project for Central Michigan University in Mount Pleasant. The firm has been commissioned to provide general contracting services for the new 19,140-square-foot addition to the existing Center for Applied Research & Technology Facility. The new addition will provide chemistry and bio-level laboratories, with space available for leasing. The existing building will receive renovations to expand and upgrade the computer room, a

conference/seminar room, and provide circulation through existing space to the addition.

On the move

Pogoda Companies, a selfstorage operator and broker, will relocate to larger offices at 30301 Northwestern Highway, Suite 400, Farmington Hills, 48334, on Aug. 22.

The move provides almost 40 percent more space for the growing firm's headquarters than its current office, also in Farmington Hills, said Maurice Pogoda, president. The company's telephone

and fax numbers remain the same: (248) 855-9676 and (248) 855-0170, respectively.

Pogoda Companies also recently launched a Web site at www.pogodaco.com It includes information about management, brokerage and consulting services for the self-storage and manufactured housing industries, along with employment opportunities and company news. It also offers tips for choosing a property management company.

Founded in 1987, Pogoda Companies provides brokerage, management, investment and consulting services to the self-storage and manufactured housing industries through its Pogoda Group, Inc. and Pogoda Management Co. divisions. In addition to its Farmington Hills headquarters, Pogoda Companies has operations offices in Grand Rapids, Mich., and Dayton, Ohio.

5 buyer mistakes to avoid

I am going to buy a house. What are some mistakes I should avoid? Buying a house can seem like

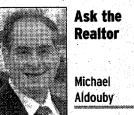
a daunting task. Here are some tips:

■ Not knowing how much you can afford. You need to determine what kind of payments would fit into your budget. Estimate how much your monthly expenses are compared to your income. Determine how much of a payment you can afford.

If you don't own now, you most likely are renting. You may be surprised to learn that your mortgage payments may not be much higher than your rent payment. And of course, if you are paying a mortgage payment, you are gaining ownership. You need to also factor in the cost of property taxes.

Waiting to get a preapproval. You will need a preapproval from your lender when you make your offer. However, it's very important to get a pre-approval at the start of the process. You need to know how much of a mortgage you can get. There is no point wasting time and energy looking at houses that you can't get a mortgage for. Also, if there is a problem in you getting your mortgage, you may need time to correct it. The time to deal with these issues is before the process starts, not at the time of making an offer.

Trying to go at it alone rather than hiring a Realtor. A real estate agent provides many services for you. Some of these are checking the database for houses that fit your criteria, letting you know what the mar-



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(OF*)

ket values are, writing and negotiating the offer, etc. Best of all, Realtors are usually paid by the sellers. Therefore, you have access to all of the Realtors' services virtually for free.

■ Making an extremely low offer for a house you are interested in. Everyone wants to get a good deal. Buyers don't want to pay over market value and sellers don't want to feel that they are giving their house away. However, if you making an offer too low, the seller will get angry, and not take your offer seriously. Remember, this is the sellers' castle you are making an offer on.

Not getting a private inspection. When you have an accepted offer, you normally have the right to have a private inspection. They normally range between \$300 and \$400. Some buyers want to save the cost. If you are going to invest hundreds of thousands of dollars into buying a house it's worth this relatively nominal cost to find out if there is something very long before buying the house. Michael Aldouby is a Realtor with Real Estate One. He has an M.B.A. with a concentration in marketing. Feel free to call him at (734) 748-9621 or e-mail him at michaelsellshomes@realestateone.com.











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appliances. VERY CLEAN. 517-861-9543 LIVONIA 38107 Ross, 5 mile-Newburgh, updated 3 bdrm.,

LIVONIA- 3 bdrm. ranch with appliances. Washer/dryer.

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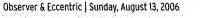
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1 2006 Lexus LS 430: It s what s on the inside that counts

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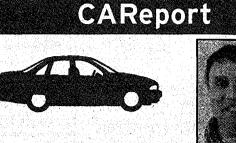


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Advertising Feature

Observer & Eccentric

AUTOMOTIVE

By Dave Menard Avanti NewsFeatures

Sometimes, one sentence says all you need to say, and my wife said it: Ooh, baby, I like this car.

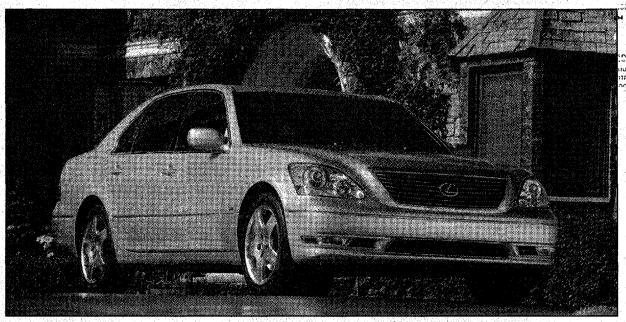
She was gushing about the 2006 Lexus LS 430, a car that s more tuned to her tastes than some of the sports cars and SUVs that I d been test driving lately. She s the type of person who wants a nice, smooth ride, a comfortable cabin, good acceleration for freeway merging and some room for her stuff. Now that I think about it, who doesn t want all that? The difference, though, is that she s not into flash, not into cars that are hard to get in and out of (like some sports cars), and not into SUVs so big they re hard to park. She s more into understated luxury, smooth performance and easy handling. The 2006 Lexus LS 430 has all of that, and more.

We wont spend a lot of ink on the exterior styling for the LS 430. There's nothing terribly flashy here, and that's just fine. The lines are smooth, with fog lamps integrated into the front spoiler. The LS 430 comes with outside mirrors that automatically fold down, and they re heated. Exposed dual exhaust tips and 17-inch wheels complete the package, although 18-inch wheels are available as an option.

The package gets more interesting when we get inside the car. The cabin features wood and leather trim throughout, available in either walnut or maple. The standard 14-way power driver s seat and 10-way power passenger s seats are quite comfortable and provide great support. The seats come in leather, but you can also get perforated semi-aniline seats, and the perforated seats can be heated and cooled; the cool air on your back feels wonderful in hot weather. The steering wheel, which also contains audio controls, and the shift knob are wood- and leather-trimmed, too. The headrests are large and pliable. There are plenty of storage compartments, too, with large fold-down map pockets in the front doors, a slide-out cell phone tray, a storage area in the center armrest, and flipdown cupholders.

There's plenty of room for people, too. As you would expect in a luxury car, leg, shoulder and hip room are plentiful, and the rear seats are comfortable, as well.

Instrumentation is attractive and well laid out. You get a tachometer and coolant temperature gauge in the cluster, and a message center at the bottom of the cluster contains warning messages for low oil pressure, low



2006 Lexus LS 430. Vehicle class: Luxury car. Power: V8 engine. Mileage: 18 city/25 highway. Where built: Japan. Base price: \$56,525. Price as tested: \$66,624.

engine coolant, charging system, tail lamp failure (cuts down on those unwanted chats with local law enforcement), ABS and brake pad wear.

There are plenty of standard features on the LS 430. As you would expect, automatic climate control is standard, and it has automatic air filtration and deodorizing. Power tilt steering column, power windows, integrated garage door opener, power moonroof, cruise control, rain-sensing wipers, and power rear sunshade are also included. Lexus offers a few luxury packages that include options like power door closers, headlamp washers, laser and radar cruise control, and rear seat climate and audio controls.

Speaking for audio controls, the standard audio system in the LS 430 is an AM/FM/cassette/six-disc CD changer rated at 178 watts with seven speakers. You can upgrade to a Mark Levinson system that gives you 11 speakers, a seven-channel amplifier and is rated at 240 watts. Anything from Frank Sinatra to Faith Hill to ZZ Top will sound killer on this. Satellite radio is available as an option, as well.

Also available as an option is a navigation system with built-in back-up camera. The interface is easy to use and the camera can be quite useful. In fact, I m hoping more and more vehicles end up with back-up cameras as standard equipment. Bluetooth integration is also available for hands-free cell phone operation.

The LS 430 is powered by a 4.3-liter DOHC V8 engine, rated at 278 hp and 312 lb.-ft. of torque. Mated with a six-speed automatic transmission (which you can shift manually), the powertrain provides quick, smooth starts and plenty of passing/merging power (0-60 in 5.9 seconds). At 18/25 mpg, the mileage is pretty decent for a V8, but the downside is that it only takes premium fuel. The ride is smooth and the LS 430 handles very well. Front and rear, the suspension system is a doublewishbone system with anti-lift geometry; coil springs gasfilled shocks and stabilizer bar. Electronic air suspension and Euro-tuned sport suspensions are available as options. Vehicle Stability Control is standard.

The LS 430 comes with power rack-and-pinion steering and it functions very well. The power-assisted ABS braking system is excellent.

In addition to the standard front air bags, the LS 430 comes with knee airbags for driver and front-seat passenger, side airbags and front and rear side curtain airbags.

A tire pressure monitoring system tells you if one (or more) of your tires are critically underinflated. An optional pre-collision system uses radar to sense an oncoming collision and adjusts seatbelts and the braking system for maximum safety.

My only real problem with the LS 430 is the price. Starts at about \$56,500, certainly reasonable for a luxury car. The problem is in how much you have to add to get some real luxury features. Add the larger wheels, the packages that give you the upgraded audio system, navigation/Bluetooth system, the laser cruise control, upgraded heated/cooled seats, headlamp washers, park assist and power door closers and you ve added more than \$10,000 to the price, and are looking at almost \$67,000. That s getting close to Jaguar territory. The question is how many of the add-ons do you need?

On the other hand, what price can you put on the reaction from your wife when she says, Ooh baby, I love this car?

Write Avanti NewsFeatures auto columnist Dave Menard at avanti 1054@aol.com.







F6 (*) Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, August 13, 2006

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