

## **HOMETOWN** life

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## Holiday fun

Need to keep the in-laws entertained over the holidays? Check out Filter for suggestions.

#### Taste of The Season! California Navel Oranges

## **THURSDAY**

**December 21, 2006** 

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Observer Collectiver

## Power line puts snag in plans on underpass

Not that it's any great shock considering the history of the Sheldon Road underpass project, but there it was anyway Monday.

Wayne County officials announced the project, which has been debated in this community for years, won't begin now until January. The \$14 million project, which is being built with \$503,000 from the city of Plymouth and just over \$1 million from Plymouth Township, had been set to start earlier this month before a problem with an electrical line forced the latest

The delay was caused when it was discovered at the last minute a DTE Energy power line pole needed to be removed from the construction zone.

"We believe the DTE contractor will be removing the pole and electrical service from the area in the next few days,' **Assistant Wayne County** Executive Alan Helmkamp said.

"When coupled with typical construction shutdowns between Christmas and the New Year, we don't anticipate Sheldon Road being completely closed until the first week of January at the ear-

The project is slated to close Sheldon Road in Plymouth Township, from just north of Farmer to just south of M-14, for nearly two years while the county builds the underpass to ease traffic congestion caused by trains crossing one of the main north-south arteries into the community.

The delay could be significant if it affects a projected test of a temporary water main that was supposed to take place soon after construction began. Water to the area has been one of the biggest headaches in planning for the project.

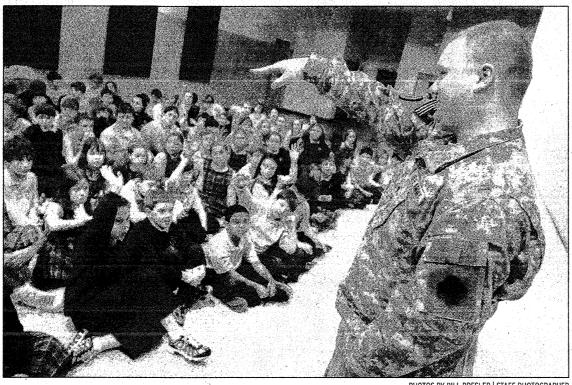
Plymouth Mayor Dan Dwyer said his biggest concern is the delay in the testing of the temporary water main. If it is held up, that could push back work on the principal water main, which is scheduled for three weeks in April - before peak water usage begins in the spring.

"If we come to spring and we have a water problem, I will raise hell to the county for the people I represent," Dwyer said. Helmkamp doesn't anticipate

that being a problem.

"The test will be substantially on target," he said. "We want to do it before the large water demand hits, and I don't anticipate a problem doing that. We appreciate the patience of the affected residents, businesses and drivers."

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

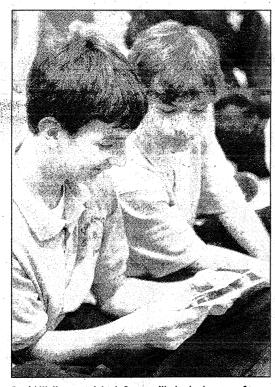


PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Spc. Michael Perron of Westland takes questions from students at Our Lady of Good Counsel School in Plymouth. The students wrote Christmas cards to Perron to support his efforts in Iraq.

## The thought that counts

Soldier thanks OLGC students for holiday greetings



David Walborn and Josh Somerville look at some of Michael Perron's photographs from his first three months in Irag. They were among some 100 students who wrote Christmas cards to Perron.

STAFF WRITER

When Spc. Michael Perron, a five-year U.S. Army veteran who'd been in Iraq for three months, found out students at Plymouth's Our Lady of Good Counsel School had written him nearly 100 Christmas cards, he was quite touched.

It didn't even matter that he hadn't gotten a single

Perron, a Westland resident, came home on leave before the cards could be sent, so he stopped by OLGC School Monday to let the kids know just how much the cards, which he read when he got home, meant to him.

"A lot of (soldiers) don't get any (mail), so to have overwhelming support of people is great," said Perron, who heads back to Iraq on Christmas Day. "It didn't feel like just another class assignment. It felt like it came right from the kids."

Perron was the lucky recipient of the cards after a discussion between his aunt, Plymouth-Canton school bus driver Mary Anne Cranford, and a fellow driver, Beth Larson, who is the mother of an OLGC student.

Larson, who lives in Canton, told Cranford, a Northville resident, about the card-writing effort, and Cranford asked Larson to add Perron's name to the list. Next thing you know, students in three

PLEASE SEE SOLDIER, A2

## Union head troubled by sweeps

Leader concerned about 'just cause' for searches

BY TONY BRUSCATO

The head of the Plymouth-Canton Education Association is troubled about due process for teachers as it relates to the recent drug sweeps in the parking lots at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park and Starkweather Education Center.

Chuck Portelli said his concerns relate to the search of faculty cars along with those owned by students. During the Dec. 6 sweep at P-CEP, Portelli said one of the dogs sniffed a faculty member's car and the teacher was pulled

out of class. However, no violation was issued. "I'm not in favor

What do you think about this story? E-mail your responses to bkadrich@hometownlife.com. of it because I don't see just cause,"

Portelli said of the drug sweeps involving vehicles belonging to PCEA members. "If there's a reason for doing them, then come to us and tell us and we'll deal with the issue, not just randomly sweep every car. This district has not come to us and said there's a problem with faculty." Students who apply for and receive a parking per-

mit sign a document which states "automobiles on school property are subject to search by school officials if there is a reasonable suspicion that illegal or unauthorized materials are in or on the automobile." However, according to the district's director of

community relations, Frank Ruggirello, faculty members don't sign the same agreement to receive a parking permit.

"Teachers don't sign anything that relinquishes their rights," Ruggirello said. "It's not even in their contract, but it's expected they not do anything illegal on our property."

Portelli said his concerns stem from a recent case in which a teacher was arrested in the parking lot at P-CEP.

PLEASE SEE UNION, A4

## Board, director eye new direction for PCAC

BY BRAD KADRICH STAFF WRITER

When Paula Gangopadhyay served as curator of Education, Public Programs, Visitor Services and Volunteers at the Public Museum of Grand Rapids, she commuted 168 miles a day from her Okemos home.

She likes her current seven-minute drive to and from work much better, thank you very much.

Gangopadhyay found a house in Northville before settling in as the executive director of the Plymouth Community Arts Council in July. Since then, she's been focusing on the job she was

hired to do: Direct the PCAC in the execution of its new, five-year plan.

"We want to take the PCAC to the next level," said Gangopadhyay, who spent four years at the Grand Rapids museum before coming to Plymouth. "(The board) wants growth in the areas of programming and membership, which has dwindled the last couple of years."

The PCAC board feels Gangopadhyay is the right person to do just that. Gangopadhyay, who replaced Stella Greene, has both a bachelor's and master's degree in history from Indore University in Indore,

India. She earned a postgraduate certificate in archival, museum and editing studies from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh.

In Grand Rapids, she headed up the museum's preschool, K-12 and comprehensive public program development, was the chief supervisor for the volunteer department coordinating 200-plus program volunteers and was community liaison to city officials, school groups, universities and civic organizations.

#### **BUDGET MATTERS**

More importantly, at least perhaps from the PCAC's

PLEASE SEE PCAC, A4



Plymouth Community Arts Council director Paula Gangopadhyay speaks with volunteer Marian Kehrl at the PCAC building on Sheldon. Gangopadhyay took over for Stella Greene in July.

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B8-C8 CLASSIFIED CROSSWORD HOMETOWNLIFE.COM D1 C4 JOBS MOVIES E22 **OBITUARIES** A14 A6-7 OPINION REAL ESTATE

SPORTS

**Coming Sunday** in Health



The holidays are a good time to talk about family medical history.

#### **Book signing**

Award-winning poet and photographer Cheryl A. Martin will be signing copies of her book, Woman Reclining, at the brand new Bearclaw Coffee in Canton, 50166 Cherry Hill, 3-5 p.m. Saturday,

In addition to her book of poetry "Woman Reclining," which includes Haiku, war poetry, epic poems and lighthearted verse, she'll have some poetry chapbooks, and photographs available for Christmas gifts as well. Her Haiku for You is a workbook to teach children Haiku. This chapbook is popular with parents, grandparents and teachers.

Martin is the owner of Pero Inc. a full service writing and editing company. She can be contacted at: peroinc5@comcast.net, or (734) 397-1626. Her Web site for Woman Reclining is http://outskirts-

press.com/womanreclining For more information, call (734) 495-9490.

#### **Entertainment books**

The Plymouth Optimist Club is also selling the books, at their new fund-raising price of \$20. They can be picked up at Saxton's Garden Center on Ann Arbor Trail in Plymouth.

The book offers up to 50percent savings on casual dining, fast food, fine dining, travel and hotels, entertainment

and sports, and retail and services on everything from appar-

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 21, 2006

Proceeds benefit children's causes. For information, call (734) 453-8253.

■ 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.

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-

■ The Plymouth Symphony League is selling the 2007 Entertainment Book, offering 50-percent discount coupons at hundreds of restaurants and discounts for many other services and events. Pick up your 2007 Entertainment Book at the Plymouth Symphony Office, located next to the Cozy Cafe in downtown Plymouth, (734) 451-2112, or call Mary Thomas at (734) 453-3016. The Entertainment Book offer is \$20 with all proceeds used to support the Plymouth Symphony and Orchestra Canton.

#### Council on Aging

■ The Plymouth Council on

#### Scouts with a cause

Scouts from Our Lady of Good Counsel Girl Scout Troop 77 celebrated after decorating a Christmas tree in honor of Paws With A Cause, the nonprofit organization troop members decided to adopt this holiday season. The Scouts were joined by eight 'Paws' volunteers and their dogs to help decorate the tree in Kellogg Park. 'It was wonderful to see those who give of their love and time to train the dogs ... to help someone who is disabled,' said Sandy Prebenda, one of Troop 77's leaders.

Aging hosts an interactive session, "Fighting the Blues -Tools for a Happier You!" on depression education, prevention and recovery 10:45-11:45 a.m. Monday, Jan. 22, at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525

Participants will receive tools and skills to help combat all levels of depression. The class is sponsored by

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To register or for more information, call the Plymouth Community Council on Aging, (734) 453-1234, Ext. 236.

a.m. and will include tests for

Stroke Screening, Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening, Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening.

To register, call (800) 324-

#### Me and My Shadow

New Morning School offers "Me & My Shadow" parent and young child classes, a fun, nurturing and educational introduction to preschool for 2-, 3- and 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. The class in January will explore the texture of your child's world. From slippery to scratchy, bumpy to smooth - in this class, we let our fingers delight in a hands-on tour of textures! Each class is packed with kid-powered learning and fun.

Parents can choose from two 10-week sessions 6-7:15 p.m. Mondays or 10-11:15 a.m. Saturdays. Classes begin Jan. 13. Cost is \$85 for the entire session.

To enroll, call (734) 420-3331, or download the registration form at www.newmorningschool.com/shadow.htm.

#### Head Start openings

Plymouth-Canton Head Start, which is a free preschool program, is now enrolling children that are 3and 4-year-olds. There are openings at all three locations, including on Sheldon

Road at Michigan Avenue, the Full Gospel location on Palmer in Canton and one site in Plymouth. Children will be placed at the location that is closest to their home.

To enroll a child or for more information, call (734) 326-6271.

#### Northville Nite

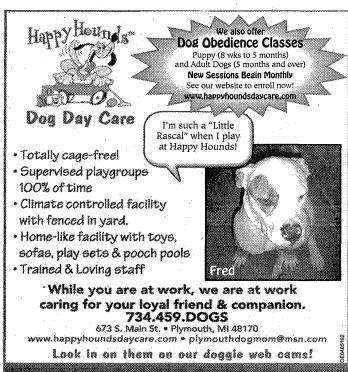
Northville celebrates the 10th anniversary of Northville Nite 4:30-8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 31, at Recreation Center at Hillside, 700 W. Baseline in Northville.

The event is open to people of all ages. Fee is \$2 for children 1-2 years old, \$10 for children 3-12 years old and \$5 for anyone 13 and older.

This year's event will include favorites like the Carnival Games, Coffee House and Band from Oak Pointe Church, Wood Crafts from Home Depot, Slot Car Racing, facepainting, Magician Dave Castle and huge inflatable games. There will also be new activities and performers such as a clown, palm readers and caricaturists.

Northville Rotary Club will be selling pizza, hot dogs, ice cream and beverages for an additional fee.

Tickets can be purchased at the parks and recreation office. 700 W. Baseline in Northville. For more information, call Parks and Recreation at (248) 349-0203.





#### Hands On Center Hands On Center For Physical Therapy DIABETES AS A RISK FACTOR FOR HIP FRACTURE

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CORRECTION

Junior guard Amanda Moody and senior forward Jenna Mrljak,

both of Livonia Clarenceville, should have been listed as honorable

mention selections in girls basketball in the A Galaxy of Stars 2006

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Lisa Walker-Kadrich

Retail Advertising Rep.

Fall Sports All-Area Teams edition of the Observer on Dec. 17.

Farmer in Plymouth.

Heartland Plymouth Court.

■ The Plymouth Community Council on Aging hosts "Life Line Screening, Tests That Can Help Save Your Life," Friday, Feb. 2, at the Plymouth Township Friendship Station.

Appointments will begin at 9

FROM PAGE A1

OLGC homerooms - the fourth-grade class of Emily Sikorsky and the sixth-graders of Barb Hecmanczuk and Gordon Cameron - were writing to the soldier.

They loved it," said Sikorsky, the fourth-grade teacher. "They were thinking of people we could write cards to. They spent a lot of time writing, making sure they were thoughtful cards.

"We talked about what it meant to the soldiers to get cards," Sikorsky added. "They were very excited about it."

When the Army allowed Perron, who'd only been in Iraq three months, a chance at an early leave, he jumped at it. He called his mom, Jennifer Perron of Westland, from the

airport in Atlanta, Ga., asking her if she could "pick someone up at the airport."

When Jennifer Perron asked who, her son said, "Me," then asked her not to say anything to anyone. His mom found that difficult to do.

"I had a girlfriend on the other line, and she was surprised (when she found out later) that I was able to stay so calm," Jennifer Perron said. "But when I hung up from her, I just screamed."

When OLGC Principal Kay Reilly found out Perron was home on leave, a surprise visit to the students was arranged. Perron spent some time with them Monday morning, thanking them for the thought and answering dozens of questions about life in the Army.

The students were eager to meet him and to thank him for what he's doing.



Diabetes poses an increased risk strength. Such weight-bearing for many health problems, among exercise as walking is best for the which hip fractures were recently hips and spine. It also helps identified. According to the maintain muscle coordination and American Diabetes Association, balance, which decrease the risk of

general population. To protect rehabilitation for a variety of against these fractures. The injuries and conditions. We are also association suggests that people get an excellent resource should you the recommended daily amounts of have questions about exercise, diet, calcium (1,000-1,500 milligrams/day) and keeping physically fit. For and vitamin D (400-800 international further information call the HANDS units). The vitamin D is particularly ON CENTER FOR PHYSICAL warranted for those with little sun THERAPY at 455-8370. We are exposure, as sun exposure helps located at 650 South Main Street in the body to manufacture the downtown Plymouth. We have easy vitamin. Getting regular exercise access and parking. New patients















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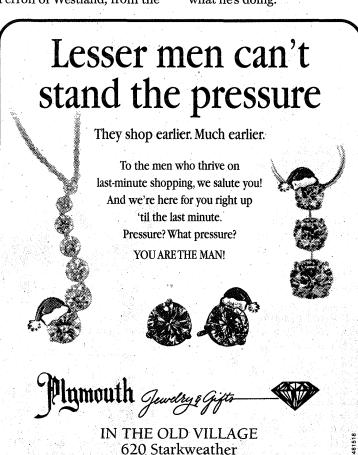
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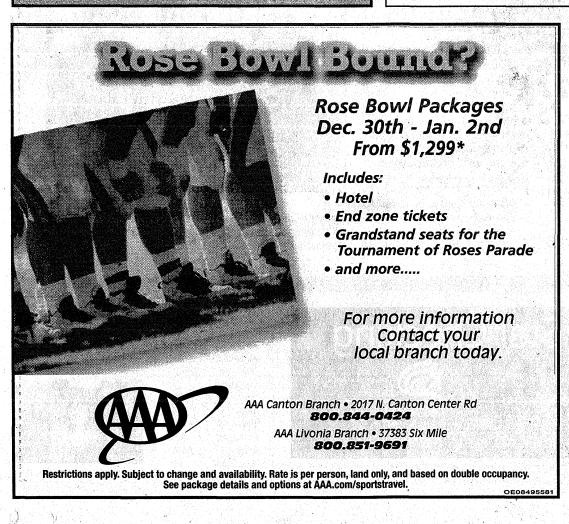






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## Library program keeps baseball alive

Baseball fans saddened to see the Detroit Tigers' successful 2006 season come to a close will be pleased with a program planned by the Plymouth District Library.

The library, located in downtown Plymouth, will keep the excitement of baseball season alive all winter long with a special series, sponsored by the Friends of the Plymouth District Library, titled "Hot Stove League."

Speakers ranging from former players to authors and broadcasters will discuss various baseball-related topics in monthly evening sessions. The sessions:

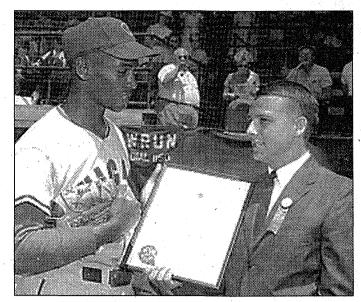
"Dodger Blue ... and
Baseball Really is Funny," 7
p.m., Thursday, Dec. 28 —
Major League outfielder,
broadcaster and Detroit
native Tom Paciorek will
return to the metro area for
the holidays and share vivid
stories of his 40-year base-

ball career.
From his days as an All-American at the University of Houston and playing stints with the Los Angeles
Dodgers, the Atlanta Braves, the Seattle Mariners, the Chicago White Sox and the Texas Rangers, he will speak on his transition to the broadcast booth. Paciorek won an Emmy for his television work with the Chicago White Sox and recently broadcast for the

Washington Nationals.

"Baseball isn't just baseball - It's a metaphor for life, An evening with author Robert Samaras and Raymond Rolak," 7 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 22 — Robert Samaras, another Detroit native, has been at the center of a storied sports career. His background includes college and professional baseball, coach of the University



Ernie Banks of the Chicago Cubs and series speaker, Fred Bowen crossed paths in Cooperstown, N.Y. Bowen was the 1959 American Legion Player of the Year for the national champion Detroit Edison Post Team. He was honored at the 1960 Hall of Fame game between the Cleveland Indians and the Chicago Cubs in Cooperstown.

of Windsor basketball team and Wayne State baseball team. Author of four books, he'll talk about such varied topics as "The one-run game: pathway to pennant" and humanistic psychology in baseball coaching

baseball coaching. Raymond Rolak played for Samaras at Wayne State University. A former president of the Detroit Sports Broadcasters Association, Rolak has also served as a professional baseball scout and has authored numerous articles on baseball and ice hockey. He has been the long-time voice of college hockey's Hobey Baker Award, presented in Bloomington, Minn. Also former director of the City of Detroit 3,000 member PaR Baseball School, Mr. Rolak will present "Different Universes: A comparative look at competitive and recreational baseball". He will also share "The Mystery

of the Black Bat Trophy."

"Let's book this one to the O's: Tales from the Booth with Michael Reghi," 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 11 - As a25-year broadcast veteran and Detroit native, Michael Reghi is the recognized voice of college football and basketball, NFL football and much more. As an Emmy Award winning television announcer for the Baltimore Orioles, he saw all the action at Camden Yards up close. For the last 13 years, he was the voice of the NBA's Cleveland Cavaliers. He was recently inducted into the Radio and Television Broadcasters Hall of Fame.

The series will also feature a number of additional baseball experts, including Fred Bowen, Robert Wannamaker, Bob Miller, Tom Mustonen and Bill

Space is limited; register at the Reader's Advisory Desk, (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4 or online at plymouthlibrary.org

## A yen for yule

### Rotary gives seniors fun time at holiday party

BY JULIE BROWN STAFF WRITER

Hazel Berry of Westland was eager for the fun to begin Sunday. She was among seniors at the Plymouth A.M. Rotary's seventh-annual Christmas party.

"I always look forward to this day," said Berry, who worked 20 years as the cafeteria supervisor at Farrand Elementary in Plymouth Township. "I love every bit of it. I see people I knew when I lived in Plymouth. I just love coming back to Plymouth, I love it all."

She chatted with other seniors, including Stella Smith of Plymouth, a Michigan Bell retiree.

"I love it," Smith said of the annual party. "It gets better every year. It's my niece (from Joe's) who caters the food."

The Plymouth Cultural
Center was festively decorated
for the 200 seniors who
attended the lasagna dinner.
Steve Alexandrowski of
Plymouth Township, a
Rotarian and event chairman,
took a few minutes to talk
about the event.

"Community service is the No. 1 reason" to invite the seniors for dinner and entertainment, Alexandrowski said. He thanked member Nick Schultz and his family business, Sealant Equipment, for their \$2,500 donation which should



A student helper passes out flowers during the party.

just about cover costs.

Member Larry Bird, who owns the Gabriala's store in Plymouth, gave gifts at cost.

Rotarian Bob Scoggins was master of ceremonies and entertainment chairman. The Plymouth resident and former police chief kept the seniors feeling festive right through Santa's arrival at the end.

Scoggins said members recalled a *Rotarian* magazine article about depression at the holidays. They also wanted to make the community's seniors feel special.

"We chose to use this as an avenue of service to give back to them," said Scoggins, who's pleased with tremendous response to the event. "It's the one thing we can give back to the community, really, our-

selves."
Students from Rotary's
youth component, Interact,
and Youth Leadership students
served meals and helped in
other ways. Musicians including area students kept the
crowd entertained throughout

the late afternoon and evening.
"I think it's very rewarding,"
said Mark Hammar of Garden
City, Plymouth A.M. Rotary
president. "It's rewarding to
help the seniors in the community. We enjoy having them as
our dinner guests."



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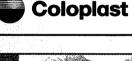
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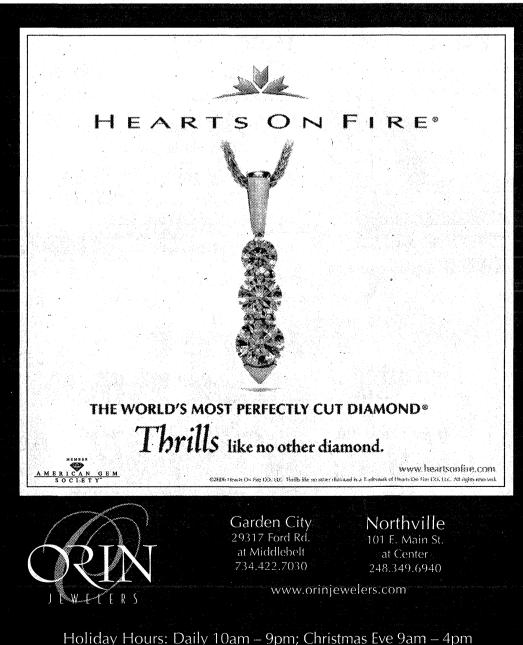
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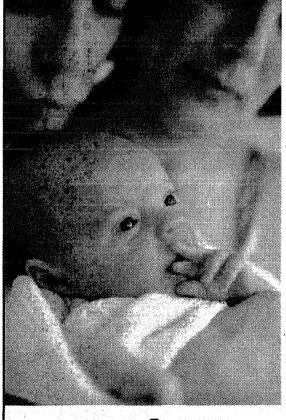
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#### **DEATHS**

Evelyn M. Gilbert Gilbert, 85, of Plymouth, died Dec. 17.

Patsy L. Herbert Herbert, 84, died Dec. 13.

Winifred Hughes Longley Longley, 92, of Birmingham, died Dec.

Joan L. Quick

Quick, 76, of Stuart, Fla., died Dec. 14.

Jack W. Reynolds Reynolds, 89, of Plymouth, died Dec.

before being carted off the

premises? If we need to get

Education Association) attor-

ney, then that's what we want

Plymouth-Canton Educational

them an MEA (Michigan

The drug sweep at

Park in Canton Township

Salem and Plymouth high

which houses 5,800 Canton,

school students - resulted in

38 cars being searched, with

arrested and five others ticket-

ed on various drug charges. No

tickets or arrests resulted in

the sweep at Starkweather a

David A. Moran, associate

University and spokesman for

school property, it meets con-

"If as a condition of parking

in the school lots students sign

something giving consent to

cars being searched, then the

search is OK," said Moran.

the ACLU, said if consent is

part of the agreement to

receive a parking pass on

law school dean at Wayne State

two high school students

to do."

week later.

stitutional law.

**Lloyd Allen Rhoads** Rhoads, 85, died.

Lindsey Linnell (Penson) Sanders Sanders, 35, of Southfield, died Dec. 13. Martin George Stover Stover, 73, of Rochester Hills, died Dec.

**Billy Joe Young** Young died Nov. 23.

Norbert R. Zelazny Zelazny, 83, of Livonia, died Dec. 8.

Complete paid obituaries can be found inside today's newspaper in Passages on page A14.

#### "Locker searches are usually upheld because the school owns the lockers. That's a big

difference in the school opening lockers compared to being "He was arrested and gone able to open people's cars." before I could get there, Moran said there's also the Portelli said. "If something "automobile exception" part of constitutional law when it were found in a faculty staff's car, would they be allowed to comes to searches. get union representation

"It says if the police have lawful access to an automobile and there is probable cause it has contraband, then - without a warrant - they can open the car and search it," Moran said.

When it comes to the number of arrests and tickets given during the search at P-CEP, Moran said there could be concerns as to probable cause.

"There were quite a few more cars searched than drugs were found," Moran said. "That gives me question as to whether the dog sniffing provided probable cause to open the cars."

Superintendent Jim Ryan said he gave the OK for the canines to sniff every car at the high school, students and teachers alike.

"When we decided to go forward with the drug search, we sent a message by doing every car out there," Ryan said. "It's a drug-free zone and we want everyone to know this is a place of learning and we'll do all we can to protect that atmosphere."

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

perspective, she presided over a departmental budget of more than \$1.5 million and was the museum's chief grant writer. Fund raising will be one of her chief goals in Plymouth

"We've raised \$70,000 in four months," said Gangopadhyay, whose first budget proposal was for some \$300,000. "You have to move with the flow of the state and the region. They're trying to validate the contributions of the arts to their economies.

"Once you define your programs, funders like to be part

Defining programs, and improving them, was the Gangopadhyay trait that attracted the PCAC board to her when she applied for the job. The board had gotten what it felt was a great pool of candidates - "An embarrassment of riches," board member Si Nahra called it – and Gangopadhyay quickly rose to the top.

"She has shown an ability to take programs that had been around for awhile and grown them, find new facets and new features she could bring out and have an existing community asset grow and become even more valuable," Nahra said. "That's where the PCAC is ... there's a good foundation, a lot of nice features, but there's a lot of potential I think the board sees, and she seems to be the right person to tap into that potential." The PCAC has already

taken a step in Gangopadhyay's direction, receiving a \$15,000 grant from the Michigan Humanities Council, the state's affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. The "We Made Michigan ... We the People" grant funded projects across the state that use a humanities approach demonstrating how arts and cultural com-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**New Plymouth Community Arts** Council director Paula Gangopadhyay came from the Public Museum of **Grand Rapids.** 

munities have contributed to Michigan's economy.

According to Gangopadhyay, the PCAC's grant project will involve some 30 middle- and high school-aged children in an innovative after-school program where they'll create a "youth-built" exhibition documenting the changing meaning of work in people's lives.

#### **MOVING FORWARD**

It's a step in programming Gangopadhyay believes the PCAC needs to take. As a "presenting" council, the PCAC offers classes, workshops, exhibits, etc., but Gangopadhyay believes there needs to be more. She's already met with Plymouth-**Canton Schools** Superintendent Jim Ryan to discuss expanding the council's presence in the schools.

"Programming needs to be diversified to meet the needs of our customers," she said. "Programming had started to stagnate ... it's kind of risky to let it bottom out. Programming is the crux that will attract volunteers, funders and members."

Membership at the PCAC, Gangopadhyay said, has dwindled over the last few

"They do some great things in programming here," Gangopadhyay said. "(But) We're going to celebrate our 40th anniversary in 2009. and this is still one of the

best-kept secrets in Plymouth."

To change that, Gangopadhyay and her 95percent new staff are starting with programming. Gangopadhyay said a muchexpanded offering of art classes, family-friendly weekend and special events, concerts, workshops, Scout programs and school enrichment programs will be launched in January.

"I'm directing the programming, which has not been done (by the director) in the past," Gangopadhyay said. "I'm taking the lead in the direction of what we'll be doing."

Not everyone has greeted Gangopadhyay's arrival or style with enthusiasm, but she has solid support, even among some old-timers with

JoAnne Winkelman Hulce, the longtime supporter after whom the PCAC building is named, said Gangopadhyay deserves a chance to be successful.

"I think the arts council feels the need ... to do some innovative things and find out what the needs are for the arts council in the community," Hulce said. "I think those of us from the past need to give them the opportunity to accomplish it, and that's my intention.

"The thing that is exciting to me as far as I'm concerned is the whole board is very excited about the plan and the direction," Hulce added. "I think that's something we haven't had in the past, when you've got the involvement of the whole board. That to me certainly speaks very well for Paula."

Gangopadhyay knows it hasn't been easy, nor is it going to be, at least in the near future. She admits she has met some resistance after replacing the popular Greene. But she's confident the PCAC will win everyone over in the "It is a lot of change (and)

sometimes the approach may be seen as very businesslike, but sometimes that's what's needed," Gangopadhyay said. "I'd say 60 percent of the people are very excited. When they start seeing positive changes, it'll happen."

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

## Football team goes bald for sick teammate

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS STAFF WRITER

An impromptu barber shop at Mott Children's Hospital specialized in one style Tuesday – bald.

Several members of the Salem High School junior varsity football team traveled to the Ann Arbor hospital to shave their heads along with their teammate, Michael Asevedo, who was recently diagnosed with acute leukemia.

"My hair was going to start falling out, so I decided to cut it all off now," said Michael, 16, adding that he's happy his friends went bald with him.

As the first strip of his fleecy brown hair hit the floor, Michael looked up at his friend, Chris Watkins, 15, and joked, "If you cut me, I'll throw you out of the window."

When the top half of his hair was gone, Chris told him to look in the mirror and said, "Mike, this is you in 20 years."

An otherwise healthy and energetic defensive lineman, Michael known to his family as "Mikey" began having severe headaches and getting bruises on his body about two weeks ago.

When his mother, Patty Ross, mentioned the bruises to a family member, they said it could be a symptom of leukemia.

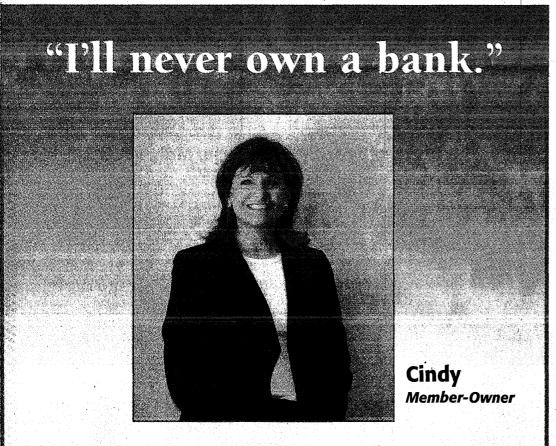
Ross, who thought the bruises came from football practice, shrugged off the idea of cancer.

"He's my baby," she said. "I was like 'no way,' but we took him to the hospital (and he was diagnosed). Nobody could believe it."

Unlike chronic leukemia, acute leukemia progresses quickly and causes the formation of immature cells in the marrow and blood.

As a result, the marrow stops producing enough platelets and red and white blood cells. The shortage of white cells hinders the body's ability to fight infections and the platelet deficiency leads to bruising and easy bleeding.

Michael's doctors have said he has an 80-percent chance of recovering.



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## Gebhardt appointed Schoolcraft trustee

BY HUGH GALLAGHER STAFF WRITER

Joan Gebhardt says she's an advocate for lifelong learning and that Schoolcraft College will be a major player as area workers return to school for retraining.

On Saturday, Gebhardt was chosen by the Schoolcraft Board of Trustees from eight applicants to replace Trustee Kevin McNamara, who was elected in November to the

Wayne County Commission. She will be sworn in Jan. 24 and serve until June 30.

"Ms. Gebhardt is an outstanding addition to our board," said Mary Breen, board chairperson. "She brings a wealth of knowledge of K-12 and postsecondary education, and she has significant experieence on other boards of directors."

Gebhardt, 57, of Livonia spent more than 30 years in K-12 education as a teacher and administrator with the Taylor School District. She is currently an adjunct faculty member at Madonna University's education school. She has been politically active in recent years, running unsuccessfully for the Michigan House of Representatives and the Livonia City Council.

She will run for a full sixvear term as trustee in the Mav 8, 2007, election, as required by state guidelines.

"I think we're at a critical part in our history in Michigan because of all the retirements and job changes that people have," she said. "We're becoming a real mobile society and our demographics have

#### Schoolcraft seminar explains federal program

Get specific information about General Services Administration federal supply schedules at a seminar at Schoolcraft College 9 a.m. to noon Tuesday, Jan. 16.

The seminar features Mike Klewicki, a GSA expert who will explain GSA procedures and answer individual questions.

GSA federal supply schedules allow federal government customers to buy more than 4 million products and services from more than 8,600 commercial suppliers.

The seminar will assist businesses in deciding whether their product or service could find a niche in this market.

Other topics include how to get on a GSA schedule, why you want to get on a schedule and how to choose the right schedule.

The fee is \$40, and reservations are required. For more information or to make reservations, call (734) 462-4438 or email inforeq@schoolcraft.edu.

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Gebhardt

on the cusp of creating a new Michigan and a new econo-

Gebhardt said she has a personal inter-

Schoolcraft because her children, Steven and Jennifer, are students at Schoolcraft. She said their stories were typical of many Schoolcraft students. After graduating from high school, Steven attended

Kettering University with the intention of becoming a mechanical engineer. After a year, he decided that wasn't for him. He is now completing study in Schoolcraft's acclaimed culinary arts program.

Gebhardt's daughter had attended Oakland University, but is now a nursing student at Schoolcraft.

"I think we're in a position to train students and to retrain them," she said, "We have many people in the Schoolcraft attendance area who have received buyouts from Ford's, who have

changed positions and will be going for retraining. What a great opportunity to give them Schoolcraft College.

Gebhardt said women's education will be a particular focus.

"I am sincerely interested in women's rights and getting training for women, especially those women in our society who never finish high school, that have a young family, that are divorced, women that need a jumpstart, that need help," she said. "Schoolcraft does a

nice job with that." Gebhardt said the Michigan Promise scholarship program, signed into law Tuesday by Gov. Granholm, will have a positive impact on the college.

"I think that Schoolcraft College will have an effect on the young people of this area who are interested in getting that scholarship and who want to put in two years of education to get that scholarship or students who did not do well on the test and need to go to a two-year college to prove themselves," she said.

The other applicants for the position were James Fausone,

an attorney from Canton Township; Joanne Lamar, a nurse manager from Plymouth Township; Sandra Larson, an attorney from Livonia; Charles McIlhargey, a member of the Schoolcraft College Foundation Board of Governors, of Plymouth Township; Roy Puckett, a former member of the Livonia Civil Service Commission, of Livonia; Ronald Randall, a former registrar at Schoolcraft College, of Livonia; and Dr. Louis Reibling, a former vice president of instruction at Schoolcraft, of Northville.

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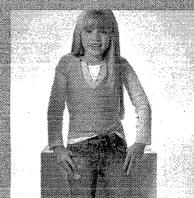
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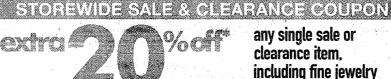


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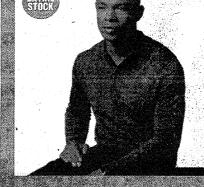


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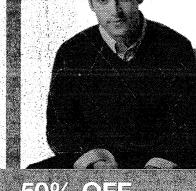


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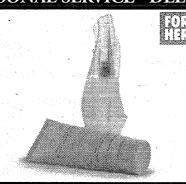
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#### **OUR VIEWS**

## Christmas is time to celebrate humanity

Although you wouldn't know it by the unusually warm weather outside as of late, Christmas time is upon us.

For people of the Christian faith, it is one of the most significant times of the year. It marks the coming of the Messiah — the birth of Jesus Christ. Christians all over the world celebrate this great milestone with prayer and

But this time of year is also important to the followers of other religions. Jews, for example, are in the midst of celebrating Hanukkah, the eight-day "Festival of Lights," which began at sundown Dec. 15. During these eight days, marked by the candles of the menorah, Jews celebrate their ancient heroes and the survival of their culture with festive foods, games and blessings.

Although Hanukkah is considered to be a minor holiday on the Jewish calendar, it has taken on more significance, especially in America, because of its proximity to Christmas.

It is also at this time of year that many African Americans begin to celebrate Kwanzaa. Although not a religious holiday, Kwanzaa, which runs from Dec. 26 through Jan. 1, is a time when followers come together and celebrate family, community and tradition.

So in reality, the Christmas season means different things to different people, especially in America, where so many different cultures have been thrown together. The common denominator seems to be that it is a time of celebration, to hold dear the things that we might take for granted the rest of the year.

In recent years, some people have complained that there has been a war on Christmas. A debate has raged about whether or not the meaning of Christmas has been watered down by political correctness. It's an unfortunate debate, particularly at this time of year, because it seems to run counter to all the virtues that are celebrated during

It is supposed to be a time of rejoicing, and a time to reflect on the common bond of man. There are so many people around the globe, including right here in our own backyard, who are not as fortunate. Many who are dealing with poverty, hunger or war.

In America, we are fortunate to have the freedom to celebrate Christmas or Hanukkah or Kwanzaa. That in itself is reason enough to celebrate this holiday season.

So whatever Christmas means for you, please take a few moments during this wonderful season to think of those in the world who are not as fortunate. And give thanks for all that we are blessed with here in America. Merry

## What will Santa give your state legislator?

Santa isn't the only one who will be checking his list find out who's been naughty and nice.

Michigan voters should be closing out the year by doing the same, but it's not their kids whom they ought to have in mind. Instead, it's the Michigan Legislature.

Legislators were largely unproductive, but there are a few examples that merit either a lump of coal or a sweet treat.

How nice: Some argue legislators caved in to special interests, but many observers think the Legislature deserves a piece of candy for approving the cable competition bill shortly before ending this year's session. Largely championed by AT&T, the bill allows competitors to provide statewide service without negotiating with individual governments, develop new technology and lower costs.

Yet to be determined is how competitors will be held

accountable for their service.

How naughty: The Legislature (read Republicans) deserves a whole bag of charcoal for its handling of the Single Business Tax debacle. Legislators ended this session with the job only half done, acting only to end the much maligned tax on business but not to replace the lost revenue. The truth is that no one wants to be labeled as having voted for a new tax with a broader base.

**How nice:** The year wasn't a total loss. The governor was successful in getting a state scholarship program through the Legislature to bolster her contention that it will take a better educated workforce to improve the state's jobs picture and the economy.

Legislators also approved new graduation requirements that will strengthen the future of those students who complete high school.

The Legislature further approved the so-called Jessica's Law, which increases penalties for child predators.

How nice, and naughty: While legislators touted passage of a \$210 increase in per pupil funding for education, school district administrators held their collective breath. And well they should have. The money may have been approved, but now it looks like cash in hand isn't going to be able to cover the entire increase. Some folks didn't do

No doubt voters will have their own items to add to the naughty/nice list. But whatever is on it, they should keep the list around for the next election.



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



**Water atrocity** 

#### **DWSD** terrorists

Well, it looks like the Detroit Water and Sewer Department terrorists are about to strike again.

Their proposed 30-percent water rate increase is absolutely ridiculous! It is illogical and totally unfair for them to include increased water usage by the state during the M-14 construction project as part of their formula's peaking factor.

It is time to recall this DWSD Board or have the state assume its supervisory responsibilities.

**Joseph Cleveland** Plymouth

#### **Positive attitude**

Wow, what a negative attitude Plymouth Mayor Dan Dwyer has by saying that he's not surprised by the current delay to the Sheldon Road CSX underpass project due to an issue that DTE had relocating an over-

I recall reading some time ago that the City of Plymouth partially caused this project to be delayed because they didn't want to pay their equal share toward problem.

It's true that this project will cause quite an inconvenience to this area, but as Sharon Pugh, a Plymouth business owner on Forest Avenue said, "If you have what people want, they'll find you."

We need more positive attitudes like that to keep our community vibrant. Way to go,

Fred Portelli Plymouth

#### **Collect from state**

I hope that in addition to his "disappointed and shocked" statement over the proposed water rate increase Township Supervisor Richard Reaume will pursue collecting from the state (it is after all M-14, not a township road) or John Carlo, the contractor (whose bid should have included costs for water).

This system doubly charges township residents for costs of state roads.

> **Judith Waterman Plymouth**

#### **Hike 'outrageous'**

I read your story with interest, and was surprised since I thought the installation of the Plymouth Water Tower would actually "lower" the cost of water for township residents. I read recently that the water for the tower would be purchased during "off-peak" hours at a lower cost, and that lower cost would benefit Plymouth Township residents in the form of lower bills.

Township Supervisor Reaume's comment that the increase was "likely caused by increased water usage by the state during the M-14 construction project." During that construction, I often took the Ridge Road to Five Mile route to hook up with I-275. I can testify to the fact that I saw the Carlo Construction Tanker "filling up" at the water supply (on Ridge Road). I commented to my husband, "I wonder who's going to pay for this water?" This happened at least a half dozen times that I saw, and most likely more often than that.

We were inconvenienced enough during the M-14 construction. Now we have to pay for part of the tab? Outrageous!

**Bernice Daws** Plymouth Township

#### **LETTERS**

Your article was shocking. Where does the City of Detroit water department get off trying to stick it to the Plymouth Township

It is an insult if the rate is caused by the M-14 project. Those costs should be baked into the overall cost of the project and should not be borne by the township! Why should we be singled out to suffer the increase when all the communities from Southeastern Michigan use the M-14 high-

Why does the City of Plymouth get off scott free? The Plymouth Township leaders better start fighting this atrocity to the end.

> Alan Thuernau **Plymouth**

#### Sticking the suburbs

Once again Detroit with its inability to manage is doing it to the suburbs.

It lets broken water mains run for months, sometimes for years, and we have to pay for them. I would like to find out how many do not pay any water bill at all.

change of who would be on the board. That was a real good call now that she pays no

**John Harreld** Plymouth Township

#### Minding the store

Assuming the article in the Observer (Dec. 14) is accurate, it appears to me that someone was not "minding the store."

How is it that a State of Michigan road project charges the necessary water to Plymouth Township? This should have been part of the contract between the state and the contractors. Something is seriously wrong here.

For what this will end up costing, the township could have drilled a well to provide non-potable water for this project and avoided both the water charge as well as the attached sewage charges if they apply.

We all know what will happen once this goes into effect, it will never go back to the lesser rate in future years. There should be an investigation into this

and a legal remedy.

**David Mills** Plymouth

#### **Missing something?**

Pertaining to the article in the Observer about the 30-percent water rate hike, you mention that the increase is likely from the construction project on M-14 this past year, with all the water needed for watering down road beds, and making cement.

Here is a question: Shouldn't the cost of the water have been factored in when the job was bid?

The same way you factor in the cost for the steel, machinery use, fuel, labor, etc. How do we allow a job such as this road construction to be accepted, but the citizens have to pay for the water?

Âm I missing something here, but am I paying for that road repair, in such a direct hit, just like the water bill rate increase? I think the citizens of Plymouth need a little better explanation of what is going on here.

I can't wait to get the bill for the railroad crossing bypass that is being done on Sheldon road!

**Rick Sikora** Plymouth

### Don't cry to us later

I read with great interest Ms. Terry Ahwal's article "There can be no winners from war and occupation." She complains of "occupation" and that people are dying and can't move about.

She doesn't complain about Arabs killing Arabs. Her country is a mess because her own people can't get along. They have more rights now than they have had in their entire history.

Personally, I would be happy to get all of our troops out of Iraq tomorrow. She thinks a lot of her people are dying now, well just wait until we leave and those religious nuts take over and start killing each other off in a

Have it your way Ms. Ahwal, but don't come crying to us later.

**William Barnard** Livonia

### Alternative energy a priority

Gas prices falling! Yeah! Yes, I'm happy and thankful, but cautious. My fellow citizens, we must not let the oil

It should be a personal and national priority and goal to move toward alternative

energy to power our transportation needs. The prices go high and we all squawk and moan about it, declaring we will drive smaller cars, drive less and so on. We think

about hybrid vehicles and such. Then the prices go down and we're back to guzzling our gasoline and being happy about it. We're getting fat and lazy!

I don't want to depend on foreign oil anymore! I don't want to drill in Alaska or our oceans either! I don't want to be at the mercy of the people in the East who want to kill us all!

I want to show the world what I know to be true — that we are the most innovative, intelligent country on earth. We can come up with the technology needed to make ourselves and the rest of the world free from oil. It should be our national agenda and a pri-Be vigilant. Demand technology that

doesn't enslave us to anyone else. We can do I don't want to keep funding the hatred

and violence against us. Enjoy the lower gas prices for now, but please, look forward to our future! **Nancy Foltz** 

#### **SHARE YOUR OPINIONS**

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

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#### QUOTABLE

"I really believe this contract extension has to be connected to the search for the next superintendent ... A smooth transition is very important to this school district ..."

- Jim Ryan, Plymouth-Canton school superintendent, on the advantages of signing a one-year contract extension

## Altering state's constitution should be handled with care

oes Michigan's constitution, which celebrated its 43rd birthday this year, need a face lift? Citizens for Michigan, a newly reborn bipartisan group, thinks so — and last week called for a series of mostly sensible constitutional changes. Those suggestions include:

■ Increasing legislative term limits, currently set at six years for representatives and eight years for senators, to 12 years.

This makes perfect sense — although abolishing the limits altogether would be even better. Term limits have turned out to be a bad idea from the time the voters adopted them in 1992.

Their net effects have been to destroy institutional memory, eliminate the wisdom of



Phil Power

experience, trigger a frenzy of campaigning for higher offices and encourage silly short-term thinking in Lansing about long-term issues.

■ Banning out-of-state interests from proposing amendments to the constitution. Or, failing that, requiring that any such proposals be approved in two successive general elections.

This, too, is a good idea. Of all our nation's major states, Michigan is "by far" the easiest in which to propose constitutional amendments, according to John Axe, who chairs Citizens for Michigan and teaches law at Wayne State University.

Michigan is one of only 15 states which allows voter-initiated amendments to its constitution. And we make it a lot easier to get things on the ballot than most of the rest. No matter how wacky any proposed amendment might be, all you have to do to get a statewide vote on it is to gather the valid signatures of a mere 10 percent of the number of votes cast for governor in the most recent election.

For the next couple of election cycles, that now comes to 380,125.

What that means is that Michigan is now an easy target for out-of-state groups looking to advance a cause.

Ward Connerly saw that, and rushed here to fight affirmative action. That, in fact, is also exactly how U.S. Term Limits, a Glenview, Ill.-based outfit, shoved term limits down our throats, putting it on a statewide ballot back in 1992.

In addition to those points, Citizens for Michigan also called for gubernatorial appointment, instead of direct election, of members of the governing boards of the University of Michigan and Michigan State and Wayne State universities.

I'm somewhat conflicted about this proposal, having been elected years ago to serve on the U-M board. But over those years, it's become increasingly tough for candidates to avoid damaging and irrelevant litmus tests imposed on them by the political conventions that select these nominees.

Republicans must be anti-abortion, for example;

Democrats, acceptable to the big unions.

This, Citizens for Michigan notes, really becomes

a farce when electing members of higher education boards. Voters know virtually nothing about the candidates, their backgrounds and their stances on the issues. The result is an electoral crapshoot.

As for my opinion — on balance, appointing members of governing boards makes sense.

There are a number of other suggestions made by the Citizens for Michigan group; most of them are perfectly reasonable, including allowing local governments the ability to levy taxes for roads and mass transit systems. This introduces the possibility of multi-county or regional transportation departments instead of county road commissions.

But the larger question is whether actually to call a constitutional convention. The constitution approved in 1963 says that voters must be asked every 16 years whether they want a new constitutional convention. That next will be on the ballot in 2010. And the Citizens for Michigan report says it is time for a convention. It argues the existing constitution needs a wholesale makeover that can only be done in full convention.

This, in my opinion, would be a bad idea.

Back in 1962, when delegates to the last constitutional convention were chosen, Michigan politics were managed by a set of very powerful and relatively reasonable godfathers: Walter Reuther, then president of the United Auto Workers union; and Neil Staebler and John Feikens, chairmen, respectively, of the state Democratic and Republican parties.

There were also various powerful business leaders and others who belonged there. There were a few crazies back then, but they were effectively marginalized.

Things are vastly different today. Raging ideologues from all sides infest the Michigan political environment. There are ultra-liberals and hard right-wingers. Right to Lifers and those who want reparations paid to the descendants of slaves. Worse, we lack powerful, centrist political leaders who can shut the crazies up and keep them from doing damage at any constitutional convention.

The amount of mischief that could be done to our relatively benign constitution is enormous. Far better to persuade the Legislature to put the sensible amendments Citizens for Michigan is promoting on the ballot without risking a no-holds-barred convention.

That said, the Citizens for Michigan report is a valuable contribution to our public dialogue in that it goes well beyond mere baby steps and speaks to consequential matters.

We need far more such discussions if we are to invent and adopt a far-reaching restructuring plan that can help lay the foundation for a vibrant and more prosperous Michigan in the future. Which is exactly what we have to do.

**Phil Power** is president and founder of The Center for Michigan, a moderate think-and-do tank based in Ann Arbor. These opinions and others expressed are his own and do not in any way represent official policy positions of The Center for Michigan. Power welcomes reader comments at ppower@hcnnet.com.

## Constant delays making it tough to stay positive about underpass

K, who put that light pole there?

Apparently, someone snuck out to Sheldon Road in the last week and constructed a pole that carries wires to a single commercial business in the CSX underpass project zone, delaying the start of the project once again.

That's the only plausible explanation for why the existence of such a pole should slow down a project that's been some eight years in the making. Are you telling us that pole has been there for eight years — and no one noticed it?

Just days before Wayne County contractors were going to close Sheldon Road — finally —

to begin the long-anticipated, oft-delayed, much-debated underpass project came word it was going to have to wait — again — while DTE Energy straightened out the problem with the power lines.

Brad Kadrich

Then, while everybody involved was trying to figure out just how long a delay this one's going to be (and doubting things would get started

before the holidays now), came the news someone in Wayne County had sold a county-owned, 23-acre parcel along Sheldon Road at auction. Now county officials, who thought for sure they had all the loose ends tied up, will have to shell out big bucks to buy the property — which they had already owned — back.

Alan Helmkamp, the assistant Wayne County executive, called the mess "an early Christmas present" for area business owners.

And, on Monday, as expected, the county announced the project wouldn't get started until January.

Helmkamp must be ready to pull his hair out while alternately trying to keep his fingers in the dam. The problem is, he's been doing that for a couple of years now, and he's only got 10 fingers.

You've got to admire Helmkamp, and feel sorry for the guy at the same time. Before his arrival a couple of years ago, you had better chances of winning the lottery than you did of getting hold of a county official to talk about this project.

Helmkamp has changed that. The project isn't running any smoother, but at least you know who to talk to.

"I love Alan Helmkamp," Plymouth Mayor Dan Dwyer said a few weeks ago. "You can always get in touch with him, and you always get an answer from him.

the time," added Dwyer, who is not a big fan of the underpass project, "but you can always reach him."

"I don't agree with what he says about half

That must not be true for his own people, because seemingly every time he turns around, there's a delay for one reason or another. Of course, not all of them are the county's own making. It took a large chunk of the intervening time for CSX railroad officials to put their collective name on a contract.

City commissioners have nearly pulled the plug, hedging on whether they were going to pony up the \$503,000 they'd committed. The Detroit Water and Sewer department has held the project back. The latest snafu, the DTE Energy power line, feeds a commercial customer and DTE had to figure out how to move the line without affecting the customer.

Now the county will have to negotiate with a new land baron who will almost certainly cash in on the county's need to get this project done.

All to the continued frustration of some area businesses. Bob Jeannotte Sr., who owns Jeannotte Buick and Pontiac on Sheldon Road, smack in the middle of the construction zone, once entertained the idea of suing to stop the project.

Now, he just wishes the whole thing would go away.

"I was geared for it, but now this is about the seventh delay," Jeannotte said. "I really think they should just scrap the project. When they started this, there were 25 trains a day going by, now there's five. It's no big deal."

While I thought in the beginning the underpass was a great idea and a good project, I'm starting to side more with Jeannotte's view. In slightly more than seven years in the community, I've only been stopped twice that I can remember by a train on Sheldon Road.

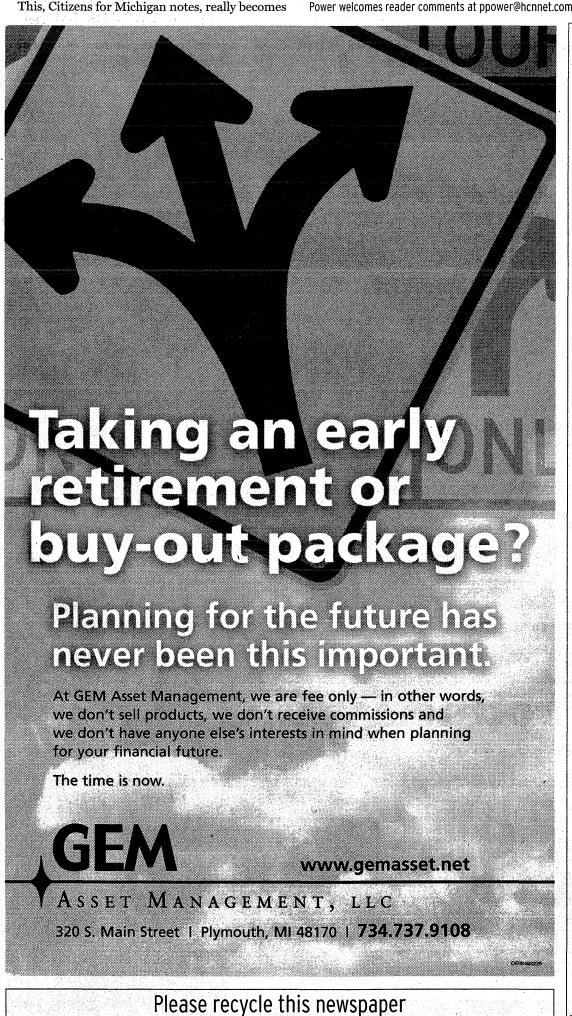
On the other hand, drivers have been amazingly resilient around here. They found their way around a few years ago when MDOT rebuilt Ann Arbor Road. They've been finding their way around all the orange barrels all year during the M-14 construction project.

Sharon Pugh, owner of Sideways on Forest Avenue in Plymouth, said she believes customers will still find Plymouth, even when (if?) Sheldon Road closes.

"It's been hard getting into Plymouth with the M-14 construction, so I think people are used to not coming that way," Pugh said. "If you have what people want, they'll find a way to get to you."

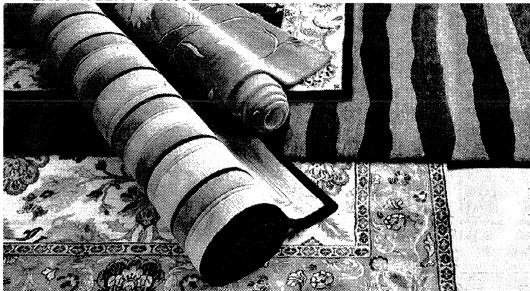
Now *that* is a positive attitude. If Helmkamp gets any more bad news about this project, maybe he should sit down next to Pugh and let some of it rub off on him.

Brad Kadrich is community editor of the Plymouth Observer. He can be reached via e-mail at bkadrich@hometownlife.com or by phone at (734) 459-



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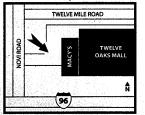
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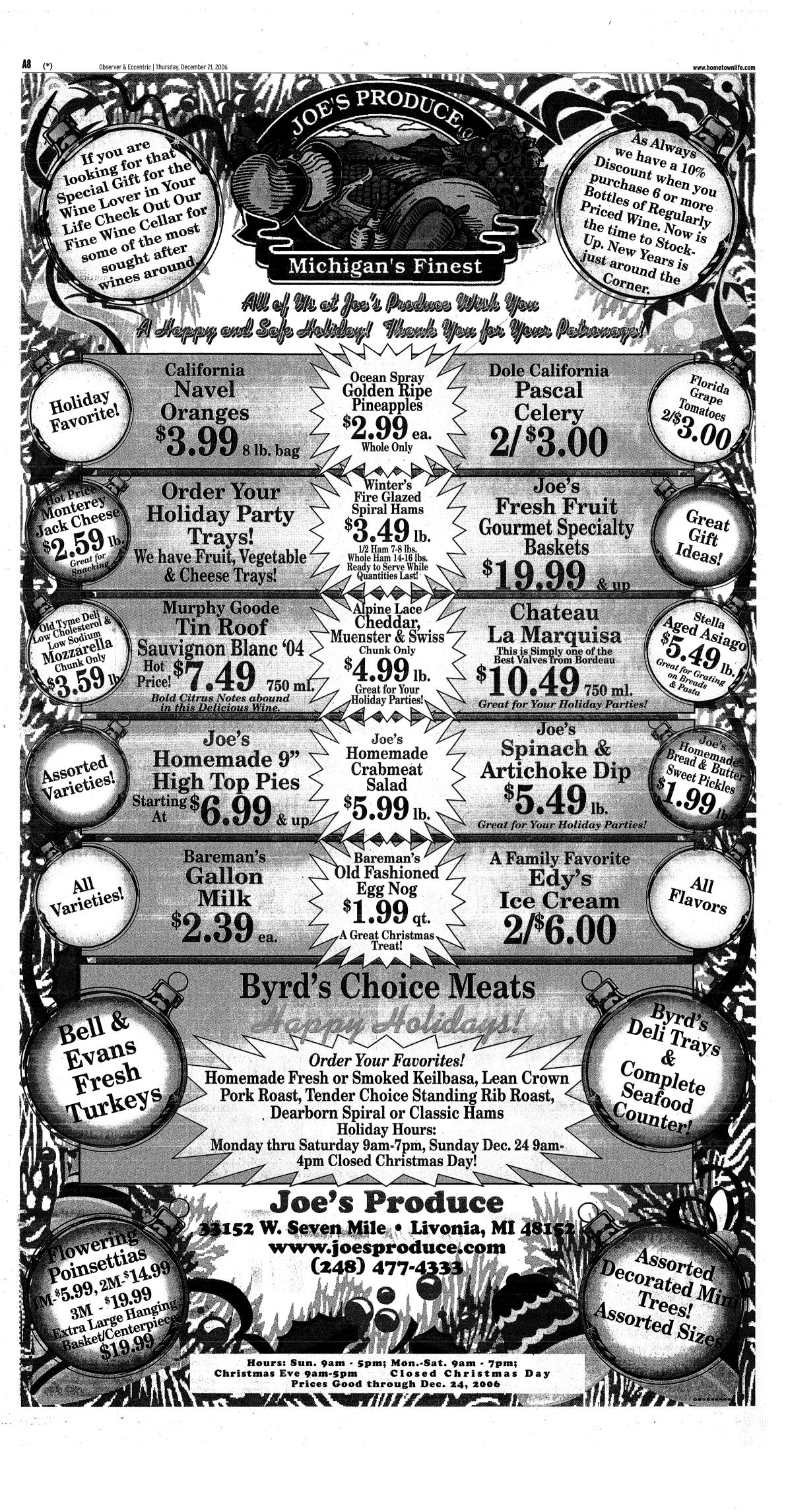


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## Governor offers a 'Promise' to high school students

BY ALEX LUNDBERG STAFF WRITER

Speaking to college-bound students from six different high schools, Gov. Jennifer Granholm unveiled her Michigan Promise Scholarship, available to high school seniors this year.

Gov. Granholm spoke to students in the Center for Advanced Studies and Arts at Ferndale High School Tuesday afternoon about the new program, which will tie good performance on the American College Test to a \$4,000 scholarship.

The program will replace the current Merit Award system which tied scholarships to performance on the Michigan Educational Assessment Program test.

Granholm, in introducing the award to the students, said a good education means something to the state as well as to the students who receive it.

"Why do you think Google set up in Ann Arbor from California?" she asked. "They came here because of the resource of educated workers here."

She said as the state generates more educated residents and pours more resources into its educational institutions, businesses needing a smarter workforce are going to come

here to set up shop.
Students who perform well
on the ACT will receive \$1,00
in their freshman and sophomore years and another
\$2,000 after completing two



LAWRENCE MCKEE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Gov. Jennifer Granholm (shown speaking at Birmingham Seaholm High School) carried to Ferndale High on Tuesday her message about the importance of a good education and offering them a 'promise' of help.

years of post high school class-

Students who didn't perform well on the test can earn the entire \$4,000, if they complete two years of college or technical training and maintain a 2.5 grade point average.

State Rep. Andy Meisner (D-Ferndale), a Ferndale High School graduate, said this is the kind of boost the state's education needs.

"Education is truly everything," he said. "Of all the things the governor can focus on, to focus on this, to have this tool to help is very important."

U.S. Rep. Sander Levin (D-Royal Oak), said the governor has set high goals for the state's

educational system and, in this scholarship, a method as well. He said the federal government would soon be weighing in along the same lines.

"The federal government has to be an active partner, and it hasn't always done well," he said. "In the first 30 days (of the 110th Congress), we're going to cut the interest rate on student loans by half and increase funds to Pell grants."

Of course, there's more than one financial angle to consider.

"Compared to a high school diploma, you will earn more than \$1 million dollars more in your lifetime with a degree," Granholm said. "Be it a two-year, four-year or technical or vocational certification."

It doesn't hurt Lansing's future prospects either.

"We want to make sure when it's your turn to lead, you have an excellent education," she said.

The CASA students who were on hand to hear the governor's address were advanced placement students from Ferndale, Berkeley, Oak Park, Madison Heights, Lamphere and Clawson High Schools.

She spoke to students in Lansing earlier in the day and planned to make similar presentations at schools around the state later in the week. In addition programs were held in other parts of the state Tuesday to mark the signing of the bill, including at Schoolcraft College.

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## County urges Granholm to sign bill on mental health board

BY HUGH GALLAGHER STAFF WRITER

A bill to amend the mental health code to allow the Wayne County Commission to appoint all 12 members of the county Mental Health Board was approved Dec. 14 by the state House of Representatives.

The House approved 70-32, with eight not voting, Senate Bill 1289.

Now an intense effort is being made to lobby Gov. Jennifer Granholm to sign the bill, which places her in the middle of a dispute between two of her strongest political allies — Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano and Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick.

Currently Ficano, with the approval of the Commission, appoints six members of the Mental Health Board, and Kilpatrick appoints six members. Ficano has argued that, since Wayne County provides \$17.7 million to the Wayne County Health Agency's \$540 million annual budget and the city provides no funding, the county should have a greater representation on the board. At one point he had proposed a 13member board with the county getting an extra appointment.

In May the county commission supported a resolution favoring a 13-member board.

The bill would create a 12-

member, county-appointed board, but with six members coming from the city of Detroit. The majority of the agency's 47,000 clients come from the city.

"Our concern is that the governor is going to be pressured or inclined to veto because of pressure brought to bear by the mayor," said Alan Helmkamp, assistant Wayne County Executive.

State Sens. Beverly
Hammerstrom, RTemperance, and Shirley
Johnson, R-Royal Oak, have
supported legislation to create
an independent mental health
authority or pressure the
county to create an authority.

In November, Wayne
County Circuit Judge
Cynthia D. Stephens granted
a preliminary injunction to
prevent the state from withholding \$3.5 million a month
from the Mental Health
Agency for each month the
county's failed to create a
Mental Health Authority.
The cuts were part of the
state's 2006-2007 budget.

Helmkamp said the approval of a county-appointed board could be the first step toward creating an independent mental health authority.

ent mental health authority.

"We would still have to
work out issues like employee rights," Helmkamp said.

But he said Ficano is open to

the idea of an authority.

Helmkamp, a Democrat,
said the majority of the bill's
supporters were Republicans,
though suburban representatives of both parties voted for

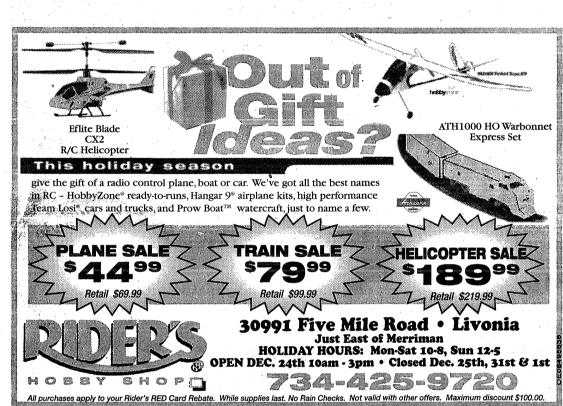
the bill, including soon to be

Speaker of the House Andy Dillon, D-Redford. Helmkamp said he realizes that the bill places the governor in an awkward position, but he cited Granholm's veto of earlier legislation on changing the mental health board because the legislation did not address the six-six split that is addressed in the current bill. He also said that this is not acity-versus-suburbs problem," because Detroit members of the county commission have supported changes in the governance of the board.

The bill has also been supported by resolutions by the Conference of Western Wayne and the Downriver Community Council.

The current Mental Health Board voted 7-5 on Dec. 13 to support the Senate bill. The board had been divided in the past. In August, the six members appointed by the mayor, declined to attend a meeting called by county appointees to handle contract extensions.

Bernard Kilpatrick is the chair of the Mental Health Board and the father of Mayor Kilpatrick.



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#### **AROUND TOWN**

#### Olivet scholarship

Olivet College is offering every high school in Michigan the ability to nominate two graduating seniors to receive the new Olivet College High School Guidance Counselor Scholarship. The scholarship is worth \$2,000 a year for four years equaling a total of \$8,000 for each qualified student. Enrollment availability is based on a first come, first served basis. The scholarship program empowers the guidance counselor or staff to chose two responsible seniors who have at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA and 19 or higher on the ACT. One of the selected students must also demonstrate a greater need for financial assistance. For more information on the Olivet College High School Guidance Counselor Scholarship program, contact the Office of Enrollment Management at (800) 456-7189 or email admissions@olivetcollege.edu

Genealogical society The Livingston County Genealogical Society hosts its meeting Jan. 4 at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 1041 Grand River in Howell. Speaker Kerry Chartkoff, director of Capitol Tours, will speak on "Save the Flags Program" of the Michigan Historical Museum, which is preserving 230 Michigan flags, 160 from the Civil War. The public is invited. For information, call (810) 227-7745.

New Year's Eve party

Urban Singles presents "Ring in the New Year." with live entertainment from Jimmy Howard and Company Sunday, Dec. 31, Doors open at 6:30 p.m.; the party goes until 1 a.m. The party takes place at the Livonia Elks, 31117 Plymouth Road in Livonia (between Merriman and Middlebelt). Tickets are \$50 per person until Dec. 8; \$60 after Dec. 8, and cover dinner and beverage. Dinner is served at 7:30 p.m. Overnight accommodations will be available. Deadline for tickets is Friday, Dec. 22.

For more information, call Linda, (734) 507-9173, or Mary Ann, (734) 654-0115. **Poetry contest** 

The Detroit Impact Community Center hosts a youth poetry contest with a \$100 prize 6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 22 at 9930 Greenfield in Detroit. The contest is open to poets 14-17 years old. Poems must be at least two minutes long. Any subject matter is permitted but no "excessive" profanity will be allowed. No props or music allowed. Poems must be recited and participants will be scored on originality, creativity and performance. Participants may be required to recite up to three poems (depending on

#### **COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 21, 2006

attendance). Individuals should be at Detroit Impact no later than 6 p.m. Dec. 22 to register. The first 20 individuals will be allowed to register (based on a first come, first serve basis). For more information call (313) 272-0004 or (313) 598-8396.

Career development scholarship

The Wayne Business and Professional Women's Club is now accepting applications for a "Career Development Scholarship" to recognize and support women entering or re-entering the work force or seeking to advance their careers. Candidates seeking application forms should send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: Wayne Business and Professional Women's Club, Career Development Scholarship Committee, 34030 Fountain Blvd., Westland, MI 48185. Completed applications are due postmarked by Jan. 31. For more information, call Amy Allen, (734) 522-1603.

Card party/luncheon Victoria Chapter #290, OES, Livonia Masonic Temple hosts a card party/luncheon noon-3 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month. Admission is \$6; event features table prizes and door prizes. The temple is located at 27705 W. Seven Mile in Livonia. For more information, call

(734) 459-6063. Hospice training

Heartland Hospice is looking for caring and dedicated people with an interest in serving terminally ill patients and their families in Washtenaw, western Wayne, Monroe and Livingston counties. Volunteers provide a variety of services including companionship, light housekeeping, errand running, grief support and clerical services. For more information, contact volunteer coordinator Candice Jones, (888) 973-1145.

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

416-4906 for more information. Toastmasters meet

Do you have a fear of public speaking? Do you need to do presentations at work and don't know where to start? Or are you terrified of the thought of standing in front of a group of people to present that report? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then Toastmasters is for you! Canton Communicators

Club meets every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Canton Coney Island on Lilley, just south of Joy, in the Golden Gate Plaza. For additional information, contact Bonnie at (734) 646-2237. **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.newhopecen-

#### **CLUBS**

#### Rotary A.M.

ter.net.

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-

**Plymouth Newcomers** 

Plymouth Newcomers & Neighbors playgroups for children ages 0-5 meet several times during the week at member homes and occasional special events. Come meet new parents while your kids meet their own new friends! For details, contact Janet Keller at (734) 451-1840 or robertplusianet@aol.com

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 and a variety of topics will be covered. There is no membership fee but a small donation will be accepted. 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.



Tom Kennedy of the Plymouth Noon Rotary (from left), Garden City Rotarians Mary Ann Snodgrass and her husband William, Susan Collins, Garden City curriculum director, and Garden City School Superintendent Richard Witkowski show off a few of the 3,000 mathematics books that are being donated.

## 'We haven't forgotten you

Textbooks find new home in Katrina-ravaged Louisiana schools

BY SUE MASON STAFF WRITER

Students in an elementary school in St. Bernard's Parish, La., will be getting much needed mathematics books, thanks to the efforts of the Rotary Club of Plymouth and the Garden City Public Schools.

Tom Kennedy of Plymouth was in Garden City last week to accept the donation of 3,000 elementary math books which will be shipped to the Hurricane Katrina ravaged parish.

"Twenty schools are gone, and they've only been able to open a high school and one grade school," said Kennedy. They have nothing. They were literally in tears about the books."

The books, which were printed in 1998, were replaced with a new math series this school year, and Garden City school officials tried to find charter or parochial schools interested in taking them.

'We couldn't just discard them, they were still very usable," said Susan Collins, the district's curriculum director. "Some were never opened because they were spare copies."

A member of the Garden City Rotary, Superintendent Richard Witkowski mentioned the books at a meeting. Fellow Rotarian Mary Ann Snodgrass volunteered to make a few phone calls, but it only took one to Kennedy.

"When I first found out, I thought, what am I going to do with these books," said Snodgrass. "My first thought was Central America, then I asked around and got in touch with Tom. I thought about them going to a foreign country, I never thought of them going to a Katrina area."

According to Witkowski, it was school board President David Stapleton, also a member of the Garden City Rotary, who helped connect Snodgrass and Kennedy.

"It took people power, but it wouldn't have happened if Tom had not kept the ball rolling," said Witkowski.

A retired airline pilot who also taught high school, Kennedy put out the word around the U.S. about the books. He received two inquiries, one was crying. "I asked when they needed

the books and they said they needed them in September when school started," Kennedy said. "We're going to ship them right to the front door of the school."

Matching up unwanted items with those in need is nothing new for Kennedy. He has made several trips to

Honduras to help out there and is in the process of distributing some 100 like new hospital beds that were being replaced in a hospital in Ohio to hospitals in Central America.

Witkowski credits Collins with collecting and organizing the books. In addition to the textbooks, there were unused workbooks and teacher's manuals.

Kennedy estimates that it will cost about \$1,500 to ship the books. Garden City school officials will make the arrangements and be reimbursed for the cost.

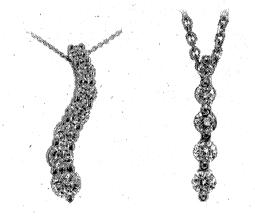
Had the district not found someone to take the books, it would have faced the task of removing all of the hard covers for recycling, which it would have had to pay for.

"We didn't want to dump them in a Dumpster," Collins

Kennedy said Garden City is the first district in the area that he's aware of that is shipping textbooks to a Katrinaravaged school district.

"It's an opportunity for us to make a difference for some kids who don't have books because of a natural disaster," said Witkowski.

"We're very lucky to have a whole team of doers," added



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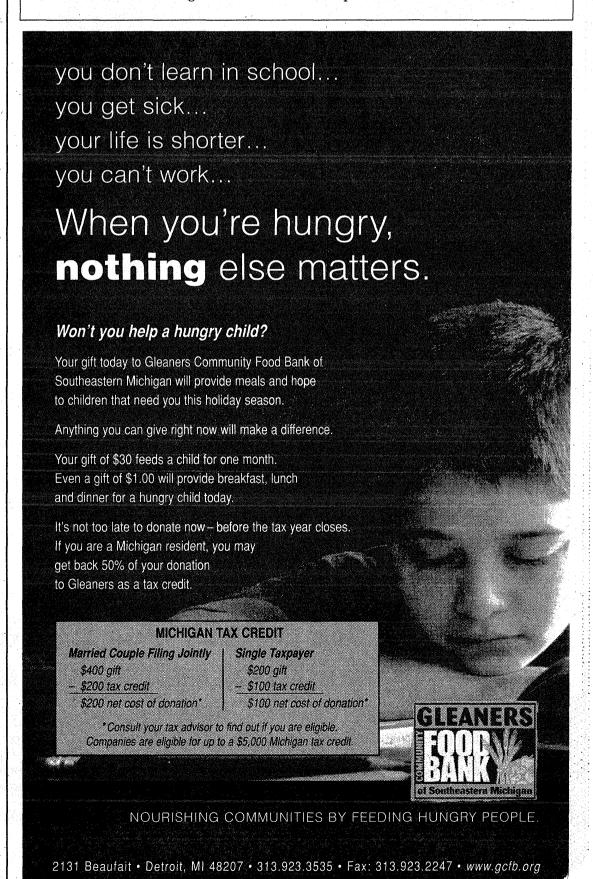


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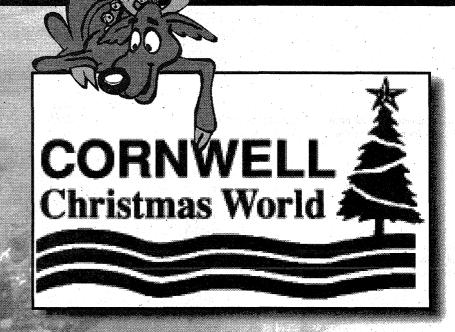


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#### DECEMBER

#### Christmas caroling

6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 21, at St. Mary's Hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. A fun activity presented by Bethany Suburban West, a Catholic organization providing peer support for the divorced and separated of all faiths,

and Single Place. For details, call (734) 531-9479 or (248) 349-0911.

#### **Festive Eve Eucharist**

6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 24, at Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit, 9083 Newburgh, Livonia. Guest organist will be Joan Haggard. Christmas Day Holy Eucharist will be 10 a.m. Monday, Dec. 25.

#### **Services**

Worship at 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m., Christmas Eve service with music and readings highlighting the wonderful events surrounding our Savior's birth in Bethlehem 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 24, in the auditorium at Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile, Livonia. Bible School classes at 9:30 a.m. and

10:45 a.m. as usual. For more informa-

#### call (734) 464-6722. Holiday services

Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve are both on Sunday this year. There will be one service those mornings at 10 am. On Dec. 24 we will observe the fourth Sunday in Advent with Lessons and Carols. Christmas will be celebrated later that day at 4:30 p.m., 7:30 n m, and 11 n, m, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church, 30650 Six Mile, between Middlebelt and Merriman, Livonia. Everyone in the community is welcome to attend! Sermon series

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Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

1-800-579-7355 & fax: 734-953-2232

Livonia (www.HisChurch.usVirgin) Part 2 is Christmas a fairy tale? 10 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 24, Part 3 is God in the flesh 7 p.m. Dec. 24, Christmas Eve Service. All three parts take place at Livonia YMCA, 14255 Stark Road. For more information, call (248) 442-0422 or visit www.HisChurch.us.

#### **Christmas services**

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market Road, Farmington Hills, will hold special services on Christmas Eve, Sunday, Dec. 24 at 10 a.m., a family drama at 5 p.m. and traditional candlelight service at 7:30 p.m. Christmas Day service will be at 10 a.m. to ring in the King. More information available on Web site at www.poplcms.org or by calling (248) 553-3380.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church is a community site for the American Red Cross blanket drive. New twin size blankets are being collected for the homeless. This campaign runs through Jan. 1, 2007. The Red Cross would like to collect 7.000 blankets. Donations may be dropped off 9 a.m.

#### **Christmas Eve services**

to 4 p.m.

9:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 24; 4 p.m. Family Service with child care provided: 9 p.m. Choir Concert. 9:30 p.m. Festival Candlelight Eucharist, at Trinity Episcopal Church, 11575 Belleville Road, Belleville. Call (734) 699-3361.

#### Christmas dinner

Noon to 2:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 25, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Inkster and Middlebelt. Call (734) 421-1760. Twelve-step meetings follow the meal for those who wish to attend.

#### **Christmas services**

11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 24 services feature music by concert violinist Melody Wootton and guest vocalists Jon and Jamie Vandenburg, at Grace Baptist Church, 280 East Lincoln, Birmingham. Nursery care provided. For more information, call (248) 646-2000, ext. 0 or 10.

#### Christmas Day dinner

Dinner for anyone who is alone or doesn't have anywhere to go on Christmas Day, dinner will be served 1:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 25 (doors open at 1 p.m.) at Saint Dunstan Catholic Church, 1616 Belton, Garden City. There is no charge for the dinner but reservations are necessary. Call Mary or John at (734) 425-3282 for reservations or more information.

#### **World Peace service**

6:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 31, guest speaker is Robert Weir, Citizens for Peace facilitator for Western Michigan and author of Star of Hope, a biography of John McConnell, the founder of Earth Day, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Inkster and Middlebelt. Call (734) 421-1760.

#### New Year's Eve dance

Presented by Bethany Suburban West, a Catholic organization providing peer support for the divorced and separated of all faiths. Tickets \$35 and available now. First 100 ticket holders will have the chance for a cash prize, drawing will be at the dance. All separated, divorced and singles welcome. For details, call (313) 996-8644.

#### Singles New Year's Eve

Catholic Singles New Year's Eve Dinner & Dance catering to singles in their 30s, 40s and 50s 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 31. For tickets and information, visit www.CatholicSinglesNYE.com or call

#### Kathleen at (734) 657-7750.

Worship service All are welcome to attend 11 a.m. worship service Sundays, at Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne at Hunter, Westland. Join us at 7 p.m. Tuesdays in November and December as Pastor Louise Monacelli introduces The Jesus Experience, a series of videos offering insight into the people and situations God used to expand the church around the world. For more information, call (734) 721-0800.

#### UPCOMING

#### **Grief support**

Widowed friends, a peer group, is offering a six week series covering phases of grief, dealing with loneliness and coping with the loss of a spouse beginning 2-3:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 7, at Prince of Peace Parish, 4300 Walnut Lake Road, west of Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield. A \$20 fee is payable at the first meeting and covers all materials. Call (248) 681-9424 to register before Jan. 4. Monthly dance

#### Presented by Bethany Suburban West, a Catholic organization providing

peer support for the divorced and separated of all faiths, 8 p.m. to midnight (doors open at 7:30 p.m.) Saturday, Jan. 6, at St. Robert Bellarmine, 27101 W. Chicago at Inkster. Cost is \$10, includes refresh-

#### ments. For details, call (734) 261-5716. Christmas concert

Amahl and the Night Visitors, a concert presentation of Gian Carlo Menotti's delightful one-act opera featuring boy treble Jonah Yousif in the title role, and the rest of the cast and chorus comprised of members of the Kirk Chancel, Boys and Girls Choirs 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 14, at Kirk in the Hills. 1340 West Long Lake Road. Bloomfield Hills. For details, call (248) 626, 2515, ext. 109. This event is of particular appeal to families.

In the Neighborhood features the

#### A beautiful day

music of Mister Rogers 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan. 19-20, at First Presbyterian Church, 1669 West Maple, Birmingham. Mr. McFeeley (David Newell) is joined by local vocalists Judie Cochill, Marc Meyers and Tom Trenney and the Neighborhood Jazz Combo. No tickets required, no admission, but a freewill offering will be collected. Proceeds benefit Variety FAR Conservator, a nonprofit that provides creative arts therapy and recreation services for children with autism and other disabilities. Audience members are also encouraged to bring new or gently-used sweaters to contribute to the Mister Rogers' Sweater Drive for families who need extra warmth this winter. A meet the artists reception follow the concert. For more information, call (248) 540-9124.

#### **Education pilgrimage**

The third annual education pilgrimage of faith and hope to El Salvador is being organized by Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Plymouth, assisted by CRISPAZ (Christians for Peace in El Salvador). The pilgrimage will take place from Feb. 11-18, 2007. This is an intensive learning experience with special emphasis given to the voice and experience of the poor and marginalized. You will visit martyr sites, grassroots organizations, a rural community, and hear speakers on the history, politics, and economy of El Salvador. For details, call coordinator Richard Dahlke at (734) 455-6474.

#### ONGOING

#### Worship services

Sunday Worship services are 8 a.m. (traditional) and 10:30 a.m. (contemporary). Sunday School & Adult Bible Study at 9:15 a.m. Sunday. Grace Lutheran Church, 46001 Warren, between Canton Center and Beck, Canton. For information, call (734) 637-8160.

#### Worship service

At 10:30 a.m. Sundays at New Beginnings United Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware at Puritan, Redford. Congregation is hearing lessons from I Peter. For more information, call (313) 255-6330.

#### Adult literacy classes

Available for those wishing to improve their reading and writing skills. Open to adults age 18 and over. Trained tutors available for day and evening hours. Call (734) 421-0472. Leave your name and phone number and someone will be in contact with you.

#### Ladies Bible studies

Began Tuesday, Sept. 12, at Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, Northville. Call (248) 348-7600.

Women of the Word offer the Life Change Study of the book of Genesis by NavPress from 9:30-11:15 a.m. (\$15 registration feed includes interdenominational materials and free child care for ages through 5, and a study of the Patriarchs by Beth Moor from 6:45-8:15 p.m. (\$20 fee and no child care).

#### Personal ministry

Due Season Christian Church is a nondenominational, multicultural, full gospel church that offers Sunday worship services at 10 a.m. and Tuesday night Bible study at 7:15 p.m. Services are currently held at Stevenson High School on Six Mile, west of Farmington Road, Livonia. All are welcome. For information, call (248) 960-8063 or visit www.DueSeason.org.

#### **Farmington Women Aglow** Meets from 5-8 p.m. on the second

Tuesday of the month at the Farmington Community Library, 32737 W. 12 Mile. For more information, call Linda Boone at (248) 476-1053. Scripture studies

#### From 7-8:30 p.m. Mondays in the lower

level of Our Lady of Loretto Church, Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford. Call (313) 534-9000.

#### **TOPS** Stands for Take Off Pounds Sensibly,

the group meets at 7 p.m. every Thursday evening at St. Thomas a' Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley, Canton. Weigh-in is from 6:15-6:55 p.m. It is a weight support group that encourages members to lose weight sensibly and keep it off. For more information, call Mary at (734) 394-1328.

#### Learner's Bible study

At 7 p.m. Mondays, in Room A101, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville. Call (248) 374-5920.

#### Church service

Loving God by loving people, meets at 10 a.m. Sunday at Westwood Community Church, 6500 N. Wayne Road at Hunter, Westland. Doughnuts and coffee served. Call (734) 254-0093.

#### Senior activities

Gathering for seniors 50 years and older at 11:30 a.m. on the third Friday of every month at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 464-0990. Put together a salad dish and come out and meet other seniors. Lunch is served followed by fellowship with some games and stories.

#### Church activities

St. James Presbyterian Church

offers a Thursday dinner at 6 p.m. for \$5 prepared by Susan Navarro, The Cookie Lady, followed by Bible study at 7 p.m. and Chancel Choir rehearsal at 8 p.m.; Thrift store is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Saturday; 10 a.m. women's study group second Saturday of the month, and Sunday worship at 10 a.m. (nursery available) and children's class at 10:15 a.m. at 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313) 534-7730.

#### **Eucharistic adoration**

The monthly program of Parish Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration continues the third Wednesday of each month at St. Michael's Church of Livonia, corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads. The church will be open for worship from 10 a.m. until the 7 p.m. Benediction service. For information, call (734) 261-5331.

#### Worship services

All are welcome to attend worship service at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Five Mile and Inkster roads, Livonia. Service is held at 10 a.m. every Sunday with an education hour all for ages at 9 a.m. Call (734) 422-1470.

#### Unity of Livonia

Services at 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays at 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads. Call (734) 421-1760.

#### Shabbat services

The doors of Congregation Beit Kodesh, a Conservative synagogue at 31840 W. Seven Mile, between Farmington and Merriman, Livonia, are open to the Jewish community of southeastern Michigan. Call (248) 477-8974.

#### **Bet Chaverim**

Services are open to all living in the western counties including Canton, Plymouth, Livonia, and Northville. The congregation follows traditions of Reform Judaism. Interfaith families welcome to attend services at 321 S. Ridge, south of Cherry Hill, Canton. Call (734) 646-3864 for information or visit www.betchave

#### im.com. **Detroit World Outreach**

A nondenominational church with cutting edge drama productions, energized contemporary music, high-tech video and lighting, programs for kids and teens, for college students, singles, married adults and seniors. Services are at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday (6:30 p.m. the first Sunday of the month), Sunday school for all ages at 10 a.m. and Wednesdays at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. Call (313) 255-2222.

#### Trinity Episcopal Church

Sunday Services at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m., Wednesday service at 6:15 p.m., Bible Studies and Worship Center for all ages, at 11575 Belleville Road. (four miles south of Michigan Avenue), Belleville. Parents with Young Children Bible Study at 6 p.m. Sundays, includes dinner and child care. Call (734) 699-3361.

#### **Shabbat Rocks**

A musical celebration precedes traditional Shabbat service once a month at Adat Shalom Synagogue, 29901 Middlebelt in Farmington Hills. For more information, call (248) 851-5100 or visit www.adatshalom.org. **English classes** 

Conversational English as a Second Language classes are being offered for adults of all ages and backgrounds at 7 p.m. Monday and Tuesday at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia. Tutors will work on a one-to-one ratio to help students better understand and speak the English language. No charge. To register, call (734) 525-0191 or (734) 522-6830.

#### Sunday school

Congregation Beit Kodesh, at 31840 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Merriman, Livonia, is registering children, age 4 and up, for Sunday school. Financial assistance available. Special discounts for new members. For more information, call (248) 477-8974.

#### Services

St. John Lutheran Church (23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills) invites the community to a new worship service at 5:30 p.m. Saturdays. Also, Sunday traditional worship services are at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.; contemporary service is at 9:50 a.m.; and Sunday school hour for all ages is at 9:45 a.m. Call (248) 474-0584 for more information.

#### **Single Point Ministries** For ages 30 and older, join more

than 350 single adults at 11:30 a.m. Sundays for fellowship and related topics in Knox Hall at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Coffee, doughnuts, conversations are present. Call (248) 374-5920. Tennis continues from 1-5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, and 4-7 p.m. weekdays any time the weather is above 45 degrees, at Rotary Park, Six Mile and Hubbard, Livonia.

#### Bible talks

4 p.m. Sundays at the Friendship Center, 1119 Newburgh, Westland. Call (734) 728-9157.

#### **Worship services**

All are welcome to attend worship services 10 a.m. Sundays at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Five Mile and Inkster roads, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 422-1470.

## e-mail: oeobits@hometownlife.com

BILLY JOE YOUNG Passed away November 23, 2006 Memorial service will be held Friday, December 22, 2006, 11AM at Grace United Methodist Church, 400 East Field Ave, Venice, FL 34285. Farley Funeral Home, Venice Chapel is in charge of arrangements



#### EVELYN M. GILBERT

Age 85 of Plymouth, died December 2006. She was born on January 24, 1921 in Dearborn. She was a resident of the Plymouth Community for 48 years and was past President of the National Farm and Garden Club of Plymouth. Beloved wife of the late James. Dear mother of Beverly (Michael) Gregory and James R. Gilbert. Grandmother of Timothy M. Gregory and Kristyn (Paul) Mullens and great-grandmother of Emerson G. Wigand and Arianna M. Mullens. Funeral Services were held on Thursday at 11 am from the Schrader Howell Funeral Home of Plymouth.

#### FRANCES "BETTE" E. MUELLER (nee CHIPMAN)

Age 85 of Rochester Hills, died December 18, 2006. She had lived in the Boulevard Hills Nursing home, formerly Peachwood, for the last 18 years, first in Assisted Living and then in Nursing Care. Bette was born December 16, 1921 in Detroit. She lived and worked in Detroit all her life. In 1955, she married Karl E. Mueller They spent most of their married life in Royal Oak. Bette worked as an executive secretary for several companies and her husband was a technical writer. Bette was predeceased by her husband in 1987. Having contracted polio at the age of eight, Bette lived with physical limitations caused by leg weakness. During her childhood, she loved the Easter Seal camp and lake vacations with her family. Approximately 19 years ago, she contracted Post-Polio Syndrome. Later, she became wheelchair bound. She was the youngest resident of Borden Court, the assisted living section of Peachwood in Rochester Hills, and was featured in a number of their early ads because she was so attractive and so enthusiastic about her new surroundings and care. Bette had a keen interest in the world around her. politics and nature, and read several magazines faithfully. Bette was a member of the Congregational Church of Birmingham in Bloomfield Hills. She was admired by church members who were her faithful friends and visitors and by others who visited her over the years for the indomitable spirit. Memorial visitation will take place from 10:30 am until the time of the service at 11 am at the Congregational Church of Birmingham on Thursday, December 28, 2006. Arrangements by Sawyer-Fuller Funeral Home. Interment will take place at Forest Lawn Cemetery in Detroit. Memorial contributions can be made to the Society or the Church of Seal Congregational Birmingham.

#### JACK W. REYNOLDS

Age 89, of Plymouth, passed away December 17, 2006. He was born 1917 in Redford, Michigan to Walter J. and Verna E. (Wright) Reynolds. Jack was united in marriage to Janet (Stewart) Reynolds on September 1, 1945. He had been a resident of Plymouth for 45 years, and was formerly of Northville. Jack received a Bachelor of Science in Marketing from the University of Detroit and worked in Sales and Marketing for Gulf Oil. He proudly served his country as a Lieutenant (jg) with the Navy during WWII, where he received the American Campaign Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Area Medal, and WWII Victory Medal. Jack was a member of the VFW Post 4012 in Northville. He was an avid golfer, who also enjoyed bowling. He is survived by his sons Jay Reynolds of Birmingham and Jeff Reynolds of Plymouth. He was preceded in death by his wife, parents, and 1 sister. Private family services for Mr. Reynolds will be held. He will be laid to rest at Rural Hill Cemetery in Northville. The family would appreciate memorial contributions to American Red Cross, Southeastern Michigan Chapter, 100 E. Mack Ave., Detroit, MI 48201. Arrangements entrusted to Casterline Funeral Home, Inc. of Northville.

JOAN L. QUICK Age 76, of Stuart, FL., beloved wife of Mack Quick for 54 years, passed away on December 14, 2006. Besides her devoted husband, she is survived by their two children and their families: Greg Quick, his wife Krystine, and their sons Joseph, James & Michael; and Jane Brennan, her husband Henry, and their daughters Kate, Clare, and Margaret. Her great love of children took her into teaching after graduating from Western Michigan University Whether caring for her own children her grandchildren, or the children in Indiantown, where she volunteered Joan's greatest joy came from sharing her knowledge and love with the children. She gave these gifts of herself freely without desire for recognition, knowing the joy of this giving was its own infinite reward. Her genuine concern and caring for others was displayed in countless acts of kindness and in the sharing of her gifts with her many friends as an active member of the communities in which she lived, especially Mariner Sands, where she spent the last 20 years of her life. An unfailing optimist, she faced life's hardships with an uncommon grace and a determination to choose a positive attitude. For this, she earned the admiration an respect of her family & friends. Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Martin Funeral Home & Crematory, 961 S. Kanner Highway, Stuart, FL. 1(772)223-5550.



#### LINDSEY LINNELL

(PENSON) SANDERS Age 35, of Southfield, daughter of Charles and Carol Penson and wife to Tyrone D. Sanders, Jr. Lindsey was born August 20, 1971 in Southfield. She graduated from Gesu Catholic School, Detroit Benedictine High School, Michigan and University. On the morning of Wednesday, December 13th, Lindsey passed unexpectedly. She leaves to cherish her life, legacy and memory her loving husband, Tyrone D Sanders, Jr.; two adorable children, Lauryn Linnell and Bryce Logan; parents Charles and Carol Penson; grandfathers Carroll B. Evans and Isaac N Penson; in-laws, Troy and Pamela Rambo; grandparents Freeman and Ira Pickett; as well as a host of other family members and friends. Services were entrusted to HALEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS in Southfield. Funeral services were held on Tuesday, December 19, 2006, at Hope United Methodist Church in Southfield. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations In Memory of Lindsey Sanders may be made to the Southfield Community Foundation, 25630 Evergreen Road, Southfield, MI 48075.

Lindsey's Life-Story, Condolences & Directions can be found at www.haleyfuneraldirectors.com

#### **WINIFRED HUGHES** LONGLEY

Age 92, of Birmingham and Grosse Pointe, Michigan, died on December 17 of complications from a broken hip. She had resided at an assisted living community in Woodbridge, Connecticut for the past six years. Mrs. Longley was predeceased by her husband of 53 years, the late John H. Longley. The daughter of the late Frederick and Kathleen Hughes, Winnie" was a beloved mother, volunteer, artist and silversmith. Her Michigan roots go back several generations and she was well known by many in Grosse Pointe and Birmingham over the 86 years she lived in the area. She was active in The Village Woman's Club, Libri, Ibex, Bayview Yacht Club and Grosse Pointe Memorial Church. She is survived by her three sons. James Longley of Olympia, Washington; William Longley of Atlanta, Georgia and John Longley Jr. of Fairfield, Connecticut as well as six grandchildren. Winifred Longley touched many lives in Michigan and she was loved and admired by all who knew her. She will be remembered for her optimism, consideration of others, generosity and service to the community. A memorial service will be held in the spring of 2007 for Winnie and her husband Jack in Grosse Pointe. In lieu of flowers, a donation may be made to the National Osteoporosis Foundation.

#### LLOYD ALLEN RHOADS

With deepest sorrow we announce the death of Lloyd Allen Rhoads, age 85, wife of 53 years Goldie Lucille (Carter) Rhoads, died Dec. 29, 1994 Survived by son, Larry Rhoads & daughter, Linda Rhoads and his sis ters, Exie Manns & Charlotte Bruce. He was a Michigan Technological University graduate, WWII Vet & owned a commercial business building in Detroit. He traveled to Hawaii often and many other destinations. He was a Mason & Shriner supporting Shriners Crippled Children's Hospital memorial service to be held Friday, December 22, 2006, 7:00 P.M. at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, 33603 Grand River Ave, Farmington, MI.

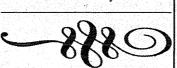
MARTIN GEORGE STOVER Age 73, of Rochester Hills passed away December 18, 2006. Mr. Stover owned and operated Stover's Lawn Mowing and Landscaping for 32 years. He was an avid hunter and loved the outdoors. Beloved husband of Lois (nee: Moore) celebrating 52 years. Dearest dad of Richard (LouAnn) Stover, Ron Stover, and Myrtle (Art) Thompson. Dear grandpa of Tim (Cathŷ) Stover, Anna (Jeff) Matty Paul (Christine) Stover, Stephanie andKatlyn Thompson. Dear great grandpa of Katelyn Stover and Elora Matty. Visitation will be Thursday 2:00-8:00 p.m. with Funeral Service Friday 10:30 a.m. at The Pixley Funeral Home, 322 W. University Drive in Rochester. Memorials to Kimberly Anne Gillary Foundation, 201 W. Big Beaver, Suite 1020, Troy,

MI 48084 appreciated. Share a memory with the family visit



#### PATSY L. HERBERT

Age 84, passed away on December 13, 2006. A native of Louisville, KY, Patsy moved to MI and became an elementary teacher for Inkster Public Schools. During her 37 years of serv ice, she became a vibrant force in the community as well. She retired in 1982 as principal of Carver School, traveling worldwide and staying active in numerous organizations. Patsy has received many honors most recently the YWCA Senior Woman of the Year. Patsy will be missed by her devoted relatives and all of her adoring friends. Services were held a Smith Chapel AME on December 20, 2006 with interment at United Memorial Gardens in Plymouth.



#### Deadlines: Friday 4:30 PM for Sunday Wednesday Noon for Thursday

e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to.

**Charolette Wilson** 734-953-2070 or Liz Keiser 734-953-2067 or toll free 866-818-7653 ask for Char or Liz

#### **OBITUARY POLICY**

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

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

Attn: Obits c/o Charolette Wilson 734-953-2232 For more information call:

(\*) A15

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248-474-3444

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United Methodist
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9:30 - Trad. Worship & Sun. Sch.
11:00 - Contemp. Family Worship
www.redfordalderspate.com www.redfordaldersgate.org

#### **Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church**

14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96 734-522-6830

Sunday Worship 8:15 & 11:00 am - Traditional



**Sunday School** 9:45 & 11 am Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413

Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ Pastors: Robert F Bayer and Anthony M. Creeden

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Pastor David Washington and The CCF Family would like to invite you to..

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www.CantonCF.org t's not about Religion, it's about Relationships.

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First United Methodist Church of Plymouth 45201 North Territorial Road (734) 453-5280 www.pfumc.org

#### **NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

"Open Hearts, Minds & Doors" 36500 Ann Arbor Trail

between Wayne & Newburgh Rds.

734-422-0149 Worship Service

December 24 & 31 10:00 AM No Sunday School Rev. Marsha M. Woolley

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9:45 - Modern

Staffed Nursery Available

**Worship Service** 9:15 & 11:00 A.M. **Sunday School** 9:15 & 11:00 A.M.

Nursery Provided The Rev. Timothy P. Halboth, Senior Pastor The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pastor

#### **HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**

9600 Leverne • So. Redford • 313-937 Rev. Jonathan Manor, Sr. Pastor Sunday Morning Worship 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

> Education Hour 9:45 a.m. Christian School Pre-Kindergarten-8th Grade For more information call 313-937-2233

#### **CATHOLIC**

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Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.

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A-LL

Sunday 10am & Wednesday 7pm 734-451-1877 Michigan Bible School Minister Tuesday & Thursday 7pm Minister Www.churchofchrist-west.org

16360 Hubbard Road Livonia, Michigan 48154

734-421-8451

ST. JOHN'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

574 S. Sheldon Road

Plymouth, Mich. 48170

734-453-0190

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Office Hours 9 A.M. - 3 P.M.

www.standrewschurch.net

The Rev. John W. Henry II Rector

Spoken service at 7:45 a.m.

Contemporary service at 9:00 a.m.

Education for All at 10:00 a.m.

www.stiohnsplymouth.org

....Holy Eucharist

.....Holv Eucharist

Wednesday 9:30 A.M.....

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## Nippy winter reveals new nature tales

I Have Felt The Searching Breath Of The Wintry Wind"

- Kyoroku

inter's breath transformed the landscape. She changed the game

Change came overnight. And winter's approach makes the mind ramble.

Forty-eight hours after that burst of Thanksgiving week warmth, a few confused blabber-mouth spring peepers figured out their seasonal error and fell silent. Within hours, first ice laced shorelines of woodland ponds with delicate design and incredible beauty. And as is their way, coyotes transformed from cryptic roadside scavengers of warm meat to bold, yet wary, open meadow hunters. Autumn's innocence gave way to winter's

At first light I haul firewood from the four-cord pile, brushing off the occasional woolly



Michigan **Naturally** 

Jonathan Schechter

sanctuary between the oak and cherry. And yes, I gently place the curled up caterpillars back in the pile of split and stacked wood. Will they survive? I have no idea. I do it anyway. A red squirrel watches from a limb, with an apple. My gift.

Wind bites my face in the moments of dawn. I embrace those pre-coffee moments, the wintry breath of a new season looming. I dream of snowshoeing and zombie-like patience ice fishing for perch with friends who understand. Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote,

"Nature never wears a mean appearance." Very true: I remember that from hippie days in Vermont.

Nature becomes generous to predators — and naturalists —

A red squirrel savors an apple.

for she gives up her secrets, betraying the movements of wild creatures.

This is a good time of the vear, a woods-walking invigorating time. Intimacy is revealed. A rabbit track leads to a thicket. Meadow mice leave snaking trails under snow. The deep cut of a deer's hoof slices through snow and frost crystals of mud. And our

ote, leaves trails and tales for those who can't resist studying the encounters.

Here and there that trail hesitates, as if the coyote wonders if it's too hard to dig out a hibernating woodchuck. It is too hard. And on the early December day I followed the coyote trail from the edge of my barn to the pond's edge, both she and I stopped at the water's edge, 50 feet shy of the snowcapped beaver lodge. She? Males mark to the side of their tracks. Females squat. Look to the urine trail for the gender answer.

I suspect that covote knows nothing of the green frogs, bullfrogs and turtles at pond's bottom, in states of near motionless. And I wonder if the covote knows of the treefrogs and wood frogs, frozen like ice cubes in breathless suspended animation under decomposing logs. For me, knowledge of the cryptic creatures of winter is just that, knowledge to appreciate, sometimes to

share. For the coyote: knowledge is life.

As the daylight wanes and a crackling cold night comes to life, a distant hoot carries on still air from the swamp beyond the iced pond. Not the great horned owl of last year, but the melodic melody of an elusive, less common, barred

For that swamp owl and coyote, nature's way in winter is kinder than we think.

Rabbits and mice move about in darkness, across the meadows in their play for

life, search for food and ways to retain body fat. Follow tracks and look for tales in the early days of winter at first light — before rising sun ruins tracks — and the bold story of night predation, belly-happy predators and creatures turned to protein unfolds.

That is winter. But the woods and the ponds are not asleep. Just different.

Jonathan Schechter writes on nature's way. E-mail him at oaknature@aol.com.

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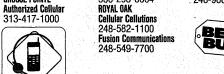
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Thursday, December 21, 2006

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

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The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

## Chiefs pin down title in tourney

Facing Canton's wrestling team these days is about as pleasant as shopping on Dec. 24.

The Chiefs wrapped up their second consecutive strong weekend Saturday when they captured the Canton Team Tournament by outlasting state-ranked New Boston Huron, 37-28, in the title match. Canton advanced to the final by sweeping Dearborn Fordson (43-28), Ann Arbor Pioneer (51-19), Monroe Jefferson (43-25) and Allen Park (64-11). Two Chiefs — Corey Phillips and Donnie Watkins — went unbeaten while three others -Donnie Laramie, Carl Lucke and Steve Cox — suffered just one setback on the day.

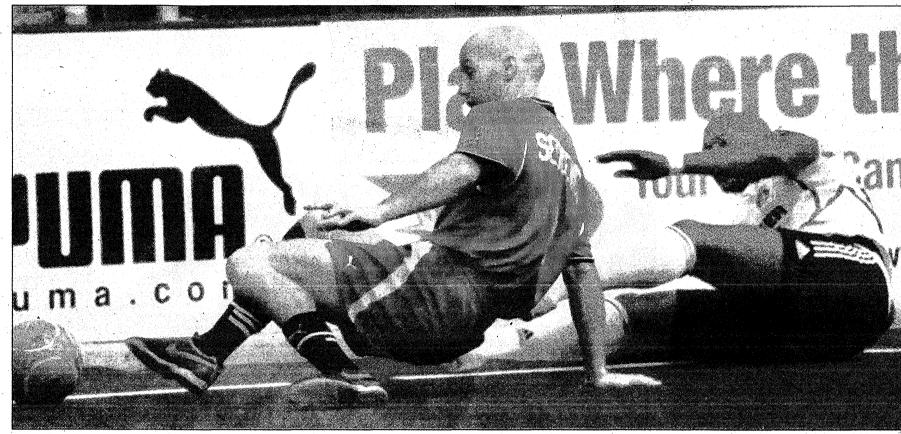
That was a phenomenal win over New Boston Huron," said Canton coach Casey Randolph, whose team improved to 11-1. "They have several state qualifiers back from last year's team and they're always ranked in the top 10 in Division III. They're an experienced team from top to bottom and they beat up John Glenn pretty good, which surprised me.

"The way we wrestled going into the New Boston Huron match had me doubting whether we could beat them. But I brought the kids together and told them that even though they weren't wrestling up to their capability, they could still win if they wrestled with heart and emotion. They did a good job of gutting it out."

Randolph said the highlights of the title-clinching victory were Joe Sanders' win at 160 and Adam Powers' performance at 189.

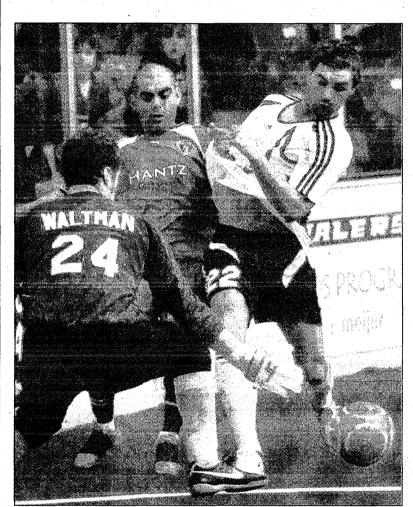
"Joe was losing late in the third period, but he got an escape with less than a minute to go to pull it out," Randolph said. "And Adam pulled out a 14-12 win after trailing in the third."

The Chiefs received some good news earlier in the week when the latest Michigan Wrestling Association polls had them ranked No. 9 in Division 1. Davison, who they defeated a week earlier, was ranked No. 3.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Detroit Ignition forward Bill Sedgewick hits the turf to secure control of the ball from Baltimore's Tarik Walker during Saturday night's 15-4 Ignition victory.



Detroit's Carlos Farias (red jersey) helps Ignition goalkeeper Danny Waltman fend off Baltmore's Jonathan Steele during Saturday night's 15-4 Ignition win.

## 

## Beasley's big night leads Ignition to lopsided victory over Baltimore

STAFF WRITER

The Detroit Ignition squared off against defending Major Indoor Soccer League champion Baltimore Saturday night with a back-up goalie and an interim coach.

Unfortunately for the Blast, there was no substitute for Detroit's Jamar Beasley. Beasley, the reigning MISL Player of the Week, proved to be a nightmare for Baltimore's defense, which he shredded for four goals and one assist in the Ignition's 15-4 triumph before 3,255 fans at the Compuware Sports Arena in

Township The victory — coupled with Sunday's 11-7 win at Chicago — propelled the suddenly scorching Ignition to 5-5, just one game behind MISL front-runner Philadelphia. The Blast slipped to 4-4.

"He does what he does," said Detroit interim coach Matt Johnson of Beasley, the league's leading scorer with 43

Even-Steven(son): 'Cats, Spartans tie

points. "Jamar is very fast and a great finisher. Tonight he got a lot of chances and he finished them."

Johnson, an assistant coach/player, has filled in the past three weeks for regular head coach Mark Pulisic, who has been sidelined with an undisclosed ill-

"Playing is a lot easier than coaching," Johnson said, smiling. "We'll know more about Mark next week. Hopefully, he's able to return soon."

Danny Waltman entered the weekend with the "backup goalkeeper" designation, but he performed like a seasoned All-Star against the Blast and Storm. On stringer Sanaldo, who was forced to sit out one game after receiving a red card the previous weekend, the former University of Washington star turned away 20 Baltimore shots, many from close range.

PLEASE SEE IGNITION, B2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's Jason O'Guinn is slowed down by Livonia Stevenson's Marcus Voran during the first period of Tuesday night's 2-2 tie at Compuware Sports Arena.

## the Spartans were penalized four times.

During the even-steven moments of Tuesday night's Western Lakes Activities Association hockey game, Plymouth played more than even with Livonia

STAFF WRITER

However, a pair of uneven moments — when the Wildcats were killing penalties — prevented the 'Cats from notching a significant victory against a quality opponent at the Compuware Sports Arena.

The Spartans scored a pair of power-play goals to forge a 2-2 tie with Plymouth, which now stands at 5-

2-2. Stevenson is 5-1-1. "When it's five-on-five, we can play with the best teams out there," said Plymouth coach Chuck Dubois. "But tonight — like we've done a lot this season — we had too many penalties. Because of the new rules, they're calling the games tighter now and we haven't adapted to it as fast as I thought we would."

The Wildcats were whistled for seven infractions;

Following a scoreless opening period, Luke Merandi gave Plymouth a 1-0 lead when he scored off an assist from Noel Aspenwail. Stevenson grabbed a 2-1 advantage with a pair of second-period lamp-lighters: Sean Lerg from Mike Jahn and Mark Bekkala; and Marcus Voran from Dan Darrow and R.J. Kierdorf.

Plymouth's Nick Cote made it 2-all off an assist from Mark Olivier early in the third period.

"It was a back-and-forth game," said Dubois. "I got a couple calls after the game and they said it was a good

PLEASE SEE TIE, B2

## Rhyme time: Honoring 2006's brightest prep stars



Wright

admit it: When it comes to rhyming, I'm no Robert Frost. Heck, I'm not even Eminem. That said, in the spirit of the season, I've decided to take another crack at a few year-end verses to honor some of the Plymouth-Canton

'll be the first to

Educational Park athletes and teams that excelled in 2006.

'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the "Park," not an athlete was stirring, the gyms were all dark.

Old sweat socks were hung on each locker with care, in hopes that St. Nick

would bring a new pair.

Swimmer Allison Schmitt, wow, she made quite a splash. If gold medals were money, she'd have tons of cash.

She set freestyle records at the D1 state meet; Allison is only a junior: Can you say, "Repeat"?

On the wrestling mats, Salem's Henderson did shine; Jeremy won an individual state title at one-eighty-nine.

He may not have been the strongest or quickest that day, but with flawless technique he held opponents at bay.

Speaking of wrestling,

Randolph's Chiefs did well, too; in the Regional final, they made the Shamrocks feel blue.

With Konrad and Donnie and Marwan and Corey, the Chiefs earned respect, not to mention great glory.

Plymouth's durable harriers enjoyed a memorable year; Coach Shaw was a smilin', he had reason to cheer.

The 'Cats won a league title and moved on to the state, where a 12th-place finish made their season just great.

Despite enough injuries to wear out the Red Cross, Canton's gridiron heroes suffered just one solitary loss.

With Moores running wild and the D-line crushing backs, the Chiefs racked up TD's, and a ton of QB sacks.

Plymouth's gridiron team, it showed plenty of grit; despite heart-breaking losses, the Wildcats never did quit.

And their running back, Nate, he could do everything. One night he scored twice and was named Homecoming king!

The Park's lady hoopsters outclassed most their foes. The games rarely went down to two late-game free throws.

From Houdek to Langham to Haywood to "Mitch," wins came fast and often,

their talent was rich.

Salem's Rocks lost a legend with the passing of "Mo"; when his wishbone was clicking, his gameplan: "Why throw?"

An old school-style coach, Moshimer didn't take any crap, and his teams played all-out from the opening snap.

If your name wasn't mentioned and you achieved a great feat, I am truly sorry, but, hey, I have a deadline to meet.

On a serious note, I'd like to say thanks for your time; my creative juices are dried up, this is it, my last rhyme.

Happy Holidays!

FROM PAGE B1

He duplicated the effort 24 hours later when he stopped 17 Storm shots.

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 21, 2006

'Sanaldo has been playing well, so there's nothing I can do but wait for my opportunity," said Waltman a few minutes after he stoned the Blast. "It wasn't an ideal situation with Sanaldo getting the red card, but I was excited to get into the game tonight. I'll take any chance I

"Every time I get out there it's a chance for me to show that I can be a No. 1 guy. It's always up to the coach who plays, but when you're the backup, you have to make a case for yourself every time you get out there.'

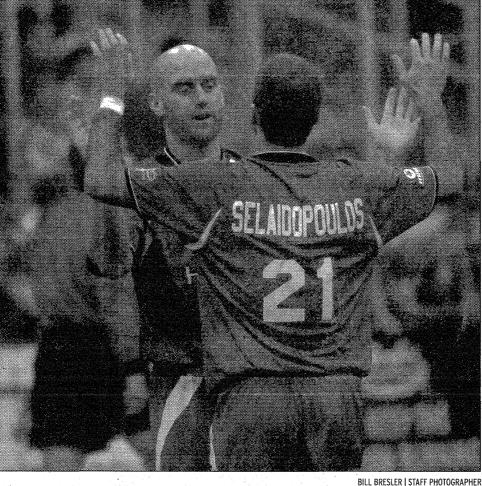
Waltman happily handled about three times as many autograph requests as he did Blast shots a few minutes after Saturday's game. It was hard to detect which he enjoyed more.

"I love it," he said, referring to the autographs. "That was me 15 years ago at Tacoma Stars games. I was the little kid hanging over the railing asking for autographs. After one game, the Stars' goalie, 'Iron' Mike Dowler, threw me a pair of sweaty goalie gloves. That's what made me want to become a goalie."

Waltman was ever so close to registering a shutout, which are about as rare in the goals-happy MISL as snow-less Decembers in Michigan.

The lone ball to get past Waltman was Denison Cabral's PK with 4:08 left in the game. The visitors' other goal — also off the foot of Cabral — came against third-string net-minder Droo Callahan, who filled in for Waltman while he served a penalty.

Detroit scored early and often to secure a comfortable 9-0 lead after the first quarter. Novi Marojevic ignited the onslaught with a three-point goal just 37 seconds after the last note of the



Detroit's Bill Sedgewick (facing camera) congratulates Kyt Selaidopoulos after he scored a goal in Saturday night's 15-4 victory over Baltimore.

"National Anthem" was delivered. Beasley then strung together three straight two-pointers to put the icing on a lop-sided opening 15 minutes.

The Ignition cushioned their lead to 11-0 5:40 into the second quarter on a textbook goal that included thread-theneedle passes from Marojevic and Beasley, who dished the ball to goal-

scorer Mike Apple 10 feet in front of the Blast net. Apple firmly deposited the ball past Baltimore goalie Sagu and into the back of the net.

Kyt Selaidopoulos and Beasley capped the hosts' scoring with second-half tal-

ewright@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2108

## **Penguins derail Cranes**

STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth-Canton-Salem girls hockey team checked another accomplishment off its "to do" list Saturday when the Penguins knocked off Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingswood, 3-1, in a Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League game played at the Wallace Ice Arena on the Cranes' campus.

It was the first-ever victory PCS registered at Cranbrook.

"It was a pretty big deal for the girls since it was the first time we've beat them at their place," said Penguins coach Eric Mink, whose team improved to 6-0-1 overall and 5-0-1 in the league. "Both teams came out skating well. They took a 1-0 lead, but our goalie - Kristie Kowalski kept us in it with some nice saves and we scored three in

the third to win it."

Following a scoreless first period, Audrey Stapleton, one of the most productive scorers in the MMGHSHL, gave the Cranes' a 1-0 advantage less than two minutes into the second stanza when she slid the puck into the back of the net.

PCS knotted the game at 1-1 with 6:41 left on Katie Zimmerman's goal from Adrienne Cercone and Nikki Songer.

Songer netted the game-winner from Zimmerman and Keely Kowalski with 2:26 left. Edra Burris tacked on an insurance goal 37 seconds later thanks to an assist from Amy Coleman.

Kristie Kowalski recorded 20

"The key for us was that we were able to kill off a couple of 5-on-3 penalties," said Mink.

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FROM PAGE B1

game to watch. I thought we were maybe a little sluggish, a little slow, but it always looks that way when we play on the big Olympic rink. We also seem to play a little tight when we play the Livonia teams."

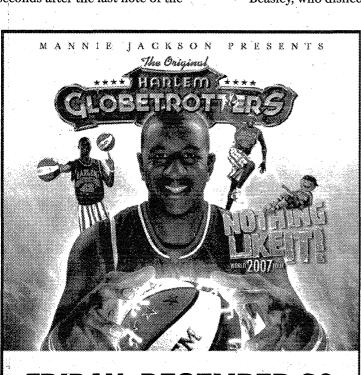
"For the most part we played pretty well, but it hurts to give up a third-period goal," Stevenson coach Mike Humitz

said. "Hopefully we'll learn from it and get better because of it. But I thought overall it was a pretty good game between two evenly matched teams."

Senior goalie Justin Desilets was stellar between the pipes for the Wildcats, turning away 22 shots.

"Justin played well and I thought Nick Cote had a good game, too," Dubois said.

Stevenson outshot Plymouth,

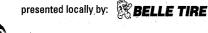


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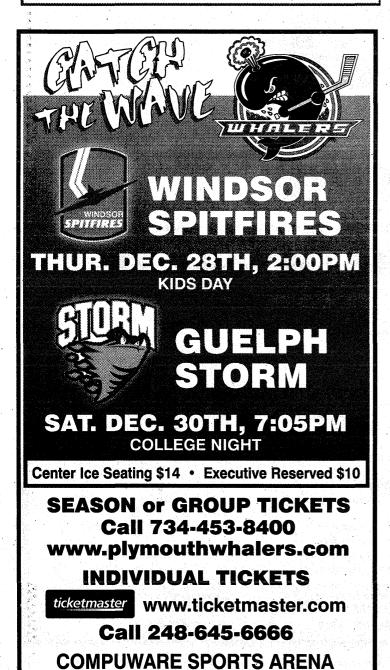
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## Local swim teams set sights on Mustangs, Spartans

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

The biggest question facing Western Lakes Activities Association boys swim teams heading into this season is the same as it was last year, the year before that and the year before that: Can anybody challenge powerhouses Northville and Livonia Stevenson?

Salem coach Chuck Olson isn't sure if his team is quite up to the task yet, but he's more than ready to find out.

Although some teams have already opened their seasons with dual meets, the 2006-07 campaign hits full stride Friday with the WLAA Relays at Salem.

"It should be the same old group at the top — Northville, Stevenson and probably Canton — but there should be better balance this year," said Olson. "We have a lot of new guys on the team who are practicing hard and getting better every day. We have a long ways to go, but the effort is there."

Pacing the Rocks this season will be senior captains Nick Leone and David Olson, both of whom can swim any event Olson pencils them in for.

"I'm looking for Nick to qualify for the state meet in some events early in the season," said Olson. "He should be a strong contributor who has a good senior season. "David has come a long way since his freshman year, and he'd be the first to admit it," said Olson. "He was basically a non-swimmer when he joined us, but through hard work, he's put up some good times."

Another versatile swimmer for the Rocks is senior Matt Underhill, who racked up big points for the Rocks as a junior.

"Matt is one of our better distance guys," said Olson. "He's also strong in the freestyle events and he's been our best backstroker the past couple of years. Whatever we need him to swim, he does well."

Olson also expects big things out of junior Stan Chen, who has qualified for the Division 1 state meet in the breast-stroke the past two years. He also swims the IM and the butterfly, Olson said.

#### **PLYMOUTH**

The Wildcats are coming off the most successful season in the school's short history when they finished third in the WLAA's Western Division and registered an overall record of 4-6. The biggest void coach Doug Schade will have to fill is the one left with the graduation of Andy Knisely, a state-qualifier in three events last season.

"So far, I'm very pleased with this

year's team," said Schade. "They are working very hard and making significant progress in the pool. We've really been focusing on non-freestyle events as we try to round out our team.

"We never have wins and losses as goals. One of our goals is to try to get better every day in practice. Another one of our goals is to compete with great focus and intensity at every dual meet. Lastly, we want to be a team that can swim many different athletes in many different events so we can match up well against other teams in dual meets."

The Wildcats' top returner is Michael Conger.

"He's in great shape right now after spending the fall at the Bulldog Aquatic Club," said Schade. "I look for him to compete pretty much anywhere with great success in our league."

Plymouth's top diver is Justin Magill, whose best score so far is 184.

Other key contributors include Ben Ambrose, Jack Distel, Justin Scaparo, Kyle Wilkenson, Chris Wilson, Ethan Weiner, Jason Oldani, Mike Snyder, Paul Snyder, Tony McLaughlin and Joe Endy

#### CANTON

Only Northville and Stevenson stood between the Chiefs and a WLAA title

last season. Gone from the third-place unit are Nick Landis, Shogo Uno, Nathan Phillips, Derek Schmitt, Alex Marinica and Dan Anthony.

"We have good strength up front," said Canton coach Ed Weber. "Our top swimmers have some big goals and

now's the time to go after those goals." Serving as captains for the Chiefs will be seniors Matt Carlson, Rob Blaesser

and Jon Templeton.

"Matt is a hard worker who is in the best shape he's been in in four years," said Weber. "He's very focused on what

he wants to accomplished.

"Rob has turned into a very good leader the past year or two. This should be a good year for him in the freestyles, IM and backstroke. Jon will help us in the 50 and 100 free."

Weber praised the perseverance of senior Ross Schwarz, a freestyler.

"Ross has battled through a lot," said Weber. "The first year he was sick and the second year he broke his arm. Last year, after missing the two previous years, he fell just a couple seconds off the 500 freestyle state qualifying cut. He's healthy now and doing very well."

Other key contributors include Joe Spillane, Russell McBain, Eric Stanko, Kevin Karlinski and Chris McGinnis.

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#### SWIM RESULTS

SALINE 93 CANTON 92 Tuesday at Canton

200-yard medley relay: 1. Saline (Nick Schneider, Sam Wittig, Noah Whitener, Justin Duong), 1:46.59; 2. Canton (Robert Blaesser, Matt Carlson, Chris Marinica, Chris McGinnis), 1:48,32; 3. Saline, 1:57.95.

**200 freestyle:** 1. Ross Schwarz (C), 1:57.10; 2. Richard Zhang (C), 1:59.29; 3. Alex Wu (S), 2:03.57.

**200 IM:** 1. Matt Carlson (C), 2:04.17; 2. Robert Blaesser (C), 2:15.03; 3. Sam Wittig (S), 2:18.43

50 freestyle: 1. Noah Whitener (S), 22.46; 2. Justin Duong (S), 23.96; 3. Jon Templeton (C), 24.18.

1-meter diving: 1. Joel Chambers (S), 211.35; 2. Andrew Devries (S), 191.30; 3. Chris McGinnis (C), 145.75. 100 butterfiv: 1. Noah Whitener (S), 55.42; 2.

Jon Templeton (C), 1:03.41; 3. Jacob Mauthe (S), 1:03.85.

100 freestyle: 1. Matt Carlson (C), 51.00; 2.

Justin Duong (S), 51.54; 3. Alex Wu (S), 54.02. 500 freestyle: 1. Ross Schwarz (C), 5:23.50; 2. Richard Zhang (C), 5:30.40; 3. Travis Littlejohn (S), 5:42.28. 200 freestyle relay: 1. Canton (Jon Templeton,

Chris McGinnis, Ross Schwarz, Matt Carlson), 1:38.09; 2. Saline, 1:41.60; 3. Canton (Eddie Koelzer, Quest Miller, Chris Marinica, Richard Zhang), 1:46.13. 100 backstroke: 1. Robert Blaesser (C),

1:00 Backstroke: 1. Robert Blaesser (C), 1:00.64; 2. Nick Schneider (S), 1:01.81; 3. Frasier Christie (S), 1:08.21. 100 breaststroke: 1. Kevin Karlinski (C),

Frasier Christie (S), 1:08.21. 100 breaststroke: 1. Kevin Karlinski (C), 1:09.64; 2. Sam Wittig (S), 1:09.76; 3. Drew Dakin (S), 1:10.24.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Saline (Noah Whitener, Alex Wu, Daniel Kung, Justin Duong), 3:34.79; 2. Canton (Ross Schwarz, Kevin Karlinski, Jon Templeton, Robert Blaesser), 3:39.72; 3. Saline, 3:51.33. CANTON'S DUAL-MEET RECORD: 1-1.

## Hottest team in OHL? Try the Whalers

It's fair to say that the Whalers are playing with a quiet confi-

Plymouth swept through an Eastern Ontario road swing last weekend, winning three games by identical 5-1 scores last Thursday in Peterborough, Friday in Oshawa and Sunday in Brampton. The Whalers' victories — coupled with Saginaw's 5-3 loss to Oshawa on Sunday — moved Plymouth (22-10-1-1) into a first-place tie in the Ontario Hockey League's West Division with the Spirit

with the Spirit.

Plymouth has gone 14-1-1-1
over its last 17 games, picking up
30 out of a possible 34 points
since Nov. 10.

Evan Brophey's power play goal at 14:04 of the second period snapped a 1-1 tie on Sunday and the Whalers pulled away from Brampton. Besides Brophey, Vern Cooper, Dan Collins, Joe McCann and Andrew Fournier scored for the Whalers. Brophey had another hot weekend with two goals and six assists for eight points over the three games. The Chicago Blackhawks' draftee now has 14 goals and 46 assists, which is good enough for fifth in the OHL scoring race.

Plymouth is currently playing without James Neal (18-21-39), who made Canada's National Junior Team and will be committed to that team through early January.

The Whaler power play continues to be a factor over the last month. Plymouth scored three power plays goals Thursday night in the victory over Peterborough, added four more power-play goals against Oshawa and had a power-play goal against Brampton.

The Whalers have moved up to 12th overall in the OHL on the power play at 18.5 percent.

The Whalers continue to lead the league in penalty killing,

going into the Christmas Break with an 86.9 percent success ratio.

"The key for us is we're play with a lot of confidence," said Whalers captain Steve Ward. "We're going into games now with a bit of a swagger knowing we should win if we work hard. That's been the key — we know if we work hard, we have enough skill to win most of the time."

Although Brownstown's
Jeremy Smith and Neuvirth are
rookies, they've provided
Plymouth with strength in goal.
Plymouth leads the OHL in team
defense, allowing 93 goals
through 34 games.

"Right now, we have a ton of confidence in them," Ward said. "They're both playing unbelievably well, and they're both a huge part of our success. We've been playing great team defense and they've been coming up with the big saves when we need them. I think that's been a big key."

## Zinn brothers lead PCA to victory

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BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

STAFF WRITE

Oh, brothers!

That's what Macomb Christian must have been thinking late Tuesday night after dropping a never-in-doubt 72-23 decision to Plymouth Christian Academy. The Eagles were led by the Zinn brothers — Brent and Trevor, who scored 15 and 14 points, respectively.

Matt Saagman (eight points) also had a solid night for the winners as did Ryan Govan, who led the team in rebounds.

The victory was the fourth straight for PCA after its opening-night setback to Lutheran Westland.

"Our intensity was great tonight right from the start," said PCA coach Dave Yost. "The kids played hard the entire game and all 12 players got to play a lot.

"Brent Zinn had an exceptional game coming off the bench. He was very unselfish with

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the ball and he made some nice passes. Devyn Govan was a force inside, too."

The Eagles raced to a 23-5 lead after one quarter and 46-13 halftime advantage. They led 60-17 with eight minutes to play.

**A.A. PIONEER 62, CANTON 47:** On Tuesday, the visiting Pioneers bolted to a 17-6 lead after one quarter and never looked back to improve to 3-1. The Chiefs slipped to 0-4.

Pioneer led 35-19 at the half and 47-30 with eight minutes to play.

Senior center Ryan Waidmann paced the Chiefs with 17 points, six rebounds and four assists. Seniors Eric Thornton and Steve Paye both chipped in with seven points a piece.

Kevin Keeler led Pioneer with 18 points.

Matt Pettit had 17 and J.T. Knight netted 10.

Matt Pettit had 17 and J.T. Knight netted 10 Canton hit 9-of-13 free throws (69.2 percent) and 19-of-42 field goals (45.2).

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## Polar opposites clash as Lions host

■ he Chicago Bears are 12-2. The Detroit Lions are 2-12. The Bears, are going to the playoffs again. The Lions are going to watch the playoffs again. The Bears may be going to the Super Bowl. The Lions may be going to the Super Bowl if they can find airfare to Miami and good tickets to the game.

Nightmare Part Six is the best way to describe this disaster of a season for the Lions. Since 2000, they have played 94 football games and lost 71 of them. Short of shutting out the Bears and the Cowboys in the final two weeks, there really is nothing the Lions can do to salvage anything from this hideous '06 campaign.

'This has just been awful and I am tremendously disappointed how things have gone," cornerback Dré Bly said. "We'll just try and finish strong and get ready for next year.



Mark Wilson

record in the division on the road during the Matt Millen era is an absolute horror story. The loss to the Packers last Sunday in Green Bay stretched the losing streak in Wisconsin to 16 consecutive games. Overall since that 2000 season, the Lions are 5-42 away from Ford Field. In 2000 alone, they went 5-3 on the road.

"They're playing hard and doing things right, but I am looking for that guy who can win the game for us when it counts," first-year coach Rod Marinelli said after the 17-9 loss to the Packers.

In the last six games, the Lions have scored five touchdowns. They got three Jason Hanson scored more than one TD in a game was against Atlanta way back on Nov. 5. It's also the last time the Lions won a football game. In contrast, San Diego's record-setter LaDanian Tomlinson has scored 16 touchdowns by himself the past six weeks for the Chargers. Like the Bears, San Diego is also 12-2.

If you can't get into the end zone, you can not win games in the National Football League bottom line.

'The effort and the energy was there, the execution was not," Marinelli said. "It was not good enough."

The Bears beat the Lions back in Week 2 at Soldier Field. That's the game where Chicago led 24-0 at halftime and coasted to a 34-7 victory. Detroit had just 46 yards rushing that day. Compared to the last few weeks, 46 yards on the ground seems like a dream. Quarterback

Jon Kitna was the Lions' leading rusher Sunday, but he went backward more than he went forward against the Pack.

"Let's be honest, we caused our own problems," Kitna said after that game in September.

That could have been a comment from any game in the past six weeks, heck any game all season. The turnovers continue to mount; three more against Green Bay. Thirteen turnovers the past three games are not going to get it done. Kitna has fumbled, had balls tipped and intercepted and generally not played near good enough to win games.

One touchdown a week or less is what got Steve Mariucci fired last season. Mike Martz's offense has not been an image of his "Greatest Show on Turf" moniker in St. Louis. Losing running back Kevin Jones against Minnesota





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## Bears in Sunday's 2006 home finale

vas healthy. The offensive line has struggled to eep healthy bodies around the two anchors, Dominic Raiola and Jeff Backus. New guys hould wear "Hello, My Name Is ..." stickers.

"We just won't use injuries as an excuse. njuries happen across the NFL and you just ave to play above it," Marinelli said.

It's not clear what kind of a game the Bears rill bring with them to Ford Field in the home inale this Sunday. They have already clinched ome-field advantage throughout the NFC layoffs. Coach Lovie Smith could recruit forner Bears Gale Sayers, Dick Butkus and Doug luffone to play and it wouldn't matter. All three f those guys are in their 60s.

"We're not going to shut down our team. We ave a few things to correct heading into the layoffs," Smith said to reporters after the Bears eat Tampa in overtime last Sunday.

Yeah, those two losses really stink. Lions' fans feel so bad for Chicago that they couldn't win them all. Even with 12 wins, the Bears have a quarterback issue with Rex Grossman. It's something All-Pro linebacker Brian Urlacher takes exception to.

"We're 12-2; we have home-field advantage in the playoffs ... what more do you want from us at this point in time?" he said.

Twelve wins. As it stands now, the Lions have won 12 games over the past three years. Six consecutive 10-plus loss seasons is the second longest streak in NFL history. It's sad when you start longing for the days of 5-11. If they lose to the Bears and then to Dallas in the season ender New Year's Eve, it will only be the Lions' third 2-14 record in team history.

Speaking of eves, this will be the second straight season the Lions play on Christmas Eve. Last year, they beat the Saints in San Antonio on that last-second Hanson field goal. New Orleans had been displaced from its home by Hurricane Katrina. The Saints have turned around their fortunes in one year under new coach Sean Payton. They have won nine times and are heading to the postseason. In fact, seven first-year head coaches with new teams have won four or more games. The only two who haven't are Marinelli and Art Shell in Oakland.

Welcome to the battle for the first overall pick in the 2007 NFL Draft. The Lions and Raiders are both 2-12. Don't for a minute believe the Lions are going to tank the final two games to get that top choice. There are 53 guys in that locker room that couldn't care less about the No. 1 pick next April. They may not be here to see it. It's no motivation for any man playing for a con-

"I don't think about that at all. It never enters my mind about draft picks. I am here to win games and play for my future; that's it," Bly said.

The fans could get ugly this Sunday. Rumors of a planned walkout during the game have been floating around the Internet for weeks. It was bad last season during the final home game against Cincinnati. Pride is, all the Lions have left to play for against the NFC North champion Bears.

Let's hope the Lions actually have some pride left.

Mark Wilson is host of the Lions pre- and postgame shows on WKRK-FM (97.1). He's a former Associated Press and Michigan Association of Broadcasters Michigan Sportscaster of the Year. He lives in West Bloomfield.



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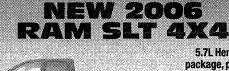
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#### Charter Township of Canton Board Proceedings-December 12, 2006

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton was held Tuesday, December 12, 2006, at 1150 Canton Center S. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Roll Call Members Present: Bennett, Kirchgatter, LaJoy, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo Members Absent: Caccamo (on Military leave) Staff Present: Executive Director Santomauro, Director Conklin, Director Faas, Director Eva Adoption of Agenda Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to approve the agenda as amended removing Board Study Minutes, December 5, 2006 from the agenda. Motion carried by all members present. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the Board Minutes of November 28, 2006. Motion carried by all members present. Citizens Non Agenda Item Comments: Pat Winters, 42109 Cherrylawn Court, is concerned with the increase in water bills due to no sump pump. Payment of Bills Motion by Kirchgatter, supported by McLaughlin to approve payment of the bills as presented. Motion carried by all members present.

Expenditure Recap	for Decem	ber 12, 2(	006
General Fund	101	\$	561,698.48
Fire Fund	206		37,553.32
Police Fund	207	\$	105,414.27
Summit Operating	208		23,243.84
Street Lighting	219		18,121.04
Cable TV Fund	230		2,219.40
Twp Improvement	246		154,311.01
E-911 Utility	261		10,234.85
Auto Forfeiture(wwa)	<b>267</b> .		5,546.00
Federal Grants Fund	274		1,290.00
Auto Theft Grant	289		45,555.70
Downtown Dev. Auth.	294		25,487.48
Cap Proj-Summit Const	402		1,190.00
Cap Proj-Road Paving	403		115,475.39
Bldg Auth Construction	469		147.00
Golf Fund	584		2,757.18
Water & Sewer Fund	592		1,132,704.85
Trust & Agency Fund	701		5,445.00
Construction Escrows	702		90.00
Post Employ. Benefits	736		6,070.56
Koppernick Corporate	852		77.00
Tonquish Creek Storm	854		98.00
S. Haggerty Rd. Paving	865		175.00
Total - All Fu	ınds		2,254,905.37

PRESENTATION: Item 1. PRESENTATION OF FIRE DEPARTMENT PROMOTION BADGES. Clerk Bennett presented Lieutenant Robert Glenn, Lieutenant Craig Poike, Lieutenant Thomas Lutkehoff and Lieutenant Paul Pavloff with their lieutenant badges.

PUBLIC HEARING: Item 1. PUBLIC HEARING REQUEST FOR CLASS C LIQUOR LICENSE TRANSFER TO GADEREN LLC. DBA GINGER RESTAURANT, AT 8465 N. LILLEY ROAD (PARCEL ID# 71-00699-0004-001), CANTON TOWNSHIP, CANTON, MI. 48187, WAYNE COUNTY. (CLERK) Motion by Bennett, seconded by McLaughlin to open the Public Hearing at 7:10 p.m. to consider the transfer of a Class C liquor license currently held in escrow at 14850 Dix-Toledo Road, Southgate, MI, to Gaderen LLC/DBA Ginger Restaurant, located at 8465 N. Lilley Road, Canton Township, Canton, MI 48187, Wayne County. Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Zarbo, supported by Bennett to close the Public Hearing at 7:13 p.m., to consider the transfer of a Class C liquor license currently held in escrow at 14850 Dix-Toledo Road, Southgate, MI to Gaderen LLC/ DBA Ginger Restaurant, located at 8465 N. Lilley Road, Canton Township, Canton, MI 48187, Wayne County. Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to transfer a Class C liquor license currently held in escrow at 14850 Dix-Toledo Road, Southgate, MI, to Gaderen LLC/DBA Ginger Restaurant, and also a new Sunday Sales Permit and an official Permit for the Sale of Food on Sundays between the hours of 10:00 am. And 12:00 noon, located at 8465 N. Lilley Road, Canton Township, Canton, MI 48187, Wayne County. Motion carried by all members present.

CONSENT CALENDAR: Item APPOINTMENTS TO THE SENIOR ADVISORY COUNCIL. (CLS) Motion by Bennett, seconded by Kirchgatter to approve the following appointments to the Senior Advisory Council for a three (3) year term beginning January 1, 2007 through December 31 2009, and the Alternates to a one (1) year term, January 1 December 31, 2007. One (1) nominee will be appointed to fill the remainder of an existing term that expires in December, 2007. Pioneer Club Marie Davis (current member whose term expires 12/ 06) Jean Suttle- Alternate Royals Club Barbara Kulp (current member whose term expires 12/06) Carol Evans and Audrey Linn-Alternates (current members whose terms expire 12/06) Zester Club Evelyn Aksamit (current member whose term expires 12/06) rochmal - Alternate (current member whose 12/06) Katie Maglocci - for a term to expire in December, 2007.Ms. Maglocci is replacing Stella Grzesik who resigned). Motion carried by all members present. **Item 2. AUTHORIZE TRANSFER** FROM PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT FUND TO COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR PAVED SURFACES. (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to authorize the transfer of \$240,000 from the Public Improvement Fund to the Community Improvement Fund to provide funding for paved surface maintenance and repair on Township property. Motion AUTHORIZE carried by all members present. Item 3. TRANSFER FROM GENERAL FUND TO SOUTH HAGGERTY ROAD PAVING SPECIAL ASSESSMENT BOND DEBT SERVICE FUND. (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the transfer of \$241,400 from the General Fund to the South Haggerty Road paving special assessment debt service fund. I further move to approve the following budget amendments for this transfer: GENERAL FUND:

101-000-699-0000 \$241,400 Appropriation from Fund Balance Increase Appropriations:

Transfer to Special Assessment Funds 101-959-965-8000 \$241,400 This budget amendment increases the Transfers Out Division budget from \$4,267,822 to \$4,504,222, and the General Fund budget from \$28,248,309 to \$28,489,709. SOUTH HAGGERTY ROAD PAVING DEBT SERVICE FUND: Increase Revenues:

865-000-676-1010 \$241,400 Transfer from General fund **Increase Appropriations:** 865-905-999-0000 \$241,400 Transfer to Fund Balance This budget amendment increases the South Haggerty Road Paving Special Assessment Debt Service Fund budget from

\$215.350 to \$456.750. Construction Fund summary: \$2,140,000 Special assessment bond issue General Fund contribution 74.800 Interest income <u> 138,015</u> **Total Funding** \$2,352,815 \$1,874,171 Project costs Bond issuance costs 51.878 Transfer to General Fund <u>81,651</u> **Total Expenses** \$2,007,700 Balance transferred to debt fund \$ 345,115 Debt Service Fund summary:

\$1,611,648 Special assessments Interest on assessments 499,307 Transfer from construction fund 345,115 Interest income 41,309 \$2,497,379 **Total Funding** Bond principal costs \$2,140,000 Bond interest costs 595,461

Bond trustee costs

\$2,738,786 Total bond costs \$ 241,407 Motion carried by all members Funding shortage Item 4. AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS THROUGH THE END OF 2006. (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to authorize the payment of the Township's bills on December 29, 2006, as normally scheduled, subject to prior review by the Clerk and Treasurer. Motion carried by all members present.

3,325

Item 5. APPROVE WAIVER FROM PURCHASING POLICY REGARDING CAPITAL SPENDING. (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to waive the Township's purchasing policy requirement that capital funds must be expended by September 30, 2006 and to approve the low price quote of \$5,000, submitted by Ponds Painting for painting the Cady-Boyer Barn. Motion carried by all members present. REAPPOINTMENT TO CDBG ADVISORY COUNCIL. (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to reappoint Susan Wooley to the CDBG Advisory Council for a two-year term, effective January 1, 2007, and expiring December 31, 2009. Motion carried by all members present. GENERAL CALENDAR: Item 1. CONSIDER CANTON TECHNOLOGY REZONING. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to adopt the resolution rezoning request of Truman Timmis. Motion carried by

all members present. RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON Rezoning Request of Truman Timmis WHEREAS, the petitioner has requested approximately 22.53 acres located on the south side of Michigan Avenue between Belleville and Beck Road be rezoned from LI-2, Light Industrial 2 District to LI-1, Light Industrial 1 District WHEREAS, the requested rezoning WOULD be in conformity with the Future Land Use Map of the Comprehensive Plan; and WHEREAS, the Canton Township Planning Commission recommended APPROVAL of the request; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton, Michigan does hereby APPROVE the request of the petitioner to rezone property identified by property tax EDP Nos. 131-01-0001-000, 131-01-0002-000, 131-01-0003-000, 131-01-0004-000, 131-01-0015-000 and 131-01-0023, including the general common elements for the pond and roadway, from LI-2, Light Industrial 2 to LI-1, Light Industrial 1 District. Item 2. CONSIDER GRIGORIAN REZONING. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to adopt the resolution rezoning request of Sharon Grigorian. Motion carried by all members present. RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON Rezoning Request of Sharon Grigorian WHEREAS, the petitioner has requested approximately 1.51 acres located on the south side of Michigan Avenue west of Belleville Road be rezoned from GI, General Industrial District to C-3, Regional Commercial District WHEREAS, the requested rezoning WOULD be in conformity with the Future Land Use Map of the Comprehensive Plan; and WHEREAS, the Canton Township Planning Commission recommended APPROVAL of the request; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton, Michigan does hereby APPROVE the request of the petitioner to rezone property identified by property tax EDP No. 132-99-0002-002 to C-3, Regional Commercial District. Item 3. CONSIDER SPECIAL LAND USE REQUEST FOR WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS TOWER. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to adopt the resolution for special land use for a Wireless Communications Tower. Motion carried by all members present. RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON Special Land Use for a Wireless Communications Tower WHEREAS, Canton Township has requested special land use approval for a wireless communications tower to be located at the Public Works facility on the east side of Sheldon Road south of Michigan Avenue; and, WHEREAS, the requested use WOULD be in conformity with all of the requirements for communications towers in the zoning code; and WHEREAS, the Canton Township Planning Commission recommended APPROVAL of the request;  $\hat{\mathbf{NOW}}$  THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton, Michigan does hereby APPROVE the request for a special land use to locate a wireless communications tower on Parcel No. 136-99-0018-702 as proposed, based on the above analysis. Item 4. AWARD BID FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 100 FOOT AERIAL PLATFORM TRUCK. (PSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to award the bid for a 100' Aerial Platform truck in the amount of \$818,565 to Halt Fire, Inc, 50168 West Pontiac Trail, Unit #5, Wixom, MI 48393; to be paid out of FY2007 Fire Capital Outlay account # 206 336 977 0000 (Cost Center P00055 0000 0000). Motion carried by all members present. Item 5. AWARD BID FOR REPLACEMENT OF THE FLOOR AT THE RANGE BUILDING. (PSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to award the bid for the range building floor replacement to J.M. Eadeh Building Co., 49311 N. Hampton Ct., Canton, MI 48187 in the amount of \$7,455 to be paid out of Police FY2006 Maintenance and Repair of Grounds and Building Account #207 301 930 0000 (Cost Center P00049 0194 0083). Motion carried by all members CONSIDER ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMPENSATION. (PSD) WHEREAS, according to MCL 41.95(3) in a township that does not hold an annual meeting, the salary of officers composing the township board shall be determined by the township board, WHEREAS, the township board deems that an adjustment in the salary of the office of Supervisor is warranted in consideration of the increase of the cost of living since township board members' salaries were last adjusted, now BE IT RESOLVED, that as of January 1, 2007, the salary of the office of Supervisor shall be as follows: Supervisor \$123,372 salary (not directly performing assessing) The foregoing resolution offered by board member Clerk Bennett Supported by board member Treasurer Kirchgatter Upon a roll call vote, the following voted: -Aye -Bennett, Kirchgatter, LaJoy, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo Nay -None. The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted. Resolution #2 WHEREAS, according to MCL 41.95(3) in a township that does not hold an annual meeting, the salary of officers composing the township board shall be determined by the township board. WHEREAS, the township board deems that an adjustment in the salary of the office of Clerk is warranted in consideration of the increase of the cost of living since township board members' salaries were last adjusted, now BE IT RESOLVED, that as of January 1, 2007, the salary of the office of Clerk shall be as follows: Clerk \$100,708 salary The foregoing resolution offered by board member Clerk Bennett Supported by board member Trustee McLaughlin Upon a roll call vote, the following voted: - Aye -Bennett, Kirchgatter, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo Nay - LaJoy. The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted. WHEREAS, according to MCL 41.95(3) in a township that does not hold an annual meeting, the salary of officers composing the township board shall be determined by the township board, WHEREAS, the township board deems that an adjustment in the salary of the office of Treasurer is warranted in consideration of the increase of the cost of living since township board members' salaries were last adjusted, now BE IT RESOLVED, that as of January 1, 2007, the salary of the office of Treasurer shall be as follows: Treasurer \$100,708 salary The foregoing resolution offered by board member Clerk Bennett Supported by board member Trustee Zarbo Upon a roll call vote, the following voted: - Aye -Bennett, Kirchgatter, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo. Nay - LaJoy. The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted. Resolution #4 WHEREAS, according to MCL 41.95(3) in a township that does not hold an annual meeting, the salary of officers composing the township board shall be determined by the township board, WHEREAS, the township board deems that an adjustment in the salary of the office of Trustee is warranted in consideration of the increase of the cost of living since township board members' salaries were last adjusted, now BE IT RESOLVED, that as of January 1, 2007, the salary of the office of Trustee shall be as follows: Trustee \$12,172 salary The foregoing resolution offered by board member Clerk Bennett Supported by board member Treasurer Kirchgatter Upon a roll call vote, the following voted: -Aye -Bennett, Kirchgatter, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo. Nay - LaJoy. The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted. Item 7. CREATE AND FILL NEW POLICE OFFICER POSITIONS. (PSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to approve the creating and filling two (2) police officer positions for 2006 and three (3) positions for 2007 for a total of five (5) new police officer positions. Motion carried by all members present. Item 8. REQUEST TO CREATE AND FILL AN EQUIPMENT OPERATOR FOR PARKS. (CLS) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to create and fill for an Equipment Operator for the Parks Division. Motion carried by all members present. Item. 9. FELLOWS CREEK GOLF CLUB REMODEL COSTS. (CLS) Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to increase the following projects for Fellows Creek Golf Club with all expenses charged to Account # 469-900-975-2110, Buildings-Golf Course: Approve the increase of \$1,750 to the original Purchase Order No. 61898 for Ponds Painting for a total purchase order of \$14,950. Approve the increase of \$2,760 to the original Purchase Order No. 62144 for J.M. Eadah for a total purchase order of \$9,789.61. Approve the increase of \$1,500 to the original Purchase Order No. 62504 for Rule & Associates for a total purchase order of \$15,406. In addition, I further move to waive the September 30th deadline date for capital projects. Motion carried by all members present. Item 10. EMERGENCY PURCHASE OF NEW STEAM ROOM GENERATOR -SUMMIT ON THE PARK. (CLS) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the emergency purchase of a new steam room generator in the amount \$8,605 to Campbell Inc., 661 Airport Blvd. Suite 5, Ann Arbor, MI 48108. Funds are available in account #208-757-975-0000 Electrical Improvements, Line Item #1 and account #208-757-977-0000 Leisure Pool Play Features, Line Item #3 and New Vacuum Line Item #5. Motion carried by all members present. Item 11. AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE LEASE OF CARDIOVASCULAR FITNESS EQUIPMENT. (CLS) Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to waive the bid requirement for the capital purchase of fitness equipment as Fitness Things, Inc. and All-Pro Exercise are solr source providers for Cybex and Precor fitness equipment. I also move to waive the September 30th capital purchase deadline. I move to approve the purchase of six pieces of cardiovascular fitness equipment from Fitness Things, Inc. 1160 W. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI. 48170 in the amount of \$26,529.30. I further move to approve the following budget amendment in the General Fund for this purchase: Increase Revenues:

Appropriation from Fund Balance 101-000-699-0000 \$ 26.530

**Increase Appropriations:** 

Capital Outlay-Equipment-101-200-977-0000 \$ 26.530 This budget amendment increases the General Government Department budget from \$684,980 to \$711,510 and the General Fund budget from \$28,248,083 to \$28,274,613. I also move to authorize the lease of six pieces of cardiovascular fitness equipment from National Equipment Leasing, 4644 Mt. Brighton, Brighton, MI 48116 in the amount of \$28,465. Motion carried by all members present. Item 12. AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF CARRYALL BEVERAGE CART. (CLS) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to authorize the purchase of a Club Car Carryall Turf II gas utility vehicle with canopy and hinged windshield from Club Car, Inc., 11878 Brookfield Avenue, Livonia, MI. 48150 in the amount of \$7,229. I further move to approve the following budget amendment for this purchase: Increase Revenues: Refunds, Rebates-Insurance Claims #584-000-687-1000 \$6,229 Appropriation from Fund Balance 584-000-699-0000 1,000 \$ 7,229 Total **Increase Appropriations:** Capital Outlay-Equipment \$7,229 #584-756-977-0000 This budget amendment increases the Golf Course Fund budget from \$2,369,574 to \$2,376,803. Motion carried by all members present. Item 13. GENERAL FUND BUDGET AMENDMENT -YTD REVENUES/EXPENDITURES. (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the following General Fund budget amendment to adjust revenue expenditure line items that are projected to vary from the amount budgeted by \$10,000 or more: Increase (Decrease) Revenues: 101-000-403-0000 \$(56,550) Current taxes Interest & penalty on delinquent taxes 101-000-445-0000 (34,650) **Building Permits** 101-000-478-0000 10,100 Federal Grants-Stormwater 101-000-532-1200 26,800 Federal Grants-Emergency Preparedness 101-000-545-0000 (29,250)State Grants-Municipal Transportation 101-000-571-0000 70,250 State Shared Revenues-Sales Tax 101-000-575-0000 (109,150) Stormwater Permit Fees 101-000-620-0000 (100,000) Tree Fund 101-000-628-1000 (55,000) Sewer Inspection Fees 101-000-629-0000 (32,000) **Engineer Review Fees** 101-000-631-0001 348,000 Building Plan Code Review Fee 101-000-634-0000 (29,200)Court Fines 101-000-644-0000 (175,000) Miscellaneous Recreation Revenues 101-000-650-1000 (10,900) Athletic Fees 101-000-651-0000 (14,950) 101-000-651-3000 Fitness Program Fees (41,450)101-000-651-4000 General Program Fees 19,100 Special Event Program Fees 101-000-651-7000 ( 18,400) 101-000-651-8000 Teen Program Fees 10,500 101-000-652-5000 13,250 Therapeutic Recreation 101-000-653-0000 CSC-LeagueS 23,000 Forfeited Bonds & Deposits 101-000-663-0000 27,750 Interest-Accounts Payable Disbursement 101-000-665-0000 14,400 Interest-Bank Savings 101-000-665-2000 47,000 Interest on Tax Savings 101-000-665-4000 97,850 101-000-669-0000 Rental Income (10,400)Rental-CSC Cellular Tower 101-000-669-1000 13,600 Contribution from Private Sources 101-000-675-0000 33,700 Reimbursement from CDBG Fund 101-000-676-2740 (255,000) Appropriation from Fund Balance 101-000-699-0000 15,070 \$(201,530) Increase (Decrease) Appropriations: Audit Fees-Township Board 101-101-802-0000 \$ 20,700 Community Promotion-Township Board 101-101-880-0000 (15,000) Printing & Publishing-General Gov't 101-200-900-0000 (30,000) Salaries-Finance & Budget Dept 101-223-705-0000 (19,750) Capital Outlay-Computer Equip-IT Services 101-258-977-2580 (76,000) Capital Outlay-Buildings Facilities Maint 101-265-975-0000 (17,950) Capital Outlay-Equipment-Building Services 101-371-977-0000 (25,000) Capital Outlay-Computers- $\hat{B}$ uilding Services 101-371-977-2580 (13,450) **Engineering Fees-Public** Works Division 101-441-803-000 (30,000) Salaries-Engineering Services Division 101-447-705-0000 114,150 Fringe Benefits-Engineering Services Division 101-447-720-0000 38.950 Contracted Services-Engineering Services Division 101-447-818-0000 (37,050) Charter Bus Expenditures-Senior Citizens 101-672-830-0000 (11,500) Salaries-Recreation Division 101-691-705-0000 20,650 Fringe Benefits-Recreation Division 101-691-720-0000 8,300 Program Activities-Admin-101-691-742-0000 (12,450) Recreation Div Program Activities-Therapeutic Rec-101-691-742-1000 Recr Div Salaries-Leisure Services 101-750-705-0000 (20,650)Fringe Benefits-Leisure Services 101-750-720-0000 (8,250)(10,000)**Utilities-Sports Center** 101-755-920-0000 Arts Council-Village Theater 101-760-882-0000 (12,000)Capital Projects-Travis House (Barn move) 101-803-976-0000 (56,900)Homeland Security-Capital Outlay 101-860-977-1600 (73,800) Transfer to Community Center 101-959-965-2080 103,785 Transfer to Road Paving Fund 101-959-965-4000 (33,200)Transfer to Post Employment 101-959-965-7360 62,600 Benefits Fund Contribution to Special Assmt Funds 101-959-965-8000 (45,415) Total

\$(201,530) This budget amendment decreases the General Fund budget from \$ 28,449,839 to \$28,248,309 and increases (decreases) the following department/division budgets: DÉPARTMENT/ CURRENT BUDGET DIVISION BUDGET AMENDMENT BUDGET Township Board \$ 439,197 \$5,700 General Government 714,980 (30,000)84,980 Finance & Budget (19,750)970,261 990,011 926,583 (76,000)850,583 IT Services Facilities Maintenance 1,727,563 (17,950)1,709,613 **Building Services** 1,464,127 (38,450)1,425,677 Public Works 598,314 (30,000)568,314 **Engineering Services** 1,257,967 116,050 1,374,017 Senior Citizens 293,916 (11,500)282,416 Recreation Division 2,217,135 (5,800)2,211,335 Leisure Services 523,617 (28,900)494,71,7 Sports Center 508,166 (10,000)498,166 Performing Arts 829,088 (12,000)817,088 Historic District Commission 135,037 (56.900)78,137 Grants 101,450 (73,800)27,650 Transfers Out 87,770 4,180,052 4,267,822 **Budget Amendment Total** \$ (201,530) Motion carried by all members present.

Item 14. BUDGET AMENDMENTS - FIRE FUND, POLICE FUND - YTD REVENUES/EXPENDITURES. (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the following budget amendments to adjust the Fire and Police Fund revenue and expenditure line items that are projected to vary from the amount budgeted by \$10,000 or more: FIRE FUND: Increase (Decrease) Revenues: #206-000-403-0000 \$ (71.300) Current Taxes

Current raxes	##UU-000-400-0000	$\phi$ ( 11,000)
Rescue & ambulance service fees	206-000-638-0000	60,000
Interest on investments	206-000-664-0000	130,000
Interest-bank savings	206-000-665-2000	11,000
Appropriation from fund balance	206-000-699-0000	151,700
Total		\$ 281,400
Increase (Decrease) Appropriation	s:	
Salaries-Fire	#206-336-704-0000	\$ 509,100
Salaries-Civilian	206-336-705-0000	(19,200)
Overtime-Fire	206-336-708-0000	168,250
Overtime-Civilian	206-336-709-0000	(10,100)
Vacation pay expense	206-336-710-0000	(15,750)
Holiday pay	206-336-718-0000	13,200
Fringe benefits	206-336-720-0000	150,700
Uniforms	206-336-722-0000	(13,300)
Transportation (motor fuel)	206-336-860-0000	16,300
General insurance	206-336-911-0000	(28,200)
Transfer to post employment		
benefit fund	206-336-965-7360	(176,600)
Capital outlay-buildings		
and improvements	206-336-975-0000	(281,400)
그 프로그는 그 요. 그리는 그 그 그는 그는 그는 그들은 그를 수십시다. 그는 사람들이 없었다.		

Capital outlay-equipment

Total

(Continued On Page B7)

206-336-977-0000

(31,600)

\$ 281,400

## New coach revives Chief spikers' optimism Canton gymnasts open PREP VOLLEYBALL PREVIEW

It wasn't necessary to give the new Canton volleyball coach a tour of the facilities when she was hired this past summer.

Jen Barnes knows her way around the school's Phase III building as well as anybody, and for good reason. She's a 1997 graduate of Canton, where she excelled in both volleyball and softball, and she's coached the Chiefs' junior varsity or freshmen volleyball teams the past four years.

Barnes' leadership credentials are impressive as she has led several teams to shining records since she put on her first whistle in 2002 — from summer AAU squads to the Chiefs' junior-varsity contingents, which finished with over 30 wins last season.

"I'm very structured when it comes to coaching," said Barnes, whose young team placed third at the season-opening South Lyon Invitational Dec. 9. "Myself and my assistants attend several coaching clinics so that we can learn new drills and strategies that we can pass on to the team. Plus, the freshmen, junior varsity and varsity teams will all be doing the same things this year. They won't be off on their own like they were the past couple of

"We have a very young team we only have one senior — and it will probably take some time for them to get used to a new way of doing things. But we have some very skilled and talented young players, so I'm excited."

The Chiefs' lone senior is outside hitter Joellen Heldt, who led

the team in kills at this past weekend's Birmingham Groves Invitational.

"We're going to be looking to Joellen a lot this year for leadership," said Barnes. "She's one of our captains because of the way she leads and because she is very talented."

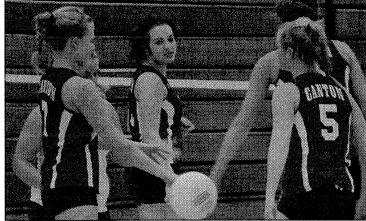
Joining Heldt up front will be 6-foot-1 junior Marie Martin, who is starting her third year on the varsity.

"Marie has a great attitude she's always positive," said Barnes. "She's a very smart player who can hit the ball wherever it's set. She's probably our most effective blocker."

Sophomore Kacy Moran will be handling the bulk of the setting for the Chiefs. Despite the fact she's just a 10th-grader, Moran brings a wealth of highcompetition experience to the  $\operatorname{court}$  — and the skills to match.

"I was lucky enough to coach Kacy last year on the junior varsity squad, so I know what a great player she is," said Barnes. "She has great hands and she can set the ball from any spot on the court. She's played a lot of club volleyball, so she has a lot of experience. She's one of those girls who will stay after practice to work on her game."

Freshman Jordan Kielty (5-9) is an all-around skilled player who will start the season as an outside hitter. "Jordan is an unbelievable addition to our team," said Barnes. "She has as much talent as any freshman I've seen. You tell her something one time and she gets it."



MAUREEN ALEXANDER

The Canton volleyball team, pictured above at the South Lyon invitational earlier this month, is already showing signs of promise for the 2006-07 season. Pictured (I-r) are Jordan Kielty (7), Hannah Mills, Joellen Heldt, Marie Martin (back to camera) and Gina Waite (5).

Junior libero Hannah Mills will share the captains' duties with Heldt. "Hannah can dig out any ball," said Barnes. "She's very quick and she's very smart. Liberos will be allowed to serve this year, which helps us because she's one of our best servers. Hannah will have a big role on

this team." Barnes is also looking for big things from junior middle hitter Lauren McPartlin, who saw considerable varsity action as a sophomore, and sophomore Gina Waite, who Barnes touted as the Chiefs' best defensive player.

Gina is a great serve receiver," said Barnes. "She also came in a lot during the off-season to work on setting, so she'll serve as our back-up setter this year. She's a tremendous player."

Junior Laura Daniels (5-6) may be the team's most versatile player, in Barnes' estimation.

"Laura is an all-around player who I'm comfortable with up front or in the back," said Barnes. "She was an outside hitter on JV last year, but she'll move around more this season."

Providing valuable depth for the Chiefs will be juniors Ellie Kenny, Johanna Alexander and Rachel Kain; and sophomores Shelby Anthony and Janelle Burdiss.

"We've already set individual and teams goals for the season," Barnes said. "Among the team goals is to finish first in our division. It won't be easy with Northville and Plymouth in there with us. Among are individual goals is to improve our servereceive."

The Chiefs' open the home portion of their schedule Jan. 8 against Walled Lake Northern.

ewright@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2108

## with win over Vassar

Canton's gymnastics team opened the season Saturday with an impressive 134.3-116.25 victory at Vassar.

The Chiefs swept the top four spots in the all-around: Kate Staley (35.00), Jessie Murray (34.75), Chelsea Selden (32.65) and Andrea Houdek (31.85).

Murray and Staley tied for top honors in the vault with 8.9's. Olivia Stephens was second (8.5) followed by Chelsea Selden (8.25) and Courtney Ward (8.2).

Staley's 9.05 won the uneven bars competition. Stephens and Murray tied for second at 7.9 while Selden finished third with a Selden turned in a gold-medal

effort on the balance beam (8.9), just ahead of teammates Houdek and Staley (8.8's) and Murray

Murray (9.3) and Ward (8.55) went 1-2 in the floor exercise followed by Vassar's Hillary Opperman (8.5) and Lauren Kasper (8.45).

Kylie Hakala shined for the Chiefs' "B" team, placing first in the vault, bars and floor. Mallory Hudak was first all-around thanks to a first on the beam and

seconds on the vault and floor. **SALINE 125.50, PLYMOUTH 110.50:** The short-handed Wildcats lost a hard-fought meet against the visiting Hornets Monday night.

Freshman Erica Kosmalski got her high school career off on a high note when she finished fourth in the all-around with a 30.95. Kosmalski racked up big points in the vault (tie for second), uneven bars (tie for second) and beam (third).

Other high-placing Wildcats were Kasey Zehbari (tied for second on the vault and fourth on the balance beam); and Danielle Gomrick (third on the floor).

#### **SPORTS BRIEFS**

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Charter Township of Canton will provide necessary reasonable

auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing

impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at

the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing

upon two weeks notice to the Charter Township of Canton. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services

should contact the Charter Township of Canton by writing or

David Medley, ADA Coordinator

Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Road

Canton, MI 48188

(734) 394-5260

#### **TENNIS CAMPS**

A series of tennis camps through the Plymouth-Canton Community Ed after-school program will be held throughout the community in the coming weeks. Following is the schedule:

■ Tuesdays, Jan. 23-March 6 at Isbister Elementary: Intro to Tennis (grades 1-5, 3:45-4:40 p.m.; Intro to Tennis II

calling the following:

Publish: December 21, 2006

(for those who have completed 'Intro to Tennis') from 5-5:55

■ Thursdays, Jan. 25-March 8 at Workman Elementary: Intro to Tennis (grades 1-5, 3:45-4:40 p.m.; Intro to Tennis II (for those who have completed 'Intro to Tennis') from 5-

For more information, call (734) 416-2937.

5:55 p.m..

## Salem spikers down Wildcats for MU title

The final match of Saturday's Madonna Invitational volleyball tournament had a definite local flavor to it.

Salem opened its season in grand fashion when it outlasted cross-campus rival Plymouth, 25-23 and 25-17. The Rocks advanced to the finals by going 4-

"Overall, it was a very good day for us," said Salem coach Amanda Suder. "We seemed to play better as the day went on. It's a nice way

THE WEEK AHEAD

**BOYS BASKETBALL** 

Thursday, Dec. 21 Zoe Christian at Canton Agape

at G.C. United Christian, 7 p.m. PCA at Calvary Christian, 7 p.m. PREP HOCKEY

Friday, Dec. 22 Dearborn United at Salem at

Plymouth Cultural Center, 8:30 p.m.

W.L. Central at Canton

at Arctic Edge, 8 p.m. BOYS SWIMMING

Friday, Dec. 22 WLAA Conference Relays

at Salem 6:30 n m

PREP VOLLEYBALL

Thursday, Dec. 21 Canton Agape at Inter-City, 6 p.m.

THEATERS

DETROIT'S BEST
MOVIE DEAL

ALL LOUNGER SEATS
ALL DIGITAL SOUND
ALL STADIUM SEATING

NEW
LOWER PRICES

\$ 6.00 Adults Evening
\$ 3.00 Students, Late Show, Adults Until 6 PM, Kids, Seniors, & ALL SHOWS 4-6 PM

ONO PASSES Free drink refills & 25c corn refills
SHOWTIMES VALID 12/22 - 12/28

OWE ARE MARSHALL (PG)
FRI/SAT 11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
SUN 11:00, 1:45, 4:30
MON 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
MON 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
MON 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
FRI/SAT 11:10, 1:35, 4:00, 7:05, 9:25
FRI/SAT LS 11:45 SUN 11:10, 1:35, 4:00
MON 4:30, 7:05, 9:25
CHI/SAT 12:40, 2:50, 5:00, 7:10, 9:30
FRI/SAT 11:10, 1:30, 1:0, 3:20, 5:30
MON 5:00, 7:40, 9:45
FRI/SAT LS 11:30 SUN 12:45, 5:00, 9:20
FRI/SAT LS 11:50, 5:00, 9:20
FRI/SAT LS 11:50, 5:00, 1:00, 9:20
FRI/SAT LS 11:50, 9:20, 5:30
MON 5:30, 7:40, 9:45
C THE PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS (PG-13)
FRI/SAT 11:10, 1:50, 4:20, 6:50, 9:20
MON 4:20, 6:50, 9:20
MON 4:20, 6:50, 9:20
MON 4:20, 6:50, 9:20
FRI/SAT SI 11:50 SUN 11:20, 1:50, 4:20
MON 4:20, 6:50, 9:20
FRI/SAT SI 11:50 SUN 11:20, 1:50, 4:20
MON 4:20, 6:50, 9:20
FRI/SAT SI 11:50 SUN 11:20, 1:50, 4:20
MON 4:20, 6:50, 9:20
MON 4:20, 6:50, 9:20
UNACCOMPANIED MINORS (PG)
UNACCOMPANIED MINORS (PG)

**CANTON CINEMA** 

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734-844-FILM

to start the season."

a stellar day were Lauren Kurtz (60 kills and 10 blocks), Courtney Seiler (nine assists, 41 digs), Jansan Falcusan (98 assists, 15 digs) and Nicole Mersch (24 kills and 21 digs).

Among the Rocks who enjoyed

Brittany Hengesh paced the Wildcats with 27 kills. Other Plymouth standouts were Rachel Heaton (15 kills, 31 digs), Chelsey Quinlan (18 kills, 32 digs) and Courtney Buttermore (34 digs).

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property. Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc. will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at 2500 S. Industrial Hwy Ann Arbor, Mi 48104 on 1/2//07 at 2:00 pm. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:

1029- Ben Hartline- Kitchen cabinets

1045- Matthew Stiffler- dresser, tv, boxes

2070- Deana Jordan- TV, love seat, Couch 3023- Robert Ford- Power tools, totes, boxes

4100- Alireza Mohammadimehr- Tires, custom rims, tool box

5002- Mary E Lawal- bags, clothing, chairs 5075- Gillian Barclay- TV, totes, boxes

Publish: December 14 & 21, 2006

OE08494696

\$ (166,100)

(71,600)

(157,000)

136,600 \$(239,100)

19,000



#### Please recycle

(Continued From Page B6) This budget amendment increases the Fire Fund budget from \$10,264,772 to \$10,546,172. POLICE FUND: Increase (Decrease) Revenues:

#207-000-403-0000 \$ (75,700) Current Taxes 207-000-505-1000 Federal Grants-Community Policing 207-000-542-0000 Federal Grants-Bulletproof vests 12,150 State Grants-911 PSAP Training 207-000-545-9110 13,000 Public Safety Grants 207-000-582-0000 21,250 207-000-637-0000 Charge for services 15,000 207-000-650-0000 30,000 Gun range revenues Payment for training classes 207-000-652-4000 33,150 207-000-664-0000 225,000 Interest on investments 207-000-665-2000 15,000 Interest-bank savings 207-000-674-5000 10,500 Special operations team 207-000-687-0000  $\frac{32,150}{347,250}$ Refunds and rebates Total

Increase (Decrease) Appropriations: Salaries-Police #207-301-704-0000 \$ (139,500) 207-301-705-0000 Salaries-Civilian 249,600 207-301-708-0000 Overtime-Police 142,350 Fringe Benefits 207-301-720-0000 61,800 Legal Fees-labor 207-301-801-0001 (10,000)207-301-828-0000 (21,200)Care of prisoners Care of animals 207-301-829-0000 (35,350)207-301-911-0000 (113,600)General insurance Maintenance/Repair-Buildings/Grounds 207-301-930-0000 (18,400)Maintenance/Repair-Equipment 207-301-932-0000 22,150 Conferences/seminars 207-301-951-0000 (11,800)Transfer to post employment benefits fund 207-301-965-7360 165,650 207-301-977-0000 Capital Outlay-Equipment (31,150)Capital Outlay-Computers 207-301-977-2580 (37,600)207-301-999-0000 Transfer to Fund Balance 124,300

Total \$347,250 This budget amendment increases the Police Fund budget from \$14,175,565 to \$14,522,815. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 15. BUDGET AMENDMENT - GOLF COURSE FUND - YTD REVENUES/EXPENDITURES.** (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the following budget amendments to adjust the Golf Course Fund revenue and expenditure line items that are projected to vary from the amount

budgeted by \$10,000 or more: Increase (Decrease) Revenues: 584-000-651-1000 Driving Range Fees 584-000-651-2000 Green fees & cart rental 584-000-665-2000 Interest-bank savings 584-000-699-1000 Food & beverage concession Appropriation from fund balance 584-000-699-0000

Total Increase (Decrease) Appropriations: Depreciation Expense-Fellows Creek Part-time/seasonal wages-Pheasant Run Food/beverage -Pheasant Run Depreciation expense-Pheasant Run Capital outlay-land and improvements

584-697-968-0000 584-756-706-0000 584-756-741-0000 584-756-968-0000 584-756-972-0000 584-756-991-0000

\$ 17,550 (49,000)(42,350)281,650 (11,800)(435,150)Total 239,100) This budget amendment decreases the Golf Course Fund budget from \$2,369,574

to \$2,130,474. Motion carried by all members present. Item 16. APPROVAL TO PURCHASE TRAINING COUPONS. (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the expenditure of \$6,825 (Training #101-258-952-0000) for 21 training coupons from New Horizon of Livonia, MI. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 17. APPROVE BID FOR PRINTING THE** 2007 SERVICE DIRECTORY AND CALENDAR. (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the bid submitted by S&N Graphic Solutions in the amount of \$12,250 (Communications Account #101-240-900-0000 Printing and Publishing) for printing of the 2007 Service Directory and Calendar. Motion carried by all members present. OTHER: Supervisor Yack stated the next regular Board meeting will be January 9, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. at the Administration Building, First Floor, Board Room, 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan. The Administration Building will be open for business on December 27th and 28th and closed on December 25-26 and 29th for the Holidays. ADJOURN: Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. Motion carried by all members present. - Thomas J. Yack, Supervisor - Terry G. Bennett, Clerk -

Copies of the complete text of the Board Minutes are available at the office of the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Rd, Canton, MI 48188, during regular business hours and can also be accessed through our web site <a href="https://www.canton-mi.org">www.canton-mi.org</a> after Board Approval.

Publish: December 21, 2006

**Bond Principal** 

#### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON **INVITATION TO BID**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, January 4, 2007 for the following:

> PRINTING, SORTING & MAILING OF THE LEISURE LINK NEWSLETTER

Bid forms may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department, from our website at <a href="https://www.canton-mi.org">www.canton-mi.org</a> or you may contact Mike Sheppard at (734) 394-5225. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the bid title. company name, address and telephone number and date and time of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

Publish: December 21, 2006

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc. will sell at public auction by competitive bidding. Sales are cash only. Removal within 24 hrs., for sale and storage unit in which rent and fees are past due.

On the premises where said property has been stored and which are located at Public Storage, 45229 Michigan Avenue, Canton, MI 48188, (734) 397-0082 on 1-2-2007 at 12:30PM; Personal property described below in the matter of:

Angie Baker 4275 John Pope 5204 Mark Manning 5151 Ed Clay 4247 Leslie Lester

2015 Christine Hlavacek Morgan Holliday 2024 3033 Christopher Hahn

Darrel Bryant 4209 Steven Leach 4216 4211 Debra Tamey Sheila Scott 6004 1120 Life Changing

Boxes, totes, bags Ford Probe vin # 1ZVCCZZB9PS144025 Exercise equipment, chair, stereo Hundai Tiburon vin # KMHHN65F76V191045 Boxes, stools, box spring Chairs, mattresses, table Washer, couch, chair

Suitcases, TV, golf clubs

Speakers, couch, chair

Shelves, boxes, bicycle

Boxes, totes, bags

Dryer, washer, boxes

Dressers, table, mattress

On the premises where said property has been stored and which are located at Public Storage, 2101 Haggerty Rd, Canton, MI, 48187, (734) 981-0303 on 1-2-2007 at 11:30 AM;

Edna Smith-Gordon Daniel H. Smith Kenneth Marshall 4004 4008 Christopher Rice Kenneth Marshall Kelly Mikoloff 4028 Jeff Malek Dianne Croskey 4205 **Dorothy White** 

Diane Jacobs 5229 Harold Greene 5249 Dennis Hollingsworth 6016 Mammoth Video 6053 Richard O'Connell 6208 Jennifer Jendrusik Valarie Williams 6211

4294

6224

Mark Mayo Publish: December 14 & 21, 2006

Personal property described below in the matter of: Bag, mattress, chair Couch, bookcase, mattress Chair, dresser, totes Mattress, box spring, desk Clothing, bike, boxes Boxes Boxes, clothing, TV Boxes, computers Bed, bag, boxes Boxes, clothing, totes Totes, couch, box Chest, rocking chair, kitchen chair Displays, rack, wood Commercial cameras Desk, dresser, mattress

Lamp, boxes

Totes, boxes, bags

KNOW THE SCORE check out the numbers in today's U

Ull Usection

MON 4:20, 6:50, 9:20 **APOCALYPTO** (R) FRI/SAT/MON 9:05 **UNACCOMPANIED MINORS** (PG)

FRI-SUN 11:30 AM HAPPY FEET (PG) FRI/SAT 2:00, 4:20, 6:40 SUN 2:00, 4:20 MON 4:20, 6:40



Challenging fun for ALL ages

## CROSSWORD PUZZLER

#### ACROSS

- Deep-yoiced lady
- Youngster
- Tabby's plea 13 Windmill blade 14 Victrola maker
- 15 Whatsoever (2 wds.)
- 17 Roman ruin 19 Removed the pits
- 21 Solar plexus 22 Dirk - (Cussier
- hero)
- 24 Type size 25 Kind of pool
- 26 Natural resource
- 27 Athena's domain
- 29 Take off
- 33 Desert st.
- 31 Galley mover 32 Such as, briefly 34 Clown's getup 35 MD asst.
- 54 Chair-back piece 55 Play on words 56 Black gemstone 57 Recipe amts.

36 Tenderly

41 Palace

42 Wharf

46 Wartime

48 Sonnets

51 Potato st.

offense

38 Compass dir

entrance

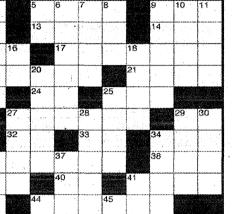
44 Sounds from

the paddock

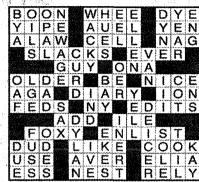
52 From memory

39 Engine housing 40 West Coast st.

- **DOWN**
- Physician's grp. Tolerated Kitchen appliance
- Immature raptor 5 Wheeling's st. 6 Places of safety



#### **Answer to Previous Puzzle**



© 2005 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

- 7 Tennyson
  - 8 PBS funder Less fallacious
  - 10 Bank dep. 11 An evening out

  - 22 Flat broke 23 Turkey's
    - 27 Unwanted plant 28 Tibet's
      - Lama

25 Comfv

16 - Havre,

France 18 Tot of whiskey

20 Condescend

- 29 Main point Type of arch
- 34 Ferrets and minks 36 Spanish
- painter 37 Wallet filler
- 39 Song of triumph 41 Phantom
- 42 Ear swap
- (hyph.) 43 Karachi lan-
- guage 44 Lunchtime 45 JAMA reader
- 47 Sellout notice 49 Atlas page
- 50 Ave. crossers 53 Former

## spouse

Fun By The

Like puzzles?

mind-bending

Then you'll love sudoku. This

puzzle will have

you hooked from

the moment you

square off, so

pencil and put

savvy to the test!

sharpen your

your sudoku

Numbers

6			7				÷	5		
	7	1		5						
				1	4		3			
		6		4			2			
	8			2		5				
4				7		9		7		
8		4 1	1							
	1	7		8	2					
	2		7 u - 3 u		1.7		5			
	Level: intermediate									

#### Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

BIKE **BLOCKS** 

DOLL

**JACKS SLED SLINGSHOT SQUIRT GUN**  **SWINGS** TEA SET TOP YO-YO

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

C	E	R	G	F	D	Ι	Ο	P	U
G	F	D	S	J	A	C	K	S	S
Z	Α	S	L	E	D	S	D	$\mathbf{G}$	F
S	Q	U	Ι	R	T	G	U	N	S
G	H	N	N	Y	O	Y	O	Ι	K
N	M	L	G	В	В	V	C	$\mathbf{W}$	C
R	S	A	S	W	A	X	В	S	O
T	Y	H	H	J	L	K	I	P	L
A	Z	D	Ο	L	L	M	K	Ο	$\mathbf{B}$
S	D	F	$\mathbf{T}$	E	A	S	E	Т	$\mathbf{G}$
			F - 10.5 (17.1)					N 70 1 1 1	

#### **CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE**

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#### **CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE**

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## 3000's

3370 Royal Oak

3390

3400

3420.. 3423...

3424..

3430

3440...

3450

3460..

3470.

3480.

3500

3520

3530.

3540..

3550

3570.

3580:

3600

3610

3620.

3630...

3700

3730

3740...

3750.

3755

3800

3810.

3820.

3840

3850.

3870

3940.

3410.....Troy

3415 Union Lake

...Salem-Salem Township

...Stockbridge-Unadilla-Gregory

Southfield-Lathrup

...South Lyon

.....Walled Lake

....Waterford

Webberville

....Westland

White Lake

.....West Bloomfield

....Whitmore Lake

...Wixom-Commerce

...Genessee County

...Lapeer County

...Livingston County

...Macomb County

....Cakland County

....Wayne County

....Country Homes

....Real Estate Auction

.....Farms/Horse Farms

....Real Estate Services

....New Home Builders

....Duolexes & Townhouses

....Commercial/Retail For Sale

....Homes Under Construction

....Resort & Vacation Property

....Florida Homes & Property

...Manufactured Homes

3710 Apartments For Sale

...Mobil Homes

....Lakefront Property 3770.....Lakefront Property 3780.....Lakes & River Resort Prope

"Northern Property

...Southern Property

....Time Share

....Lots & Acreage/Vacant

...Lease/Option To Buy

...Money To Loan

...Cemetery Lots

.....Real Estate Wanted

3900

3980

.Industrial & Warehouse

through

....Mortgage/Land Contracts

...Condos

Shiawassee County

...Washtenaw County

....Lakefront/Waterfront Homes

Out of State Homes/Property

"Other Suburban Homes

....Williamston

....Yosilanti

3510 ...... Inoham County

....Wayne

- Homes ..Open Houses 3040
- .Ann Arboi 3043 Aubum Hills
- .Belleville & Van Buren 3047 ..Berkley
- 3049.. ...Beverly Hills
- .Birmingham
- 3055 Binnmileld .Brighton
- 3070. 3080 Canton
- .Clarkston
- 3095 Clawson ...Cohoctah
- 3100. .Dearborn
- 3115. Dearborn Hots
- 3120. ...Detroit 3130. ..Chelsea
- 3135. Dexter ..Farmington
- 3145 .Farmington Hills
- 3150 ..... Fenton ..Ferndale Fowlarville
- 3160 3165.. ...Franklin
- .Garden City 3180... Grosse Pointe
- ....Hamburg 3200 ...Hartland ....Hazel Park & Madision Hgt 3205.
- ...Highland 3220... ....Holly 3230.
- ....Howell 3234. ..Huntington Woods 3235 Keego Harbor
- ..Lake Orion 3238 ...Lathrup Village
- 3240.... ....Linden Millions
- 3260 3265..
  - ...Monroe 3270. .New Hudson 3280. ..Northville
  - ..Novi 3300 .. Oak Grove
  - 3305.. ...Oak Park .Orion Township 3315 ..Orchard Lake
  - 3318.. ...Oxford 3320. ..Perry
- 3340... Pinckney ...Pleasant Ridge
- 3347 ..Plymouth 3350 ...... Redford

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- Income Property For Sale .Industrial & Warehouse
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For Sale

3970 3980 ...... Land

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PRICE REDUCTION ! \$749,000 www.958Davis.com George 248 205 7802 Sodeco Realty



Just Reduced!

OPEN SAT. 1-4 18564 GILLMAN off 7 Mi./W. of Inkster) reshly painted, 3 Bdrm anch, finished bsmt, 2 ca garage, hardwood floors. \$142,500. HOME NOW PRICED BELOW SEV, (\$2000 Bonus to purchaser

> Linda, 248-316-0243 Renaissance Realty (248) 477-0070



Birmingham



**OPEN SUNDAY 1-4** www.958Davis.com ust built 5 bdrm/4 1/2 batl ouse across from Howarth Park, walk to Pierce elem n Birmingham. Visit web site for full details on this wonderful property. \$50,000 PRICE REDUCTION ! \$749,000

www.958Davis.com George 248 205 7802 Sodeco Realty Canton

addition. Updated furnace w

#### NO BANKS NEEDED Brick ranch, 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, finished bsmt, A/C, deck, 2 car, great area! 248-921-2432 Dearborn Hgts

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Updated kitchen with granite counter top, ceramic floor, new paint, interior doors and trim.

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3250

finished bsmt, C/A, deck, underground sprinklers. Many updates. Just move in and enjoy! \$199,900 Century 21 Hartford North 734-525-9600



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**NO BANKS NEEDED** 3 bdrm ranch, 1.5 bath, fin. bsmt, sun room, 2 car garage. Terms flexible. 248-921-2432

3370

(248) 477-0070

Royal Oak

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> Matt - 810-444-1613 Many More!! Pinnacle Real Estate

3390 Southfield/Lathrup

By Owner LAND CONTRACT TERMS AVAILABLE bdrm, 1.5 bath. Newly remodeled. Approx. 1 acre lot Good schools. \$179,200.

Waterford WATERFORD AUCTION Breathtaking lake house. At a steal. Seller to pay all costs, 0% down financing. Private

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Westland FIREPLACE Remodeled kitchen, 2 car CENTURY 21 CASTELLI

IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY! 4 bdrm, 2 bath home. Updated and bathrooms Family room with Fieldstone fireplace, 2 car garage. One year home warranty. \$184,500 **CENTURY 21 PREMIER** (734) 453-4300

734-525-7900

3445

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FORECLOSURES Homes from \$10,000! 1-3 bdrm available! Repos, REOs, FDIC, FSBO, FHA, etc. These homes must sell! For listings call 1-800-425-1620 ext 3421 Investment 1031 - vacation

home - Blue Ridge Mountains in GA, TN and NC -Mountain/River/Lake/Golf/Lar

ge tracts-Harry Norman, Realtors of Blue Ridge (706) 632-7211, Gordon Waters (678) 779-2092, Chris Albrecht (678) 665-6844 North Carolina!! Log cabin \$89,900. New shell on 1 acre. 1-5 acre home sites w/dra-matic views. Starting at

#### matic views. Starting \$29,900. E\_Z Financing! 1-828-247-9966 REALESTATE AUCTION

These and 320 more foreclosed homes will sell from the Hyatt Regency Dearborn, 600 Town Center Dr.

**FEATURED** LOCALLY... 2440 Berwick Dr, Canton, 3/1.5, 1793sf

For local info call Jack Brown, Ehman & GreenSt/GMAC, 734-482-3484. Selling Saturday 1/20 at 1pm • 125 Village Way Blvd Unit 4, Canton, 3/2.5, 1828sf. Call Laura Ford, Real

Estate One.

734-604-2494. Selling Sunday 1/21 at 1pm. Open House Jan 13 & 14 from 1-3pm. Call for details.

OR TERMS, PHOTOS AND MORE GO TO

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No Taxes and No Liens 5% or \$2500 dn, 5% buyer's premium on each sale. In Conjunction w/Steven L Reeser, Brkr # 6504140790.

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Condos

#### By Owner

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or lease \$725/mo. Agents welcome. 248-231-0259 ROCHESTER, 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath Ranch, att garage, \$198,500. ROCHESTER HILLS, 4 bdrm, 3.5 bath colonial, attached garage, \$360,000. ShareNet Realty 248-642-1620

ommercial/Retail For 3755

CANTON Busy Michigan Ave. corridor in Canton. New 5100 sq. ft. building with one tenant. 4.5 acre site has room for another 15,000 sq. ft. building. \$1,400,000. #2615853

BELA SIPOS 7346695813,734-747-7888

Reinhart Commercial PLYMOUTH 1200 Sq. ft. retail on Ann Arbor Rd. just west of Lilley in Plymouth Township. Good visibility with overhead door. \$1600 /month + utilities.

#2616950 • BELA SIPOS 734-669-5813, 734-747-7888 Reinhart Commercial **Resort & Vacation** 

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Call 1-877-689-2626 HOT SPRINGS, NC Gated residential community surrounded by National Forest. Paved roads, clubhouse, waterfall pond, hiking trails and more. Lots starting at \$60K. Call 877-477-3473

MANASOTA KEY FL Golf coast, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 3025 sq.ft., ocean front, new condo. \$1,450,000 negotiable. Call Jack 248-229-1072

Homes/Properties

3810 Southern Property By Owner

**REYNOLDS PLANTATION** 

GA. Gated Golf Community, 4

bdrm, 3 1/2 bath, 4 car garage. Separate 1400 sq.ft garage Apt. 6400 sq.ft. under roof, 4800 under air. \$75,000 under appraisal. Sale by owners 231-331-6100

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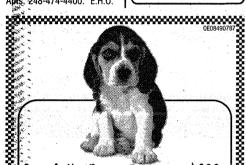
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4120

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4140 **Rooms For Rent** 

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## MARINE CORPS ENCOURAGES RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY



Mildred L.

**PASSAGE MEDIA** FOR **RELEASE:** WEEK OF **DECEMBER** 17, 2006

WORKWISE(r) by Mildred L. Culp MARINE CORPS ENCOURAGES **RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY** 

What does it mean to be serving in the United States Marine Corps in Iraq at this time of year? You might be surprised at the diverse forms of belief and the support within the Corps for all of them.

Navy Lt. Thomas Cook is the chaplain for Combat Logistics Regiment 15 in Camp Al Taqaddum, Iraq, where he's responsible for 1,144 Marines and sailors with so many different belief systems that it would be impossible to name them all. For example, Sgt. Jeremy Priest, a Marine, is a Sumerian pagan. "It's a faith of ancient Iraq, "he says, "the oldest religion in the world, a form of polytheism (affirming) belief in the divine, but not one sovereign God over everyone. We believe that people are here to serve God." Lance Cpl. Jesse Schick is an independent-spirited Lutheran. "I try to do my own thing," he comments. Chaplain Cook demurs when asked about his religious tradition, pointing out that Navy chaplains represent a

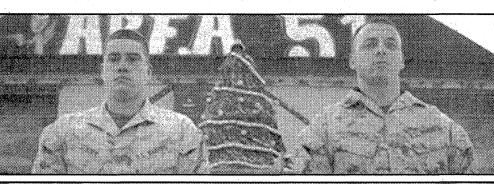
denomination, but that their function is paramount -- to "provide protection of the First Amendment right to free practice. We help in the practice should they need space or gear."

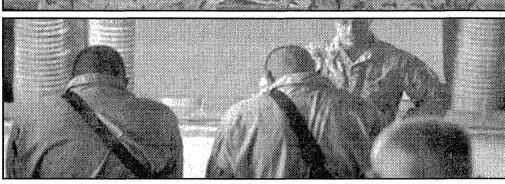
DIFFERENCES

The stereotype of similarity among Marines breaks down when they're asked about religious differences. Priest says that while he doesn't need a set service "to do what I need to do. I'm a man of faith and take everyone else's very seriously. I allow them the right to exercise their right to faith. On Sundays, especially, I make sure people get to chapel." Schick is easygoing when he encounters Marines whose celebrations differ: "If I can be invited, I'll join," he says. "If they want to be left alone, I'll leave them alone."

Clearly, Marines notice differences and accept them. They definitely react to the religiosity of Marines they meet. On the one hand, Cook is constantly amazed by their religious spirit. Priest, on the other hand, is constantly confounded by Catholicism: "The more I see, I understand half of what it is. For me, Christmas is an excuse for me to spend money on my family. The religious side doesn't apply." Schick says that he doesn't ask people questions, but when they approach him, he listens.

Marines do get each other's attention in matters of faith. Priest explains that the creation story is about the defeat of evil over good. Schick "gets them agitated, just because I don't stand with a certain one God or many types. I'm believe there's





something out there, but I'm not certain what or where." The chaplain turns heads at convoy briefings when he prays, "because I'm pretty specific in what I'm praying for. They're surprised in the common way that I express my prayers to God for them for blessings upon the convoy, and for Marine and sailor safety. I remind them that they're not promised safety but pray that they'll have victory over the enemy, and that, in the face of the enemy, they'll protect themselves and each other."

Schick believes that religious diversity contributes to cohesiveness, that there would be much more dissension if

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everyone shared a belief system. Priest is grateful for experiencing the religious and racial diversity in the Corps, which is quite different from that among the small-town southern Baptists of his childhood. Cook points out that Navy chaplains (and, by extension, the Marines) "represent a myriad of denominations while serving in the capacity of religious, ethical and moral advisers -- including the job of reminding command of First Amendment rights so they can practice their faith."

(Dr. Mildred L. Culp is an awardwinning journalist. Copyright 2006 Passage Media.)

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VIRGINIA **MOUNTAINS** Large 5 acre tract along very wide trout stream with private elevated homesite, secluded, great view, trees, nearby river. \$59,500 866-789-8535

be placed on Michigan Press Association's website. Contact this newspaper for details

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NORTH CAROLINA, North Georgia, Eastern TN Real Estate area homes, cabins, land. Low taxes. Good paying jobs available.

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violation of the law. Our read-ers are hereby informed that

all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal housing opportunity basis. (FR Doc, 724983 3-31-72) Classified ads may be

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of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing oppor-

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implement designs; provide administration tools/documen-

tation; perform unit testing; participate in design/code

reviews: follow/enhance exist-

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measure/verify new/old code have acceptable perform-ance/scalability; maintain proj-

Lakewood application architecture. On-call duties required. Requires M.S. in CIS with

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Design; 1 yr experience using Progress 4GL & providing application support to busi-

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resume, copy of diploma, tran-scripts, experience letters and

salary requirements to Nicole

Carl, Quicken Loans Inc., 20555 Victor Parkway, Livonia, MI 48152. No phone calls.

ownership;

requirements

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and the same of th

Housing

Egual

marketing pro-gram in

Resources Division, 1150 S Canton Center Rd. Canton, MI 48188. Applications may be picked up at the Canton Administration Bldg Human Resources Division or on the Canton Twp web-site. A Canton Township application form must be completed in its entirety and on file in the Human notice of typographical or other errors is given in time for Resources Division prior to 4 p.m., December 27, 2006. 4 p.m., December 27, 2000 Faxed or e-mailed applicacorrection before the second insertion. Not responsible for omissions. Publisher's Notice: All real estate advertising in tions will not be accepted this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of Canton does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provi-sion of services. An Equal 1968 which states that it is illegal to advertise "any preference limitation, or discrimination". This news-paper will not knowingly accept any advertis-ing for real estate which is in Opportunity Employer

**GOVERNMENT JOBS** Earn \$12-\$48 per hour Full medical/dental benefits 1-800-320-9353 Ext. 2429

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6271 ext. 215

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cation or further information. please call (734) 421-6130

clear background & valid drifor a career & not a job. CALL NOW to schedule an

appointment (734) 721-2489.



Part-Time Head Coach

Help Wanted-General

Part-time Head Women's Soccer Coach, beginning January, 2007. Knowledge cedures to be followed Knowledge of MCCAA Region XII and NJCAA reg for the spor coached. Knowledge of policies, procedures and

submit an application to the Human Resources office at Completed Schoolcraft College application form Schoolcraft and copies of college tran-scripts from regionally Schoolcraft College, 18600

It is the policy of the Board of Trustees of Schoolcraft College not to discriminate against any person on the basis of race, creed, sex, age, marital status, handicap or national origin.



SERVICE TECH NEEDED Must be experienced in instal lation of steel doors, storm doors, windows, aluminum trim, interior moulding, basic window repair, basic carpen-try. Must have valid driver's license and clean driving record. \$100 per day w/ incentives. Insurance after 90 days. Call 734-326-2657

TRANSACTION/CLOSING

tions for a high volume real estate team. Tracking closing and mortgage status, city pre-sale inspections, scheduling and setting closings, procurand setting documents and funds. Includes preparation and of daily/weekly reports. Knowledge of MS Word, Excel, QuickBooks, ACT!, and MS

WOMENS SELF-DEFENSE

Help Wanted-

candidate that has two o more years experience with MS-SQL Query language and tools.

Please email your resume ksiver@jandbmedical.com or fax to: (248) 960-8059

time through summer. Duties; copying, filing, computer input, phones. Flex schedule. Salary \$11 p/hr. Email resume to lkovacs@mwbcpa.com

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No phone calls please.

Business Opportunities 5740

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Receive \$5 for every envelore

stuffed with our sales materi-



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ten communication. Multi-task position serves as liaison with speakers, suppliers, vendors and other depts. Candidate will assist in the development of marketing material for meetings and conventions, and will coordinate sessions and assist with small meetings. Prior project management, PR, event exp. a plus! Travel 20 days/ year; O/T during peak seasons. Send resume and salary requirements:

Director, Human Resources - MEP P.O. Box 9060 Farmington Hills, MI 48333-9060 FAX: 248 848 3771

FRONT DESK Looking for an enthusiastic dynamic and warm individual for our busy chiropractic Positon includes front desk, collections and assisting. Exp. preferred but not necessary. FT or PT with some evenings. Forward cover letter and resume to Jennifer, Fax 248-737-9093 or emial myotherapist@dr.com LEGAL SECRETARY

Full or part time. Farmington Hills. 2 plus yrs exp. Fax resume to 248-406-8001 OFFICE MANAGER

Needed immediately. Multi tasker, adaptable, detail oriented. Knowledge of all office equipment. Able to work inde pendently. 3 years exp Fax resume 248-426-7773 RECEPTIONIST Full time for

Farmington Hills law firm Opportunities for advance Email resume to Debbie at MiComLaw@aol.com

<u>hometownlife.com</u>

5020

RECORDS CLERK POSITION available for busy Farmington health care facility. Please fax

**REGIONAL SALES** OFFICE **ADMINISTRATOR** 

resume to 248-471-6682.

O.C. Tanner Recognition Company has an immediate opening for an organized indi-vidual to work as an administrative member of two small regional sales teams in Livonia, MI. Must be skilled in Microsoft Office and be able to learn company-specif ic computer applications. Wil be required to work closely with corporate personnel as well as established clientele so customer service experi ence is a plus. Competitive compensation and benefit package provided. resume in Word format to sheri.wegela@octanner.con

by January 5, 2007.

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5030

Help Wanted-Dental 5040

DENTAL ASSISTANT

Canton area. Email resume: lillev45@hotmail.com or fax

**DENTAL ASSISTANT** Part time chair side assistan needed in Plymouth. call 734-459-9360

Tues. - Thurs. 12-3.

Exp. Full-Time. Plymouth

Part time for Southfield office, Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri. & Sat. Fax resume to 248-358-3425 MEDICAL BILLING MANAGER needed to do billing and managing in Oakland County, 734-981-2683 Commerce Township. You must be experienced in medical billing. Please send

resume to bakar2000@yahoo.com

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

5040

Help Wanted-Dental

**DENTAL ASSISTANT &** 

RECEPTIONIST

Downtown Plymouth dental office looking for an ener-

getic, friendly, team players. Full-time. Experience needed. Fax resume to: 734-453-4513

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Organizational & communica

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patient & business activities

No dental exp req. Will train. 7 Mile & Farmington, Livonia Fax resume to 248-473-0211

or Call 248-471-3781

ORTHODONTIC ASSISTANT

Exp. 3 1/2 to 4 days. Work ref-

erences necessary. Seeking pleasant individual who is self

motivated, enthusiastic, com-

Birmingham area. Send resume to Box 1458 Observer

& Eccentric 36251 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia, MI 48150

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Marywood Nursing Care Center, a 103 bed Skilled

Nursing Facility, has an open-ing for a qualified individual to

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Interested candidates may

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Livonia, MI 48154

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5080

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HOSTESS Part time nights, experience

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Part time, nights & weekends required Apply Mon-Fri., 2-4 at:

Four Friends Bar & Grill 44282 Warren Rd., Canton **OFFICE ASSISTANT** 

Part time, Good organizationa skills, record keeping, attention to detail. Technologically literate, familiar with Word and Excel. Good oral and written communication skills trustworthy honest, depend able, and adaptable. Cheerful pleasant, with people skills Ability to follow directions Fax resume to: 734-941-4114

Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL (7355)

5080 Help Wanted-Sales

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(5120)

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Help Wanted-Sales

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Customer oriented interview today with Dominic A. DiFranco at:

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6410

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Nov. 16 Continues Draw

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Drexel Heritage, exceptional quality 2 piece formal or casual dining room hutch. Perfect cond.! Velvet silverware drawer & plenty of drawers/storage. Excellent for Holiday entertaining or Christmas gift! Orig. \$5200, asking \$2150. 734-223-8359 LATTERAL THIGH TRAINERw/video-\$50. Student beige Desk-\$60, Rolling storage cabinet-\$25. Office supplies-\$25. Royal Time clock-\$30, 2 toddler play sets-\$20, dol w/furniture-\$35

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### (7160)

LEAVING

STATE

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LOVESEAT Beautiful blue/red/green plaid color, excellent \$275.

MISC. Double loft bed, white almost new; single/futon bunk bed & 10' Christmas tree. Call

SOFA 4 yrs. old, \$1645 new, 84", fall colors, 2 pillows, excellent condition. Must sell. \$300 - 734-464-8965



Equipment

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A.

condition, 248-652-7349

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**Appliances** 

7180 **APPLIANCES** Frigidaire front load washer & gas dryer. Black GE gas stove. 1 1/2 yrs old. \$750/all. 734-664-9767

REFRIGERATOR - Black side

by-side, ice maker, ice cube,

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POOL TABLE, 8 ft. KASSON op of the line. Many extras. 1100/best offer. (248) 766-4432. or 248-855-5968

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MISC - Construction tools

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7500

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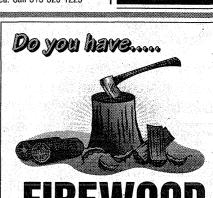
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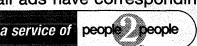


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voice messages. To review our complete guidelines, call (617) 425-2636





#### **WOMEN SEEKING MEN**

**FRIENDS FIRST** SBF, 37, 5'6", black/brown, easygoing, Aries, N/S, enjoys bike riding, long walks, travel, and cooking. Seeking WM, 30-50, N/S, for fun. 22933970 WHERE ARE YOU?

Very attractive, sexy SBPF, 35, 5'2", medium build, enjoys dining out, jazz, plays. ISO SBM, 40-52, commitmentminded and sincere, for LTR. 25950732 U WON'T BE DISAPPOINTED

Good-hearted SBF, 49, loves music, travel, togetherness. Looking for a sweet, sexy SBM, respectful and easy going, to share nice dinners, good talks, romance and affection. 27152214 **FIND ME** 

Attractive SAF, 49, N/S, 5' 3", 110lbs, slim build, seeks WM, 45-56, N/S, for friendship, and more. 2113901

LET'S TALK SOMETIME SBCF, 38, 5'6", 120lbs, smoker, loves jazz. Seeking BF, 30-45, smoker, for dining out and movies. for friendship, possible romance. 2152399

FORMER MODEL

SWF, 50, 5'6", slender, intelligence, creativity, passion for music and dancing. Seeks partner 38-50, who is attractive and fit, to share this interests and more. **25**600106

LET'S TALK SOMETIME SWF, 38, mother, enjoys Harleys, rockn-roll, good talks, classic cars, sports, amusement parks, casinos, meeting new people. Seeking outgoing, sweet fun man w/spontaneous streak to share new adventures with. 2962910

IS IT YOU? SWF, 56, tall, trim, seeks hard-working or retired, conservative SWM, 5'11"+, 58-65, with good values, educated, no tattoos, drugs, or games please. 27138981

SEARCHING FOR FRIENDS SF, 24, out-going, student. In search of a respectful SM, who knows how to treat a real woman, if this is you call me. **23146309** 

SF, 20, 5'9", long black hair, tattoos, big brown eyes, dimples, sweet smile, curvy enjoys Italian food, friends, keeping active, Looking for a nice, honest guy to get to know. 25150312

REFINED AND FULL OF LIFE Very attractive blonde, fit, energetic and happy, professionally employed, very youthful 60s, 5'3", trim and shapely, enjoys dining, travel, dancing, theater, family and friends. Seeking honest, handsome, fit, 55+, college grad, N/S

with youthful passion for life. Serious replies only. \$\oldsymbol{\alpha}\$652360 TAKE ME GOLFING Tidy SWF, 60, enjoys fine dining, traveling. Seeking golfer, best friend, confidante, 58-70, widower a plus. Honesty, trust, a must to make a relationship

work. 2976914 TRUE FRIENDSHIP WiAF, 62, 5', 100lbs, enjoys gardening, dogs, cats, cooking, dining out, travel Seeking kind, caring, honest, SW/AM, 55-70, slim, with understanding of asian culture, for friendship first, maybe more

later. 22139934 SOULMATE SEARCH Slim, attractive, 57-vr-old JF looking for her soulmate, any sincere, successful JM, between the ages of 54-64, please respond. \$\oldsymbol{\pi}589875

TALL, MUSCULAR SWM 47, 6'2", 205lbs, athletic, part time personal trainer, brown/blue, degreed, out-

#### Ready to meet great new people?

ARE YOU THE ONE? movies, travel, walks, great conversa-tion. Seeking commitment-minded, mature, loving man with similar interests for possible LTR. 2140023

**SEEKS SILVER FOX** Loving, lady, 77, seeks charming, heal-thy, happy gentleman, D/D-free, hum-orous with a kid disposition, years of wisdom and an interest in life. 2145778 SEARCHING FOR YOU

SBF, 36, attractive, trust-worthy, down to earth, likes walks, movies, dinners, park, music, seeks BM, 36-70, for friendship, possible romance. \$\overline{\pi}\$990369

**IVORY SEEKS EBONY** Honest, independent, separated WF, 47, 57", voluptuous, N/S, N/D, D/D-free, enjoys coffee shops, reading, walks, dining, movie nights, etc. ISO stable, secure, sociable, sweet SBM to share special times. \$14,7676 times. 22147676

**UPSCALE**, GRASS ROOTS Ebony woman, 43, emotionally available, 5'5", H/W proportionate, seeks strong, emotionally grounded, open and fun gentleman, to share deep romance. \$\frac{147056}{2}\$

MAYBE US? SF, 42, blonde/blue, leggy, loves all types of music, dancing, movies, nature road trips, dining and simple fun. ISO easygoing, loving guy to share talks, good times, friendship and more. \$\frac{1}{2593}\$

ONE GOOD WOMAN BBW, SWF, attractive, compassionate, down-to-earth. Enjoys movies, comedies, long walks, romantic evenings and more. Seeking employed SM, 38-55, to do and above them. share things together. Must like pets. 23947175

ISO CHIVALROUS MAN SBCF, 35, attractive, plus-sized, Capricorn, single mom, marriage-minded, N/S, seeks man, 40-55, family-oriented, old-fashioned, possible romance. LOOKING FOR YOU

Attractive SWF, Catholic, 59, N/S, 5' 6", good shape, seeks WM, 53-70, N/S, who enjoys golf, movies, theater, dining, long walks, church, and much more. \$\frac{1}{24235}\$ SEEKING SOMETHING NEW Down to earth, attractive SBF, 36, N/S,

out, shopping, traveling, seeks WM, 35-55, N/S, for friendship first, possibly more. \$\mathbb{T}123659 \cdot \text{...}\$ LOOKING FOR LIFE PARTNER Female, young 45, N/Kids, loves animals, nature, gardening, old cars, new music, and quiet nights. Seeking a man,

40-50,with a positive attitude and good SOH. Friends first, possible LTR. ☎113552 JOIN ME Assertive, feminine, active SBF, 33, outgoing, classy, seeks same., someone not afraid to live life. No drama no

games. Possible LTR. 2147376 SOMEONE SPECIAL Fun-loving, attractive SWF, 70, 5'5", 135lbs, blonde, retired, N/S, seeks wellgroomed WM, 65-72, N/S, to share life, romance, and possible relationship. \$\oldsymbol{\pi}891247\$

**LOVES BOATING** SWF, 65, 5'6", Aries, N/S, loves dancing and dining out. Seeking WM, 60-71, N/S, with sense of humor, for friendship, possible romance. 2890004

MR. RIGHT, ARE YOU THERE? SWF, 56, 5', HWP, easygoing, dependable, reliable, Taurus, N/S, social drinker, likes computers, nascar, casinos, sports, seeks WM, 46-56, for friendship, and more. 2112612 FRIENDS FIRST

WIWF, 68, 5'6", 145lbs, healthy, honest, happy, likes comedy films, country cooking. Looking for outdoorsy, active man affectionate and warm-hearted, to share the good things in life. 27139719 HI EVERYONE SF, 18, seeks nice, easygoing guy who

knows how to have fun, and knows how to treat a lady. Friendhsip first. 2142588 ALL OF ME SWF, 50, 5'10", big beautiful woman, 300+ pounds, easygoing, N/S, light drinker, enjoys nights out or in. ISO loving,

happy, commitment-minded man to share a happy, lasting, loving relationship. PETITE & SEXY...

SBF, sensitive, affectionate, loving, 51, looks 35, 5'1", 105lbs, NS. Seeking healthy SBM, 5'10"-6'1", to work out with.

ARE YOU THE ONE? SF, 25, 5'7", shoulder-length medium blonde hair, bright green eyes, outgoing, fun, loves fitness, outdoors, boating, cycling, camping, concerts, auto racing. Seeking active, fit, caring man who appreciates the same. 25953694

LOOKING 4 GENTLEMAN Attractive, professional, educated WF, 55, 5'2", slim, N/S. Interest include movies, concerts, comedy clubs, jazz, dancing, dining out, family ties. Seeking WM, 48-55, HWP, for lasting, loving LTR. 2973365

POSSIBLE LTR
SWPF, 57, 57", attractive, slender, athletic, Scorpio, N/S, enjoys sports, concerts, dining out, seeks WPM, 55-61, N/S, ducated, healthy, humorous, possible LTR. 27993381

59 YEARS OLD ENTREPRENEUR Pretty, charming SWF, successful, kind, compassionate, lots of fun, looking for her knight in shining armor. Any sincere caucasian gentlemen, 55-80, please respond. Hopefully we'll be each others soul mates. 2592074

**SEEKING A LADY?** SBF, 56, 5'4", 110lbs, slim build, Sagittarius, smoker, honest, sincere, retired, enjoys movies, concerts, travel, park walks, seeks man, 45-70, similar, for

friendship, possible romance. 2118410 HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU Easygoing SWF, 57, CNA, N/S, N/D, enjoys talks, togetherness, day trips, soft rock. ISO loving Christian man, N/S, N/D, w/children ok, to share talks, dates, simple times, then who knows? \$\oldsymbol{2}126925

COULD YOU BE THE ONE?
Loving, youthful SBF, 57, trim, shapely, very attractive, energetic, happy, enjoys dining, travel, amusement parks, the out-

doors, festivals, nature, family-friends, theater, more. Seeking like-minded gentleman to share these. 27121526 **SEEKING FRIENDSHIP** 

SBF, young 60s, w/good morals, caring, nice-looking, 5'3", 156lbs, N/S, N/D, N/Drugs, clean, honest living, partly retired, enjoys art, card playing, casinos, cardinal benefit man 50.60 and movies. Seeking honest man 50-60, race open. 27134425

I LISTEN WITH MY HEART Attractive DWF, late 40s, Cancer, N/S, seeks special, no games WM, 45+, N/S, for caring, quality committed relationship. Let's create sparks and watch them fly.

#### MEN SEEKING WOMEN

going personality, enjoys outdoors, working out, new activities, seeking friendly SF, age/location open. 2531308

Sweet, genuine SBM, 38, 6', 320lbs, good-looking, warm smile, enjoys writing, reading, drawing, music and much more. Seeking real, fun, open-minded lady to share the good times. \$\alpha\$152105

SHARP Easygoing SBM, 39, enjoys movies, music, long drives, gourmet tea, live music, much more. Seeking spontaneous SWF, 37-50, for friendship good times, good talks and maybe more. ☎152047

A GOOD CATCH SBM, 35, 5'8", 220lbs, dark complexion, shaved head, mustache, correctional officer, father, looking for a loving, good-hearted, child-friendly lady with whom to share life and all it offers. 2144595

WHAT R U WAITING 4? Very good-looking SBM, 42, 6'4", medium brown complexion, enjoys sports watching/playing, togetherness, nice dinners, good talks, romance and affection. Seeking special lady to share the good things in life. #144729

ROMANTIC & ATTRACTIVE DWM, 60, 5'11", 190lbs, seeks nice-looking lady to help share each others heart, and lifes daily adventures. 2146279

LET'S BE FREE TOGETHER SBM, 6', 220lbs, physically fit, retired, well-educated. I would like to meet a single female 52-62, who is understanding, loving and caring, for a LTR. 2869189

SINCERE AND LOVING Retired, 70s, DWPM likes classy, educated woman, 60-70, 5'3"+, likes family, church, gardening, conversation, winter sun areas. ISO romance leading to loving committed LTR. 2459777

YOU INTERESTED IN ME? SBM, 50, 5'8", medium-build, N/S, fun-loving personality, likes dancing, movies, dining out. Seeking passionate, sexy SF, 28-50, small-to-medium build, race open, kids ok, for friendship, possible LTR. 25946417

READ THIS AD! Handsome SBM, 29, seeks SW/BF, 21-40, must be energetic, mature and kindhearted, for dinner dates, outdoor activ-

ities, conversation, or watching a good movie. 2 152773 HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU Affectionate DWM, 64, brown hair, N/S, D/D-free, enjoys craft shows, flea markets, movies, dining, camping, The Red Wings. ISO a special lady, 48-59, to share friendship, dates, possible LTR.

**HUGGABLE TEDDY BEAR** SWM, 6', medium built, independent, N/S, seeks SF, 22-50, N/S, slim-average built, d/d-free, must be trust-worthy, honest and mature, for companionship, romance and more. 22148763

LET'S BE FRIENDS SBM, 5'10, 205lbs, N/S, enjoys riding bikes, walking in the park, rap music, sports and working-out. Seeking SW/AF, 36-42, for companionship, romance

and more. 2149349 IT COULD BE YOU SWM, 42, 5'11", 185lbs, looking for fun-loving, easygoing SF to enjoys talks, casual times and then who knows. Let's

talk. 2150204

JUST A CALL AWAY SBM, 36, 6'1", medium build dark complexion, shaved head, almond shape eyes, down-to-earth. Looking to meet similar lady to share a little love and romance. 22151282

**NEW TO AREA** SWM, 36, 6'5", athletic build, dark blond/blue, enjoys sports, outdoors,

music, movies, cooking and more. Seeking creative, fun lady with an open mind and heart to share friendship and A SPECIAL GUY

seeks honest S/DWF, w/sense of humor, who enjoys travel, candlelight dinners, plays, dancing, concerts, boating, and movies. Friendship, possible LTR. 2269646

**HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU** SBM, 44, 5'9", 150lbs, father, enjoys gourmet cooking, beach walks, sunshine, soft rock, much more. Seeking a loving, happy lady to share the special times in life. 27151943

TALL, DARK AND HANDSOME Sexy SBM, 6'1", 198lbs, enjoys soul food, R&B/rap music. Seeking attractive, mature SF, who is goal-oriented, D/Dfree, for friendship maybe more. No head

games. 27146128 WAITING FOR LOVE SWM, 28, 5'11", brown/hazel, honest, romantic, trust-worthy and mature, seeks

SF 18-40. with same qualities, for friendship, possible LTR. 22149422 HERE COME LOVE SWM, 53, cheerful, loving, enjoys scenic

rides, cooking, movie theaters and long walks. Seeking a loving, caring, honest SF, for companionship, romance and more. 2149642 LET'S GET TOGETHER

SM, 5'8", professional body builder, N/S, N/D, enjoys bowling, playing billiard and be adventurous. In search of a mature, confident, vibrant woman, to fill the missing piece in my heart. 22150885 LOVE COMFORT LAUGHTER

SWM, 49, 5'9", 195lbs, is nuts about nature, enjoys the outdoors, fishing, etc. Seeks compatible SWF, to have and hold.

**SERIOUS WOMAN WANTED** 

SBM, 46, looking for that special person for LTR, someone who enjoys walks movies, sporting events, cuddling a home. Please be shapely, independent and know what you want in life. 2569241

LOVE COMFORT LAUGHTER SWM, 49, 5'9", 195lbs, is nuts about nature, enjoys the outdoors, fishing, etc. Seeks compatible SWF, to have and hold

TRUE GENTLEMAN
SBM, 52, 5'8", 185lbs, looking for a medium to full-figured SBF, 46-54. Someone who is worldly, nice, loves to laugh and just enjoying life to the fullest. 2912726

**WORTH A CALL** SWM, 48, 6', 175lbs, N/S, homeowner, hard-working, easygoing, honest, secure, enjoys motorcycling, hunting, the out-doors. Seeking honest, secure, attractive slim/fit woman, 25-50, N/S, D/D-free.

ARE UTHE ONE? SM, 6'1", red/blue, independent, enjoys

the outdoors and gardening. Seeks SF, 18-65, for dinner dates, possibly LTR.

DO YOU LIKE ROMANCE? DWPM, 60ish, N/S, D/D-free, honest, car ing, humorous and romantic, in search of SF, 50-70, with same qualities, for conversation, friendship or romance. 2146036 **CALL ME** 

SHM, 23, 5'7", 190lbs, black/brown, looking to meet a cool, easygoing, real lady to get to know, share good times. 2147347

HEY LADIES SM, 22, brown/green, 185lbs, student employed, looking to meet a nice, fun-loving SF for friendhsip, dates, talks, and then who knows? 22147388

**CALL ME SOMETIME** Self-employed SM, 51, 5'11", 177lbs, blue eyes, loves enjoys motorcycles, the out-doors, travel, cooking, music from modern rock to motown, and much more. ISO, affectionate, honest SF, slim-medium build. Friendship/LTR? 2146467

YOU COULD BE MINE SBM, 56, 5'11", 200lbs, N/S, seeks SF, 25-65, N/S, to go to the movies with, have dinner or good conversation, for friendship, romance or casual fun. ☎148705

WAITING FOR YOU SBM, 5'11", cute dimples, mustache, independent. Seeking honest, slender, attractive SBF, 18-20, for friendship, romance and more. 2149097

SERIOUS SWM, 71, N/S, widowed, 5' 8", 150lbs young at heart, enjoys outdoors, cooking dining out, traveling, seeks slim, petite female, 62-70, N/S. 2118483

SEARCHING FOR LADY LOVE

SM, 51, 5'11", 185lbs, enjoys the out-doors, boating, dining out, music, long walks, etc. Seeking honest, caring SF, who enjoys same activities, for companionship, friendship and romance.

NICE GUY SWM, 66, 5'6", 150lbs, manufacturers representative, Libra, N/S, works out enjoys movies, restaurants, and summer festivals. Seeking SWF, 50-65, N/S. Shirley, please call back. \$\pi708126

SWPM, 54, 5\*11\*, 170lbs, trim, Aquarius, N/S, likes music, art, golf, landscapes, architecture seeks WPF, 44-60, attractive, fit, active, financially secure, intelligent, possible LTR. 2984220 HERE IS PRINCE CHARMING

**ECONOMICALLY VIABLE** 

SPM, athletic fit, humorous, enjoys meeting new people, brunch, wine tasting and being romantic. Seeking intelli-gent, active, honest SF, for companionship, casual fun or LTR. 25145078

LET'S TALK Laid-back SWM, 52, smoker, brown/ brown, likes riding Harley's, the country, seeks open, honest WF, 35-54, for possi-

ble LTR. 27124193 **LONELY & READY** 

SWM, 49, average build, Italian, heart of gold, Virgo, N/S, seeks WF, 45-55, with a nice build, ready for LTR. Serious replies only. Redford Area. 2860305 FRIEND AND CONFIDANT SWM, 74, active, educated, financially-

secure, seeking a nice woman. Join me for dining, dancing, and classical music. I'm a good listener, and would love to hear from you! \$\frac{1}{2}\$139382 THAT'S ALL

SWM, 66, tall, thin, Scorpio, N/S, seeks WF, 60-68, N/S, old-fashioned, slim, fit, humorous, possible romance. 2116761 SHARE GOOD TIMES SBM, 27, 6', 173lbs, N/D, N/kids, slim build, brown complexion, glasses, likes

movies, long walks, Jesus, cooking, music, bowling, mexican food, shyness, seeks SB/HF, 25-28, N/S, for friendship, possible romance. 22980453 **UNUSUAL REQUEST** Nice-looking, extremely busy, Grosse Pt. SWPM, 6'3", 228lbs, N/S, N/Drugs, ISO over 45 also extremely busy SWPF,

pretty lady, for great friendship and spe-cial times. I know how to treat a lady and practice the golden rule. 2143494 WHY WAIT? SM, 54, 5'8", 155lbs, outgoing, spontaneous, enjoys car shows, motorcycles, fishing, time with someone special. Looking for a good-hearted, active,

happy lady to share talks, dates, friend-

ship, more. 2147906



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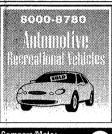
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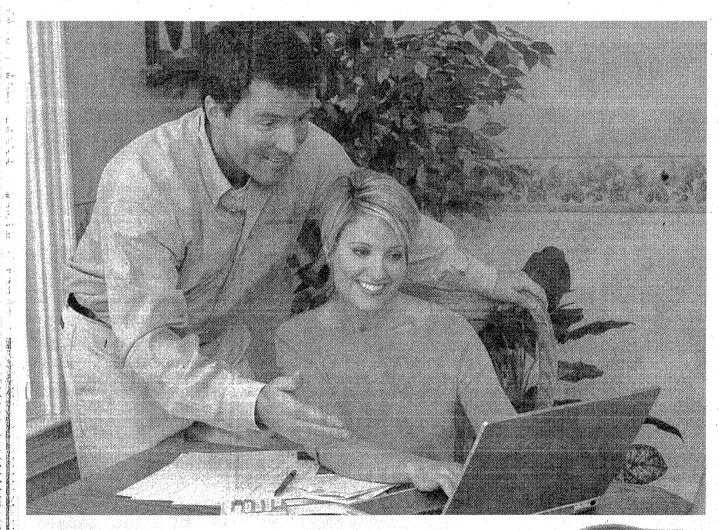
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## MEET THE PATRIOT - THE BRAND-NEW JEEP

Advertising Feature

**CAReport** 



By Wendy Clem **Avanti News Features** 



The ads say: Take the lead, adventure will follow. The 2007 Jeep Patriot evokes all the red-white-and-blue images, with the exception of an apple pie on the front seat. Proud. Authentic. Resourceful. Capable. A real 4x4 Jeep vehicle, with all the bells and whistles. At an affordable price.

Yes, Jeep may signify a way of life for many, but today's Jeep products are filled with new luxuries and extras not offered with the original. This new Patriot is one of those, and just recently debuted.

It's what Jeep considers its gateway vehicle for first-time buyers. By establishing brand loyalty with the young and upwardly mobile buyers – those who like SUV looks but need a family-versatile transport - Jeep will lock them in for decades to come.

Patriot is Trail-Ready to go off-road. It offers three drive configurations: Front-wheel drive, Freedom Drive I, and Freedom Drive II Off-Road Package.

The former entails a full-time, active 4-wheel-drive system with Lock mode, and the latter a full-time, active 4-wheel-drive system with low range that provides the

That means that Freedom Drive I engages the rear wheels when the front ones slip, as in most SUVs. But it's the Freedom Drive II package that serious offroaders will want - it includes Hill Descent Control, skid plates and tow hooks, 17-inch wheels and tires, and off-road anti-lock brakes. Freedom II drivers also sit an inch higher than with the standard features. Standard features include brake assist, anti-lock brakes with rough-road detection (modifying operation of the wheel slip by directly sensing the road conditions), sidecurtain airbags, electronic brake traction control module (the sharing of the brake actuator and the wheel-speed sensors with the anti-lock brakes) a sensor that uses information to deploy airbags in certain

rollover and side-impact situations. An AM/FM single disc CD radio with auxiliary audio input jack, outdoor temperature display, Vinyl Tech seats, manual windows, tilt steering wheel, rear defogger, adjustable center console (the armrest moves 3 inches to allow for the driver's size, however diminutive), rear 60/40 seats that fold down, and 12volt power outlet round out more of the Patriot's



2007 Jeep Patriot. Vehicle class: Sport-utility vehicle. Power: 2.4-liter 4-cylinder engine. Mileage: 25 city / 30 highway. Where built: Belvidere, III. (engine in Dundee, Mich.) Base price: \$15,985

standard equipment.

By altering the seats - including the fold-down front the total cubic cargo feet is 62.7 in the Patriot. An available rechargeable flashlight/cargo lamp is ingenious, and the vinyl "Ultra Floor" in the cargo space holds up to 250 pounds and is washable and removable. The Limited Patriot features even more with standard: dimming mirrors, speed-sensitive power locks, air conditioning, power windows and fold-away mirrors, fog lamps, Remote Keyless Entry, all-season floor mats, 115-volt auxiliary power outlet, tire pressure monitoring system, YES Essentials fabric on the cloth low-back seats, deep-tinted sunscreen glass, a fold-flat front passenger seat and passenger assist handles, temperature and compass gauge, reclining rear seat, to name just some.

The additional Boston Acoustics Premium 458-watt sound system has rear lift-gate speakers that swing down to get tailgate parties started, or assist considerably.

Choice of two trims rolls into the two models, the Patriot and the Patriot Limited, with 4x4 features for both

With a 2.4-liter 4-cylinder engine with Variable Valve Timing (for fuel input and exhaust output), the Patriot offers 172 horsepower with 165 foot pound of torque. The VVT produces better fuel use and more Patriot power. Upgrades are also possible.

The best-in-class fuel economy suggests 25 miles per gallon in the city and 30 on the highway. Tests for durability covering the equivalent of 16 million miles brought the Patriot through with flying colors. A Jeep for smooth surfaces? Why? Well, Jeep realizes not everyone lives in the backwoods and many actually

do city driving. So, by giving off-road capabilities as well as serious competition with other makes that DO drive on smoother surfaces, Jeep is smart enough to attract consumers who never owned a Jeep before. Add decent fuel economy and traditional lines with new twists and extras, and they may just have something here. An optional towing package allows the Patriot to haul about one ton; without the extra, however, towing ability hovers around 1,000 pounds - or roughly the equivalent of a pop-up camper or trailer with a motorcycle, compact boat or all-terrain vehicle. A power sunroof is another available choice, as are heated leather seats and lumbar support. Eight exterior colors, all geared to withstand years of exposure to sleet,

rain and snow are part of the deal. Chrysler's new soil-repellant fabric, YES Essentials, is in the Patriot and is anti-microbial, resistant to stains and odors, and discoloration.

The boxy shape is still there, as is the macho image. But new efficiency and the ability to veer off-road at any moment abounds, as an adventure waiting to happen for drivers – even if they spend the majority of their time veering through rush-hour, bumper-to bumper. And the base price is under \$16,000 for an entry-level chance at Jeep ownership.

It's the promise of the unexplored, the unknown, the expansive adventure to conquer that will keep buyers interested. Owning this truck will be like living a dream: the all-American, Patriotic dream.

Wendy Clem covers the automotive beat for Avanti NewsFeatures. Write her at wendyclem@gmail.com. Mail to: wendyclem@gmail.com @2006, Fracassa Communications.

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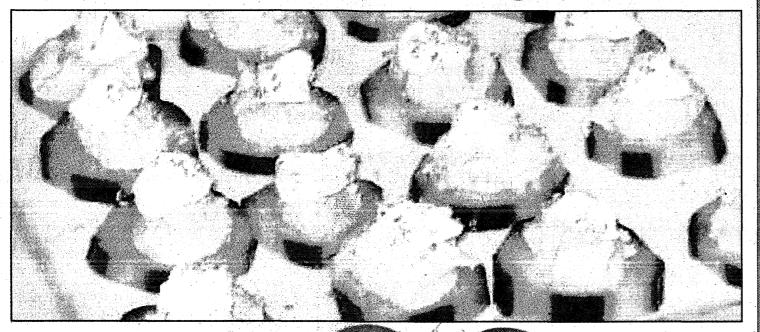
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# A very vegg holiday



BY LANA MINI STAFF WRITER

eople often look confused and ask, "What do you eat, especially during the holidays?" when I say I'm

My response: "Same things you do, minus the flesh." Simple. If my family has turkey, mashed potatoes, yams, salad and green beans, I eat everything minus the turkey.

If my family eats pasta with meat sauce, eggplant, artichokes, nuts and kale, I



Mini

simply change the meat sauce to marinara or garlic and oil. I use tofu in place of ricotta in lasagna, seasoned with garlic, and everyone's happy. Veganism is easy for

first-generation Mediterranean households because we primarily eat fruits, grains, nuts and veg-

etables anyway. (FYI: Vegans don't consume any animal

products including fish, dairy and gelatin. Yes, we eat chocolate, minus the added

Being vegan, even during the holidays, is easy, and there's little worry about weight Nor do I fret about protein because, as

the American Heart Association and American Journal of Clinical Nutrition said this year, Americans eat way too much of it.

If you have a vegan in your life, you've probably had the same discussions. Switch chicken broth with vegetable

Try these recipes for your vegan guests

broth in recipes. Use soy margarine instead of butter, and silken tofu or half a banana can substitute for an egg in nearly any recipe.

#### MINI CRUSTLESS TOFU QUICHES

Olive oil spray 1 teaspoon minced garlic ½ cup bell pepper 1 cup chopped mushrooms 1 tablespoon minced fresh chives (or one green

1 teaspoon minced fresh rosemary (or 1/2 teaspoon dried, crushed)

Black pepper to taste

112.3-ounce package light firm silken tofu,

drained of water ¼ cup plain soy milk

2 tablespoons nutritional yeast (Find this at any natural food store. It has a nutty flavor, is

high in B vitamins and helps thicken recipes.) 1 tablespoon cornstarch

1 teaspoon tahini (preferred; it's a sesame oil that's used in hummus and other Middle

Eastern recipes) or cashew butter

¼ teaspoon onion powder ¼ teaspoon turmeric

¼ teaspoon salt

Top cucumbers with hummus for another meat-free appetizer.

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees Fahrenheit. Spray 12 muffin cups well with non-stick spray. Lightly spray a non-stick skillet with olive oil. Sauté garlic, bell peppers and mushrooms over medium heat until the mushrooms begin to exude juices. Stir in chives, rosemary and freshly ground black pepper and remove from the heat.

Place remaining ingredients into a food processor or blender. Process until smooth. Add tofu mixture to the vegetables and stir to combine. Spoon into the 12 muffin cups; it will fill regular muffin cups about halfway.

Put the muffin pan into the oven and immediately reduce heat to 350 degrees Fahrenheit. Bake until the tops are golden and a knife inserted into the middle of a quiche comes out clean - about 25-35 minutes. If you're using a metal pan, check it at 20 minutes. Remove and allow to cool for 10 minutes.

Source: www.fatfreevegan.com

#### THAI BEAN CAKES

Makes 12-15 2-inch cakes. 1 400g tin of butter beans 1 large spring onion (scallion), chopped 1 big handful fresh coriander (cilantro), roughly chopped

2 teaspoons Thai red curry paste ¼ cup shredded coconut ½ cup flour Salt and pepper Lime wedges (optional)

Olive oil

PLEASE SEE VEGAN, D2

## New naturalization test makes grade

Purtan's Person Wendell Ledbetter has agreed to buy a copy of today's 'Observer ਈ Eccentric' on the condition that we allow him to write this col-

ecently, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service announced plans for a new naturalization exam to be given to prospective



Dick Purtan

The updated questions are designed to test the knowledge of those wanting to make the U.S.A. their home, and include queries such as, "George

citizens.

Apparently, they

lost the old one.

Washington is known as the father of our country. How many other countries has he fathered?" and, "After Paul Revere rode through the town warning the Colonists, what singing group did he then join?" (Hint: We play their songs on the Motor City's 104.3 WOMC - a shameless plug, but I digress.)

#### OFF THE AIR WITH DICK PURTAN & PURTAN'S PEOPLE

There are also some multiplechoice questions. For instance, "The first Thanksgiving was held in 1621. For what were the Colonists giving thanks?

A) The harvest. B) Good health.

C) That there was no Lions game on that day."

Another is, "After Herbert Hoover left the presidency, he ... A) became a senator.

B) retired.

C) went into the family vacuum cleaner business." And, "Who said, 'Our long

national nightmare is over'? A) Gerald Ford after Watergate. B) Woodrow Wilson after

World War I. C) Britney Spears after her breakup from Kevin Federline." Other multiple-choice ques-

tions facing our future citizens include, "The Pilgrims came over

on the. A) Mayflower. B) Pinto.

C) Bob-lo."

And, "Which of the following was used to get us out of the Great Depression? A) Pharmaceuticals.

B) Electro-shock therapy.

C) A government-sponsored work program. D) The Dick Purtan radio pro-

gram (sorry, last plug)." Other questions are designed

to make the test taker do some thinking. For instance, "How many illegal aliens does it take to screw

the national treasury?" Or, "If George W. Bush had been president during the Civil War, what would he have called it?" (Please, no letters.)

It's important to know history or we will be doomed to repeat it – like I had to do in the 11th grade!

Even the word "history" has an interesting etymology. (The most sophisticated word I know. I hope I used it right. I guess that's why they pay editors.)

"History" can be broken down into "his" and "story." Get it? His

story! They would have called it HER story except that when said rapidly, it sounds like you have a bad lisp. (Try it!)

Now, a few more questions need to be included in the revised citizenship exam, such as, "Who said, 'The only thing we have to fear is Doctor Kevorkian'?'

And, "In the Bill of Rights, does the right to remain silent apply to mimes?"

And finally, "President Lyndon Baines Johnson had a wife named Lady Bird and a daughter named Lynda Bird. What's with the ornithological fascination? Was he just trying to feather his nest?"

Becoming a new American citizen is a very joyous day in the life of an individual, right up there with the day you get married, the day your child is born or the day you heard that you could buy cheese in a can!

**Dick Purtan** answers your questions from 5-10 a.m. every morning on The Motor City's 104.3 WOMC. Off the Air with Dick Purtan & Purtan's People will return Jan. 11. Have a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year.

## Make Christmas brunch, 3 ways

BY T. SUSAN CHANG FOR THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

If you have the time to do some preparation on Christmas Eve, a make-ahead brunch is an easy and impressive way to feed a crowd.

Everything comes down to reheating or preheating the oven. A last-minute green salad would round out

The rolls can be prepared a day or two ahead and kept covered in the back of the refrigerator until you're ready to bake. The soup can be prepared entirely the day before and reheated Christmas morning; the flavors will only deepen.

#### CRANBERRY NUT BREAKFAST ROLLS

½ cup orange juice, strained

⅓ cup sweetened dried cranberries

1/4 cup (1/2 stick) butter, melted and cooled, plus 6 tablespoons (3/4 stick), softened

1 cup buttermilk

2 large eggs

3/4 cup sugar

1 teaspoon salt 1 tablespoon active dry yeast

3 cups bread flour

1/3 cup coarsely chopped roasted pecans or walnuts Vegetable oil or nonstick vegetable oil spray Zest of 1 orange, removed in strips and finely diced

For the icing:

2 cups powdered sugar 1/4 teaspoon pure orange extract

½ cup heavy cream (optional)

For the rolls, in a small saucepan over medium-high heat, bring //2 cup orange juice to a boil. Place the cranberries in a bowl. Once the orange juice has boiled, pour it over the cranberries and let stand 10 minutes. Strain the berries, reserving the liquid. Set both aside.

In the microwave or on the stove, combine the melted butter and buttermilk and gently heat until warm (no more than 115 degrees Fahrenheit). Transfer to a large mixing bowl. Add the eggs, 1/4 cup sugar, salt and yeast.

Add the flour and knead until the dough is cohesive. Knead the strained cranberries and nuts into the dough. Continue to knead until the dough is smooth and elastic.

Use the vegetable oil or cooking spray to lightly coat another large mixing bowl. Shape the dough into a ball and place in the bowl, turning to coat with the oil. Cover

## Use these Web sites to help yourself, others

t's time for another round of insanely useful Web

This batch helps you share big files, stay organized, find an honest mechanic and even support worthy

**HACK YOUR LIFE** 



Tech Savvy

Rick **Broida** 

The word "hack" gets a bad rap. Witness Lifehacker.com; which aims only to help you live, work and compute better. Each day the site serves up dozens

of tips, tricks, how-to's, software recommendations and more. Topics range from do-it-yourself wrapping paper to a site that lets you save YouTube videos.

In the interest of full disclosure, I'm one of Lifehacker's contributors. But trust me when I say this is one site worth bookmarking.

SHARE LARGE FILES

Most e-mail systems won't let you send attachments larger than 10 megabytes (MB). So what happens when you need to send someone a really big

Head to GigaSize (gigasize.com). Without so much as registering, you can upload and share files as large as 300MB. Sign up for a free account and the limit increases to 1.5 gigabytes (GB).

After you've uploaded your file, GigaSize will email a link to the intended recipient, who can then download it. It doesn't get much easier than that.

#### **MANAGE YOUR TASKS**

Not good at staying organized? Always forgetting birthdays and other important events? Need an easy way to manage your task list? Look no further than Remember The Milk (rememberthemilk.com).

This free site lets you build to-do lists, add due dates, categorize items, and much more. You can print your list in a handy weekly-planner format or access it right on your cell phone.

Even better, you can add tasks to your list just by sending an e-mail to a special address. And RTM will send reminders via e-mail, text message or even instant message. It's the ultimate site for the chronically unorganized.

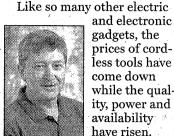
PLEASE SEE BROIDA, D2

## Cordless power tools make good gifts

oliday shopping is just about to be wrapped up (no pun intended). Unless, of course, you are like me and it is just about to begin.

One suggestion I like to make for holiday gifts is cordless tools, and now is a good

time to buy them.



Ask Dad

Harry Jachym

less tools have come down while the quality, power and availability have risen. Holiday sales are also in full swing. Almost any corded tool

made is now

available in

cordless models. They are available in many power ranges, weight ranges, quality ranges and price ranges. Because of this, it can be very confusing to figure out what is the best tool to suit

your needs. This will be a basic guide to what tools are essential, "nice to haves" as well as a guide as to what to look for in cordless power tools.

The most popular cordless power tool is the drill/driver, so called because it is used as often to drive screws as it is to drill holes.

Behind the drill are light duty saws, both circular and reciprocating. Finish nailers have become very popular.

Busch's conducts its Wags and

Wishes program through Dec. 24

to help the Michigan Humane

Make a donation to the

Michigan Humane Society by

purchasing any of the items on

the Wish List and dropping them

Society.

off at Busch's.

Like so many other electric and electronic gadgets, the prices of cordless tools have come down while the quality, power and availability have risen. Holiday sales are also in full swing. Almost any corded tool made is now available in cordless models.

Cordless tools now often come in "combination kits." More on kits later.

#### **POWER**

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 21, 2006

Where corded tools are usually rated by watts or amps. the most common rating of cordless tools is by volts. However, torque, motor size and speed are important parts of the rating.

The industry standard for cordless power tools was 9.4 volts for quite some time. Now, however, 14.4 volts and 18 volts are considered the standard. Many companies are making cordless power tools in the 24- to 36-volt

Voltage is important but it also adds weight. This can be an important consideration when you consider who will most use the tool. Voltage also adds to the cost of the tool.

For just about all household jobs, an 18-volt tool will prove more than sufficient.

You can also make a donation

right at the register. All proceeds

The Wags and Wishes Wish

and kitten food, cat litter, cat and

List includes: canned dog, cat

dog toys, kong toys (Large and

XL), stuffed dog toys, dog treats

benefit the Michigan Humane

Buy items to help the Michigan Humane Society

towels.

te\_wishList

COST

Although the prices of cordless power tools are getting more reasonable, they still can range from just under \$100 to \$1,000 and up for a combo

The14.4-volt tools are available usually for \$70 to \$100, where the 18- and 24-volt range tools will cost a bit more. The 36-volt tools tend to be very expensive.

#### KITS

Though kits tend to be quite expensive, if you plan on a wide variety of projects, a cordless power tool kit may be a good consideration.

Kits contain several tools with a shared battery pack and charger. Although they can initially be costly, the cost per tool will prove to be a value.

The real benefit of a kit is that it shares the battery. Batteries are often the most expensive part of the tool. Kits usually come with a carrying case and flashlight that works off the battery.

#### BATTERIES

Batteries for cordless power tools can be very expensive to replace.

Older tools used NiCad batteries. These are much heavier than lithium-ion (li-on) batteries now used by most tool manufacturers.

NiCads don't have the same life span as li-ons and were plagued with "memory." Memory is where the battery, if charged before it is drained, will only give service for the

and rawhide chews, chain leash-

es, cat and dog collars, blankets,

Dropoff locations are 24445

wipes, facial tissue and paper

For more items visit

length of time it was used. Lithium-ion batteries are often used in cell phones and laptop computers. They have improved the performance of nearly every cordless power tool in use today.

They pack more voltage into smaller cells. This means that higher powered tools can be made much more manageable and lighter. Li-on batteries also recharge faster than NiCads.

#### WHERE TO GET POWER **TOOLS**

Of course the big box home improvement stores are a good source for cordless power tools. There are also many sources on the Internet.

If you have questions about what tools are appropriate to buy, I suggest it is best to shop at a power tool specialty store such as Marsh Power Tools in Livonia. Specialty shops have very knowledgeable staffs and good selections.

Cordless tools make great gifts for any homeowner, male or female. Cordless drills make a great starter. If your budget allows, consider a combination kit.

I wish you all the best of this holiday season. Harry Jachym writes Ask Dad, a column on home issues ranging from repairs and maintenance to building and remodeling projects. He is a Plymouth resident.

Send any questions or comments to Jachym at askdad@ comcast.net or in care of Mary Klemic, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009.

MECHANICS FILES The Ultimate Guide to Finding a Great Mechanic s database of over 16,000 great mechanics, recommended by — and for — the Ca The Mechanics Files shows customer reviews and ratings for mechanics in

your area, and lets you add ratings of your own.

#### **BROIDA**

#### FROM PAGE D1 **SEARCH FOR GOOD**

Wouldn't it be great if you could support a charity just by using a Web search engine? You can, with GoodSearch.

Powered by Yahoo, GoodSearch works just like a regular search engine, except that 50 percent of its ad-generated revenue goes to a charity, school, nonprofit or other organization.

The site currently supports thousands of them, and you can add one of your own using the provided online form. To make GoodSearch searches more convenient, you can add a special toolbar to your brows-

I'd prefer it if GoodSearch relied on Google instead of Yahoo, but that's not going to stop me from supporting worthy causes.

#### **FIND A GREAT MECHANIC**

I know plenty about technology, but almost nothing about cars. That's why I listen to Car Talk on NPR, and why I use the new mechanic-database on the show's Web site (www.cartalk.com/content/mec hx/find.html).

Just enter your ZIP code to find a list of mechanics in your area, along with reviews written by other customers. If you've had a good (or bad) experience with a mechanic, you can contribute it to the database.

Now if only someone would set up a site like this to rate



Lifehacker aims to help you do things better, faster, easier and cheaper.



GoodSearch, you're also making a small contribution to charity.

doctors, attorneys, piano tuners and other service providers.

In the meantime, what Web sites do you find most useful? Write me at the address below and tell me about them.

Rick Broida writes about computers and technology for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Broida, of Commerce Township, is the co-author of numerous books, including How To Do Everything with Your Palm Powered Device, Sixth Edition, He welcomes questions sent to rick.broida@gmail.com.





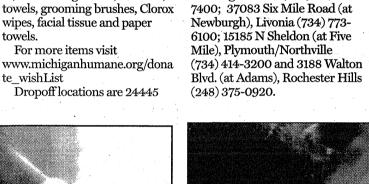
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WHEN YOU GIVE to a Red Kettle, it's not just coins and bills landing inside — you're putting HOPE into that kettle, helping The Salvation Army rebuild the lives of tens of thousands of people in Southeastern Michigan who have nowhere else to turn.

Give now at 1-877-SAL-MICH



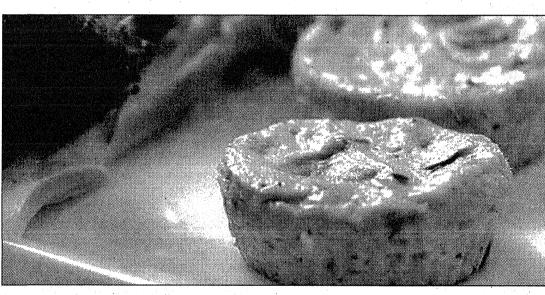
1-877-SAL-MICH REDKETTLECAMPAIGN.ORG



Drake (at Grand River).

Farmington Hills (248) 427-

7400: 37083 Six Mile Road (at



Your vegan guests can try these mini crustless tofu quiches.

### **VEGAN**

Drain beans and place in a food processor with the spring onion, coriander, red curry paste and coconut. Chop until you have a chunk puree. If you don't have a food processor, a stick blender or a potato masher will also work. Add the flour, season, and mix further until it's the consistency of mashed potatoes.

Put a tablespoon or two of olive oil in a nonstick pan and turn flame to medium-high. When oil is hot, drop dollops onto the pan, making sure that the cakes don't touch. Shallow-fry until golden brown, then flip and press down to flatten. Cook another few minutes until both sides are golden brown. Serve with lime wedges or sweet chili or peanut sauce dips.

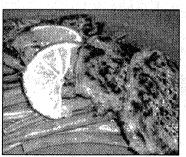
#### STUFFED MUSHROOMS

2 tablespoons olive oil 8 large flat mushrooms 1 chopped onion 1 crushed garlic clove 1/4 cup rolled oats 18-ounce can chopped tomatoes with herbs 1 teaspoon hot pepper sauce

¼ cup diced pecans or pine nuts ½ cup soy parmesan

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees Fahrenheit. Use a small amount of oil to grease a shallow baking dish large enough to hold a single layer of the mushroom caps and set

Remove the mushroom stalks, chop, and set the caps aside. Sauté the onion, garlic and mushroom



These Thai bean cakes take on a zesty flavor with red curry paste, coconut and cilantro.

stalks in the oil until lightly browned. Stir in the oats and sauté for another minute. Add the tomatoes and hot sauce

Arrange the caps with the hole side up in the prepared baking dish. Divide the stuffing mixture between them and layer on the nuts and soy cheese.

Bake for 25 minutes, allow to cool, and serve.

Source: Vegetarian Resource Group

#### My Easy Chocolate No-bake CHEESECAKE

I promise it's one of the easiest desserts you'll ever make. 2 containers Tofutti Better Than Cream Cheese (It's dairy-less cream cheese, and it's at most natural food stores like The Good Food Company and some Kroger stores in the natural food aisle.)

> 2 packages of Jell-O Instant **Chocolate Pudding** 1 container of vegan non-dairy vegan whipped cream (option-

al, but I like it) 1 large graham cracker pie crust

Soften the Tofutti cream cheese in the microwave, or leave it at room temperature for a few hours. Make the instant pudding.

With an electric beater, blend the Tofutti for about a minute until it starts to smoothen. Add the pudding and blend for about 30-40 seconds. Gently stir in half of the whipped cream.

Add all into graham cracker crust, refrigerate and enjoy.

#### **HUMMUS-STUFFED CUCUMBERS**

15-ounce can chickpeas, rinsed and drained 1 clove of garlic, chopped 3 tablespoons fresh lemon juice

3 tablespoons tahini 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive

1 teaspoon ground cumin Kosher or other large crystal/flake salt 1 large seedless cucumber

2 tablespoons toasted sesame seeds (optional)

Toss the chickpeas, garlic, lemon juice, tahini, olive oil, cumin, one-quarter teaspoon salt and two tablespoons water in a food processor. Process until smooth.

Wash the cucumber and chop off the ends. Peel, but skip spaces to create a striped pattern. Then slice into 4-inch slices. Use a small spoon or melon baller to put hummus on each cucumber slice.

When finished, sprinkle with toasted sesame seeds.

Recipe adapted from www.visualrecipes.com

zine recipe for the crispbread

with smoked salmon includes

own crispbread crackers, but

there's no need to bother with

baking; packaged crackers do

CITRUS SALAD

2 tangelos or 3 mandarins

Chopped mint (optional)

medium bowl. Set aside.

to the bowl with the zest.

2 tablespoons orange liqueur

Grate 3 tablespoons zest from

the oranges. Place the zest in a

Section the oranges, or peel

Add the oranges and their juices

Section or peel and cut up the

grapefruits and tangelos or man-

Gently stir in the sugar and

liqueur, if using, to taste. Cover

and refrigerate until chilled. If

Makes 6 servings. Start to fin-

CRISPBREAD WITH PEPPER-DILL

CREME FRAICHE AND SMOKED

SALMON

2 tablespoons chopped fresh dill,

plus additional sprigs

1/2 freshly ground black pepper

24 flatbread or crispbread crack-

1/4 pound sliced smoked salmon,

1 teaspoon finely grated orange

In a small bowl, stir together

creme fraiche, 2 tablespoons dill,

spoon of the creme fraiche mix-

ture onto each cracker. Top each

cracker with 1 piece of salmon

and a sprinkle of orange zest. If

Makes 24 crackers. Start to

Recipe from Gourmet magazine's The

Gourmet Cookbook, Houghton Mifflin,

YOGURT AND GRANOLA PARFAITS

1 pint fresh strawberries (hulled

In four tall parfait glasses,

alternate layers of yogurt and

or five layers, starting with

berries and serve with long

ish: 15 minutes.

yogurt. Top the parfaits with

granola, for a total of about four

Makes 4 servings. Start to fin-

and sliced), raspberries or

1 quart raspberry yogurt

4 cups granola

hlueherries

desired, add additional dill

sprigs as garnish.

finish: 20 minutes.

salt and pepper. Spoon1/2 tea-

cut into 1-inch pieces

desired, sprinkle with mint.

Recipe from Joy of Cooking: 75th

Anniversary Edition, Simon and

ish: 20 minutes.

Schuster, 2006, \$30.

½ cup creme fraiche

¼ teaspoon salt

darins, removing any seeds.

Combine with the oranges.

and cut into bite-sized pieces.

just as well.

4 navel oranges

2 grapefruits

Sugar, to taste

(optional)

directions for making your

with a damp cloth and let rise

until doubled, about 1 hour. Meanwhile, oil or spray two 9inch cake pans and set aside.

Once the dough has risen, divide it in half. Roll one half into a 12- by 8-inch rectangle: Spread 3 tablespoons of the softened butter over the dough. Sprinkle with half of the orange zest and 1/4 cup of the sugar. Roll up the dough from the long side. Dampen the edge of the dough with water and press to seal the seam. Cut into 12 even slices.

Place the rolls, cut-side down, into one of the prepared cake pans. The edges of the rounds should touch. Repeat this process with the remaining dough. Cover the pans with plastic wrap and refrigerate overnight. The rolls can be refrigerated up to four days.

When ready to bake, preheat the oven to 375 degrees Fahren-

Remove the dough from the refrigerator and place in a warm place to rise until the rolls have doubled, about 30 minutes. For a creamier roll, drizzle ¼ cup heavy cream over each pan of rolls. Bake for 20 minutes, or until golden brown.

While the rolls are baking, prepare the icing. In a small bowl, combine the powdered sugar, orange extract and orange juice. Whisk until smooth. To ice the rolls, place the rolls on a cooling rack over a tray or foil to catch any drips. Use a brush or spoon to spread a thin coat of icing over the tops of the rolls. Transfer the rolls to a plate and serve warm.

Makes 24 rolls. Recipe time, start to finish: 2 hours, 1½ hours active, plus overnight rise. Recipe from Carol Gordon's Sleep on It, Hyperion, 2006, \$13.95.

#### **BUTTERNUT SQUASH AND ROASTED**

APPLE SOUP 1 large (4 to 5 pounds) butternut squash

3 tart apples (such as Granny Smith), peeled, cored and

quartered 1/2 pound shallots Coarse salt and freshly ground

black pepper 2 teaspoons fresh thyme leaves 13/4 cups apple cider

2 tablespoons unsalted butter, cut into small pieces 4 cups chicken or vegetable

1/2 teaspoon ground coriander Freshly grated nutmeg, to taste Salt and freshly ground black

pepper, to taste

1 cup heavy cream

Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit. Line a baking sheet with foil.

Cut the squash in half down its length and scoop out and discard the seeds. Place the halves cut side down on the baking sheet and roast until very tender, about 11/2 hours. When done, the neck of the squash will feel soft to the touch, the skin will be wrinkled and browned in spots, and the juices will have caramelized on the pan. Leave the squash on the pan until it is cool enough to handle.

Meanwhile, combine the apples and shallots in a roasting pan. Season with salt and pepper and the thyme. Pour in3/4 cup cider, then dot with the butter. Cover the pan with foil and roast for 1 hour.

Remove the foil from the pan and roast the apples and shallots another 30 to 45 minutes. When done, the shallots should be very tender and most of the juices should be absorbed. Let cool for several minutes

Use a food processor to puree the shallot and apple mixture, in batches, until smooth. Transfer to a large stockpot.

Cut the peel off the squash and puree the flesh, in batches if necessary, in the food processor. Add the pureed squash to the stockpot.

Whisk the stock, the remaining cup of cider, the coriander and nutmeg into the vegetable puree. Bring to a boil, then reduce to a simmer. Season to

taste with salt and pepper. Add the cream, then return to a simmer. Cook for 1 minute. If

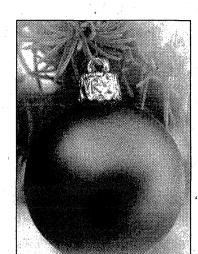
desired, serve garnished with Makes 6 servings. Start to fin-

ish: 3 hours, plus 30 minutes to reheat. Recipe from Roy Finamore's Tasty,

Houghton Mifflin, 2006, \$30.

#### WILD MUSHROOM AND GRUYERE TART

For the crust: 1⅓ cups flour 1 stick unsalted butter, cold and cut into/z inch chunks 1/2 teaspoon salt



½ cup ice-cold water

For the tart filling:

1 tablespoon olive oil 3 shallots, thinly sliced 12 ounces mixed mushrooms (shiitakes and creminis work well), sliced/rinch thick (about 3 to 4 cups) Leaves from 2 sprigs fresh

thyme, chopped ½ cup white wine 3/3 cup coarsely grated Gruyere cheese

3 egg yolks 1 cup heavy cream Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste

To make the crust, in a food processor combine the flour, butter and salt and pulse briefly. or until the mixture resembles coarse crumbs. The largest chunks in the mixture should be the size of small peas.

With the food processor pulsing, drizzle in the water. Stop adding water as soon as the dough comes together. Remove the dough and carefully form into a disk. Cover tightly with plastic wrap and refrigerate while preparing the mushrooms, about 30 minutes.

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees Fahrenheit.

Heat the oil in a large skillet over medium heat. When the oil begins to shimmer, add the shallots and saute until just translucent, about 4 minutes. Add the mushrooms and thyme and saute until the mushrooms are wilted and have lost their moisture, 15 to 20 minutes.

When the mushrooms are nearly dry, deglaze the pan by adding the wine and scraping the skillet with a wooden spoon.

Remove the dough from the refrigerator and quickly roll out. Set the dough into a 9-inch tart pan with removable bottom, carefully pressing it into the edge and up the sides.

Line the dough with foil or waxed paper. Fill the tart shell with dried beans or pie weights, then bake for 10 minutes. Remove the weights and foil and bake another 5 minutes, or until pale gold.

Scatter half of the cheese over the bottom of the tart shell. Spoon the mushroom mixture evenly over the cheese. At this stage, the tart can be refrigerated overnight.

When ready to bake, preheat oven to 375 degrees Fahrenheit.

In a small bowl, whisk together the egg yolks and cream, then drizzle over the mushroom mixture. Scatter the remaining cheese over that. Bake for 35 minutes, or until just puffed and golden brown. Serve hot.

Makes one 9-inch tart. Start to finish: 90 minutes.

#### **QUICK AND EASY CHRISTMAS BRUNCH**

Many perfectly satisfying brunches are just variations on eggs and toast. This dressedup version would be even better with country ham to serve with the biscuits. Warm up a big bowl of apple sauce spiced with cinnamon sticks and cloves to provide a sweet side.

This full-flavored frittata has only one tricky spot - flipping it to cook the other side. A lightweight nonstick pan makes a big difference. This recipe also is easily doubled (be sure to use a larger skillet).

If you happen to have access to good-quality lard, it gives these biscuits incomparable texture and flavor. They also are good made with butter or shortening.

**ZUCCHINI AND MINT FRITTATA** 1 tablespoon olive oil

1 clove garlic, peeled 1 large zucchini, thinly sliced Coarse salt 4 eggs

½ yellow onion, finely chopped

Peperoncino or freshly ground black pepper, to taste 1 tablespoon chopped fresh mint 1 tablespoon caciocavallo or

pecorino cheese, grated

Heat the oil in an 8-inch skillet, nonstick skillet over a medium heat. Saute the onion and garlic clove (whole) until the onion softens, but does not brown, about 10 minutes. The garlic adds a subtle flavor.

Add the zucchini and sprinkle light with salt. Saute 10 minutes, or until the zucchini slices have softened but still retain their shape. The seeds should appear swollen and almost translucent.

In a small bowl, beat the eggs, then whisk in a bit of salt, the peperoncino or black pepper, mint and cheese.

Reduce the heat under the skillet to low, then pour the egg mixture over the zucchini. Cook for 10 minutes, gently shaking the pan now and again, or using a spatula around the edges to make sure the frittata is not

The bottom of the frittata should be golden and firm, but the center should still have give. Remove the skillet from the

Put a plate over the pan and quickly invert so the frittata slips out upside down. Carefully slide the frittata back into the pan (the top of the frittata now should be on the bottom) and cook another 5 minutes. Serve warm or at room temperature.

Makes 2 servings. Start to finish: 1 hour

Recipe from Clarissa Hyman's Cucina Siciliana, Interlink Publishing Group,

#### BIRD-HEAD BUTTERMILK BISCUITS

21/4 cups sifted cake flour (or 2 cups sifted bleached all-pur pose flour), plus more for your work surface and hands

1 tablespoon baking powder 1 tablespoon plus 1 teaspoon sugar 1 teaspoon salt

4 tablespoons unsalted butter, cold and cut into several

2 tablespoons lard or vegetable shortening, cold and cut into several pieces

3/4 cup whole or lowfat butter-

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees Fahrenheit.

In a medium bowl, use a fork to mix the flour, baking powder, sugar and salt. Transfer the mixture to a food processor fitted with the chopping blade. Add the butter and lard and pulse the mixture in 2-second increments until the mixture resembles coarse crumbs with a few peasized pieces, about five pulses.

Transfer the mixture back to the bowl, pour the buttermilk over it and mix with the fork until the dough just comes together, about a minute. Turn the dough out onto a floured surface. Knead with floured fingers once or twice.

Fold the dough into a 6- by 10-inch rectangle about 1 inch thick. Fold the rightmost third of the rectangle over the center third, then fold the left third on top. Turn the dough a quarter turn, pat it into a 6- by 10-inch rectangle, and fold it upon itself in thirds again. Repeat one more time, then once again pat the dough into a 6- by 10-inch rectangle about 1 inch thick.

Using a floured 2-inch biscuit cutter, cut the biscuits from the dough and place them about 11/2 inches apart on an ungreased baking sheet. Bake 15 to 20 minutes, or until the tops just begin to brown. Serve the biscuits warm.

Makes about 16 biscuits. Start to finish: 30 minutes

Recipe from Matt Lee and Ted Lee's The Lee Bros. Southern Cookbook, W. W. Norton, 2006, \$35.

#### NO-COOK **CHRISTMAS BRUNCH**

Sometimes it's too much of an effort even to approach the stove Christmas morning. So it's good to have a plan that requires little more than a

## Discover Christmas

Wellspring Church Sunday, December 24, 2006 10 am and 10 pm

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248.442.0421

#### **Champagne: Wine** knife and a chopping board. The citrus salad can be made the night before. The yogurt from a unique place and granola parfait can be assembled up to two hours before and kept chilled without resulting in a soggy granola. The original Gourmet maga-

hampagne comes from the region in France known as Champagne. No other sparkling wine, originating from another place, can legitimately be

labeled champagne. Larry Mawby makes delicious sparkling wines from grapes

grown on

Michigan's

them from

Peninsula. Why

Ohio, New York

Champagne?

Michigan

would he label

Leelanau



Focus on Wine

Ray and Eleanor

cheese is not labeled Vermont Heald and Wisconsin cheese is not labeled Michigan.

An appellation defines a wine's origin. Because Champagne is universally respected for its quality wines, others have attempted to use the name Champagne to enhance the image of their product. Since some sparkling wines in the U.S. are incorrectly labeled Champagne, you should read labels carefully.

#### **CHAMPAGNE - THE REGION**

The principal cities of the Champagne region are Reims, centered around the 13th century cathedral that has hosted the coronation of most of the French kings, and Epernay, completely surrounded by vines and known as the capital of Champagne. Both cities are home to many prestigious champagne houses, names that you recognize. In Reims there's Veuve Clicquot Ponsardin, Piper Heidsieck, Mumm, Roederer and Taittinger while Epernay is home to Pol Roger, Moet & Chandon, Mercier and Perrier Jouët. Many

are open to visitors. Located 90 miles east of Paris, the Champagne region uses only pinot noir, chardonnay and pinot meunier grapes, grown in four major growing areas known as the Montagne de Reims (pinot noir), the Vallée de la Marne (pinot meunier), Côte des Blancs (chardonnay) and Côte des Bar (pinot noir). Within these four regions. there are 15,000 grower living in 320 villages that grow grapes for champagne production. Of these villages, 17 are entitled to grand cru designation. while 44 are designated premier cru. To complicate things further, some are awarded grand cru or premier cru for red grapes but not white and vice versa. Using three grapes varieties from 320 villages explains why the blending process or assemblage requires so much skill.

#### **THREE VARIETIES**

Soils of the Montagne de Reims and Côte des Bar favor pinot noir which provides structure and depth of fruit in a cuvée (blend). Côte des Blancs, with predominantly chalk and limestone soils, is most hospitable to chardonnay, which imparts a bright, crisp elegance to young

#### WINE PICKS

Recommended CHAMPAGNES by **NON-VINTAGE** Chartogne Taillet Brut Cuvée Sainte

Anne \$42 Bollinger Special Cuvée \$50 Taittinger Brut La Francaise \$35 TETE DE CUVEE AND VINTAGE **CHAMPAGNES** 

1997 Bollinger Grande Année \$120 1996 Pommery Brut \$70 1996 Pol Roger Brut Cuvée Sir Winston Churchill \$206 1998 Nicolas Feuillatte Chardonnay Blanc de Blancs \$45

NV Perrier-Jouët Brut Rosé Blason

NV Taittinger Cuvée Prestige Rosé

Brut \$60 DOMESTIC SPARKLING WINES 2002 Domaine Carneros Brut Cuvée

1999 Domaine Carneros Le Reve Blanc de Blancs \$59 Domaine Carneros Brut Rosé Cuvée de la Pompadour \$34 NV J Brut Rosé, Russian River Valley \$32

2001 J Vintage Brut, Russian River Valley \$32 2000 Etoile Brut \$28 (new, easyopening crown cap!)

wines, is very ageable and provides a refined fruitiness to aged champagnes.

Pinot meunier is grown primarily in the Vallée de la Marne. It provides an early maturing richness and fruitiness to non-vintage champagnes and is meant to be consumed young, but is usually not included in vintage wines destined to be aged.

Although most champagne is a creation of the blender's talent, using all three varieties from 60 to 70 different Champagne villages, there are wines that emphasize one grape variety or one appellation. Taittinger's Comtes de Champagne Blanc de Blancs emphasizes elegance, grace and longevity since chardonnay from the grand cru villages of the Côte des Blancs dominates the blend. On the other hand the wines Bollinger are full, round and complex since they grow 80 percent red varieties, the best from the Montagne de Reims, which dominate its blends.

Champagne Salon Le Mesnil is made from chardonnay grown in one of the best crus in the Côte des Blancs, Le Mesnil-sur-Oger. This very expensive and distinctive wine is the equivalent of a single vineyard champagne, made only in top vintages.

This column about champagne is the second in a series. The third part will run Dec. 28.

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





## That's a Wrap!

year long.

### Waste not, want not on Christmas Day

belt tied in a bow add

detail to this sweet

seasonal look.

First comes the fun part - oohing and aahing over your gorgeous gifts. But then, you're left to clean up all the gift wrap that was torn off and cast around the room.

What do do with all the crumpled paper, ribbons and ornaments that adorned your presents? Make it easy on yourself and the environment with these recycling tips from Lisa Gleeson, owner of Lisa's Gift Wrappers and ReadySetWrap.com in Royal Oak:

#### Ornaments

Your very best glass ornaments should be protected with bubble wrap, but rather than send all the colorful, crumpled wrapping paper to the local landfill, smooth it out and put it aside till you take down your tree. Use that paper to wrap your ornaments, making sure the white side of the paper is against the ornament so that humidity and heat do not cause the ink on the paper to bleed onto your

ornaments. The main thing is to provide enough cushion between them to eliminate breakage, but you'll also have fun next year remembering what came wrapped in each paper design! Shred the leftover papers for more cushion between your ornaments in their storage boxes.

#### Cards

Save the ones you like. Cut off the back half of the card, and store them in a box with your papers and ribbons. Next year, glue them on the top of your packages as decorations, use them as nametags or let the kids use them to make ornaments. Alternatively, donate the cards to your local school, or craft-related organizations to be used in art projects throughout the year.

#### Ribbons

Pieces that are too small (less than 12") to make a bow or wrap another box can go along with your cards to places like artsandscraps.com in Detroit, or you can give them to your scrapbooking friends or art teachers

for use in smaller projects.

Those beautiful

#### Bows

silk and wired ribbons and bows can be attached to an ordinary coat hanger with safety pins and saved for next year. Once you've hung them, cover them with the plastic drape from your last drycleaning job, and hang them in your closet.

#### Kid's Stuff

Those little paper-and-glue ornaments your kids make in elementary school may not take your breath away, but they are made with love. Take the time to add a little extra glue, a new ribbon hanger or just reinforce the ornament, then store it carefully. Someday, your adult child will be thrilled to receive a box of all the little things they made for you over the years, and put them on their own tree with childish delight. Build a holiday trousseau for them!

Wear It! Red!

DON'T Wear It! Holiday sweatshirts with flashing lights

Tote It! My Flat in London Argyle series Drink It! Silknog

Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest

TiVo It!

Heroes

Panera Holiday Bread

Click It!

www.cafetraditions.com

Kick It! Puma sneakers comfort minute

shopping! Indulge It!

Candy Cane Dreams spa package at Tamara Spa + Wellness in Farmington Hills See It!

The Pursuit of Happyness

Experience It!

Not leaving home on Christmas Day!

Do It!

Recycle your wrapping materials (or save them for next year!)

### list

**Teen Holiday Fashion Challenge** Use your holiday break constructively and sew up your

knowledge of fashion with a threeday Project Runway style challenge at Haberman Fabrics in Royal Oak. Teens will be challenged with new projects each day, and enjoy friendly competition against their fellow designers. Cost, \$175, includes a \$60 fabric voucher and daily snack. Prior experience necessary. Noon-5 p.m., Dec. 27-29. Call (248) 541-0010, www.habermanfabrics.com.

#### Michael Werdiger Trunk Show

Just because you've waited until the last minute, doesn't mean you can't find a gift with 'wow.' You can't go wrong with jewelry, Bailey, Banks & Biddle at the Somerset Collection will host a Michael Werdiger trunk show Dec. 21-24. The event kicks off on today with refreshments and hors d'oeuvres. Call (248) 649-2008.

'Green'' Christmas Visit Greenmead Historic Village in

Livonia for a romantic Christmas past. The Livonia Historical Commission is hosting Christmas Candlelight Tours in the historic

village Dec. 26-27. Tour buildings in candlelight glow, then enjoy hot cocoa, tea and cookies in the Friend's Meeting House while listening to the Livonia Civic Chorus. Tours, at 6 and 8 p.m., are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children. While you're at Greenmead, pick up the second annual Christmas collectible ornament from Historic Greenmead, a replica of the Newburgh Church. The ornaments, finished in gold and gift-boxed, are \$15. Also available are Christmas cards featuring the Shaw House Door, 20 for \$16, and Hill House in the Snow, 10 for \$10. All proceeds benefit Historic Greenmead, 20501 Newburgh Road, Livonia. Call (248) 477-7375.

#### **Target Helps Salvation Army**

Visit www.target.com and purchase a virtual ornament for the Angel Giving Tree to benefit the Salvation Army. Personalize the color, wing shape and wing pattern of your online ornament knowing your

donation will provide new clothing, toys and food to families in need. Or, visit your local Target store and purchase a limitededition Harvey Lewis angel ornament accented with red Swarovski crystals. The ornaments (\$9.99) also benefit the Salvation Army.

A Birmingham Holiday

Santa has moved into Shain Park, and will be accepting visitors through Christmas Eve. See Santa on Saturday from 1-5 p.m. and on Christmas Eve from 10 a.m. to noon. Birmingham also will offer free carriage rides on Christmas Eve from 10 a.m.-noon. The Carriage boards at the southeast corner of Henrietta and Martin. Enjoy the beautiful window displays and holiday lights downtown on a romantic horse-drawn ride. For more information go to www.enjoybirmingham.com or call the Principal Shopping District Office at (248) 433-3550,

**Great Lakes Crossing Rewards** Each day during the holiday season,

Great Lakes Crossing will randomly present gifts to shoppers with a minimum \$50 value. Goodies include prize packs from AMC Theatre, Crabtree & Evelyn, Saks Off 5th, Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory, Sanrio, Hot Topic, Harry & David, Neiman's Last Call and more. Visitors also can experience "Happy Feet," a 20-foot walk-through snow globe promoting the hit movie. On select days, visitors to the Pistons Holiday Village can meet players, dancers and Hooper the Mascot. For a complete list of holiday activities, visit shopgreatlakescrossing.com.

Taubman launches "My Mail"

Strategize last-minute shopping right from your desk with a new online service. Detroit area Taubman centers are offering "My Mall," a free Web site feature that allows you to create online shopping lists, sign up for e-bulletins from your favorite stores, and stash coupons, exclusive offers and more in your very own virtual shopping file. Log onto www.shopfairlane.com, www.shopgreatlakescrossing.com or www.shoptwelveoaks.com, click "My Mall" and let your fingers do the shopping. 

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Cat antics PAGE 3

PAGETT

Hollich fordolfst

## Gogol Bordello was a scene

STAFF WRITER

There's a reason Gogol Bordello's concerts were recently named Spin magazine's scene of the year.

If you were at the sold-out, foot-stomping, jumping show at the Majestic last week, you know why.

If you didn't make it, you missed out. But don't fret because the band is a touring machine — and is releasing a new CD in 2007, so expect more concerts.

2006 was Gogol Bordello's year.

New York's gypsy punk rockers, formerly of Eastern Europe, Gogol Bordello is a band known for its wild shows. There's arguably no other frontman today who gives as much energy as Eugene Hutz — and that's obvious by the audience's frenzied reaction. It's one big party at a Gogol show.

After coining the term "Gypsy Punk" with their last album Gypsy Punks: Underdog World Strike and fronting a musical movement - with shows consistently sold out whenever the band hits Detroit — Gogol Bordello toured Europe and the U.S. through all of 2006.

The band topped the charts on UK Independent Album and UK Rock & Metal Chart and perform three sold-out UK tours.

Gogol Bordello's world music edge is strong since its band members' backgrounds span the globe: Russia, Israel, the Ukraine, a Chinese-Scot, Thai

American and one member born in the United States.

Focused on dispelling cultural apathy and pushing music's boundaries, the band's sound is definitely punk but also includes traditional Roma (gypsy) sounds, flamenco, perestroika punk and Jamaican dub.

Frontman Eugene Hutz, born in Kiev, fled his homeland during the Chernobyl disaster and settled in Vermont after living in refugee camps in Italy, Austria and Hungry.

Very few bands can claim ownership to their own style, but Gogol is an eightpiece band that plays the style known now as gypsy punk. The New York Times described them as "Iggy Pop meets Kafka."

As for the band's activities in 2007: Hutz will return to the UK for a series of shows with the Kolpakov Trio, musicians



The band members of Gogol Bordello bring backgrounds that span the globe, including Russia, Israel

he cited as heavy influences. Sasha Kolpakov, a virtuoso of the seven-string guitar, teaches traditional music and dance at the Romen Theatre in Moscow, the only Roma (gypsy) theater in the

Hear them at www.gogolbordello.

#### ..... Main Highlight: December 23 @8 pm \$25 Dueling Pianos: Michael & Amy LIVE from New York Sponsored by The Partnership for the Arts and Humanities. Inc. Martini & Tapas Pre-concert @ 7 pm \$15 21 years and above only please

2007 Main Highlight: January 6 @8 pm \$40 Comedian John Heffron

Sponsored by The Partnership for the Arts and Humanities. Inc. Ages 17 and above please

January 8 - March 4 Art Exhibition - Rock My Soul by Arts League of Michigan Free and Open to the Public

First Friday in the Biltmore Studio January 5 @8 pm \$10 CabaretAMARI's

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. . . . . . . . . . . . .

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Box Office and Art Gallery Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am- 2 pm; Fri-Sat 7 pm- 9 pm and Sun 5:30-7:30 pm Plus One Hour Prior to Every Show

## Beyoncé tops music chart

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weekly charts for the best-selling recorded music in the United States as they appear in this week's issue of Billboard magazine. Reprinted with permission. (Platinum signifies more than 1 million copies sold; gold signifies more than 500,000 copies sold.)

#### **TOP 10 LIST**

- 1. Irreplaceable, Beyoncé. Columbia.
- 2. I Wanna Love You, Akon (feat. Snoop Dogg). SRC.
  - 3. Fergalicious, Fergie. will.i.am. 4. Smack That, Akon (feat. Eminem).
- 5. My Love, Justin Timberlake. Jive. 6. Say It Right, Nelly Furtado. Mosley.
- 7. Wind It Up, Gwen Stefani.
- 8. We Fly High, Jim Jones. Diplomats.
- 9. How to Save a Life, The Fray. Epic. (Gold-certified sales of more than
- 10. Shortie Like Mine, Bow Wow (feat. Chris Brown & Johnta Austin). Columbia.

Copyright 2006, VNU Business Media and Nielsen SoundScan Inc. Compiled from a national sample of sales reports collected, compiled and provided by SoundScan; radio playlists; and monitored radio by Broadcast Data Systems.

#### **HOT COUNTRY SONGS**

- 1. Want To, Sugarland. Mercury. 2. My Wish, Rascal Flatts. Lyric
- 3. My Little Girl, Tim McGraw. Curb.
- 4. Before He Cheats, Carrie Underwood. Arista.
- 5. She's Everything, Brad Paisley. Arista Nashville.
- 6. It Just Comes Natural, George Strait. MCA Nashville.
- 7. You Save Me, Kenny Chesney. BNA. 8. Watching You, Rodney Atkins.
- Curb. 9. Some People Change, Montgomery
- Gentry. Columbia. 10. Tim McGraw, Taylor Swift. Big
- Machine.

Copyright 2006, VNU Business Media and Nielsen SoundScan, Inc. (Compiled from a national sample of monitored country radio by Broadcast Data

www.hometownlife.com

#### Inside this week's

C) GANNETT

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You'll be amazed at the crazy antics of the Moscow Cats Theatre.

#### FILM -- 4

Fans of sick and twisted animation will enjoy a festival of the same name at the Magic Bag Theatre.

#### ART - 6

The Detroit Institute of Arts continues to show the Annie Leibovitz: American Music exhibit through Jan. 7.

#### **ARE YOU GAME? - 9**

Filter staff writer Lana Mini writes about her experience as a model at Dr. Sketchy's Detroit.

#### COVER - 10

Home for the holidays? We've got ideas to get everybody out of the house. Yes, everyone, including out-of town guests.



#### TABLE HOPPING

Take a bite of small plates and a sip of a cocktail at Side Bar, right next to Beans & Cornbread.

#### GET OUT! - 14

Got no plans? Make some after vou check out our expanded entertainment calendar of

#### CLASSICAL — 17

The Chamber Music Society of Detroit continues its season with Trio con Brio Copenhagen.

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Shoot. We don't have any tickets for Bob Seger, but we do have a fun quiz.

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Greg Kowalski thinks you'll cheer for the villain in Mr. Hell.

#### Observer & Eccentric

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Editorial office: (248) 901-2587 / Advertising: (734) 953-2153.



Yuri Kuklachev combines the whimsy of clowning with a love for acrobatic felines in his Moscow Cats Theatre.

## Music Hall show is cat's meow

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA STAFF WRITER

Stray cats don't just adopt new owners, they can also inspire them.

That was the case with The Moscow Cats Theatre, which recently made its Detroit debut, drawing cat lovers of all ages. The show continues its run Dec. 22-23 at Detroit's Music

It began 25 years ago when Russian-born entertainer Yuri Kuklachev took in a stray cat he found on the street. He nursed the fluffy feline back to health. One day, to escape the hot weather, the cat hid inside a cooking pot and fell asleep. When Kuklachev found the cat, he took it out of the pot but the cat hopped right back into its hiding place.

That encounter inspired him to create the world's first and only Moscow Cats Theatre, a show centered around and devoted to the

antics of clever cats. It features the acrobatic antics of 30 cats, two dogs, clowns and a cast led by Kuklachev himself.

> cat," said Yanis Gelfman, the show's producer. "(Yuri) understands their likes and dislikes and plays with them on stage."

"You don't have to train a

Kuklachev appears from behind a shiny silver curtain, and with little encouragement draws

acrobatic antics from his cast of fluffy felines. Cats appear darting across the stage, sometimes chasing after a dog or two. They sit perched in swings that slide across a high wire. They lounge inside a set of plastic hoops as Kuklachev carefully swings them in circles. And the cats climb upon perches, peering high above the crowd.

He observes them from the time they are kittens," Gelfman said. Kuklachev works with the cats for two years before bringing them on

#### **MOSCOW CATS THEATRE**

When: 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 22; and 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 23. Where: Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit.

Tickets: \$49.90 and \$54.90, call (313) 887-8501

More information: www.moscowcatstheatre.com.

stage. He discovers which felines like to climb and which are more docile. Their roles in the show are determined by their own personalities, Gelfman said.

Kuklachev founded Moscow Cats Theatre in 1990, but brought it to the United States only a year ago. Gelfman said audiences are responding to the performances.

People are amazed," he said. Gelfman believes that the Moscow Cats Theatre debunks myths that cats are independent or untrainable.

PLEASE SEE CATS, E21

 $A_{ij}A_{i$ 

## Animation festival gives holidays a new twist

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA STAFF WRITER

When it comes to holiday traditions around metro Detroit, the most offbeat annual sensation is housed at the Magic Bag Theater.

Each December, the Ferndale bar and movie house welcomes Spikeand Mike's Sick & TwistedAnimation Festival, a collection of animated short films with a wicked twist.

The tradition began in 1992, four years before owner Jeremy Haberman took the reins. But he's kept the touring festival alive and well — always showing it right around the hol-

"People flock to it every year," Haberman said. "They love it every single year. We're fortunate to have this event."

He said the timing of the festival tends to draw college kids who are home for holidays.

"It gives everyone something to do," he said.

As for the festival itself, this year's event includes 21 new short films including a reluctant superhero named Dr.

Tran; the Happy Tree Friends; two new Weird Al Yankovic videos by Seth Green and Bill Plympton and more.

"Every year they seem to really out-do themselves," Haberman said. The festival has

been credited for launching the careers of successful animators including Mike Judge (Beavis and Butt-head), South Park creators Matt Stone and Trey Parker; and Craig McCracken (Powerpuff Girls).

Willy Wilson, director of publicity for the Magic Bag, noted how the festival has changed over the years.

"The shorts are a little bit more thought-out and better-

#### SPIKE AND MIKE'S SICK & TWISTED ANIMATION FESTIVAL

Where: The Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. When: Shows at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, Dec. 26-30. Tickets: \$7 at the door. More information: Call (248) 544 3030 or visit www.themagicbag.com.

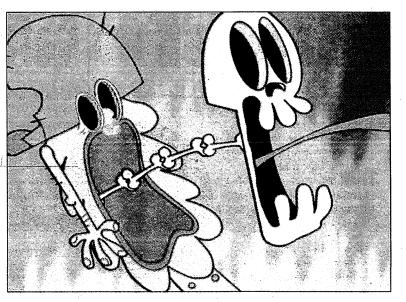
constructed," he said. "With expanding technology, they're getting better and better."

Wilson also noted the festival's influence on the growth of animation and cartoons in general, naming the expansion of Cartoon Network's Adult Swim programming as an example.

"That's where a lot of these artists got their start," he said.

To catch the latest installment, stop by the Magic Bag from Dec. 26-30.

"We're psyched it's still going, and still going strong,"



Happy Tree Friends star in A to Zoo in this year's Spike and Mike's Sick & Twisted Animation Festival at the Magic Bag.

Haberman said.

"I know everyone's going to have a great time. I can't wait to see it myself."

But be warned, he said the festival is not for the sensitive. It includes graphic violence, nudity and explicit language.

Show times begin 30 minutes to one hour after doors open and the show runs for about 90 minutes without intermission.

scasola@hometownlife.com (248) 901-2567





# Yzerman will be honored at Hockeytown Cafe

Here's a gift for the sports fan in your life: A night with Steve Yzerman.

A limited number of tickets remain for the Tuesday, Jan. 2, event for fans who want to join Yzerman as he unveils his jersey number plaque at the Hockeytown Café in Detroit.

Detroit's beloved Red Wing will make a private appearance in the cafe's lobby as his jersey plaque is added to other retired Red Wings greats like Sid Abel, Alex Delvecchio, Gordie Howe, Ted Lindsay and Terry Sawchuck.

There, fans will receive the same fun prizes as those who attend the game that night at the Joe Louis Arena including a mini-replica Steve Yzerman banner and commemorative player card.

Guests can watch the entire pregame ceremony and Red Wings game

against the Anaheim Mighty
Ducks on a large projection
screen at Hockeytown.

Plus you can enter a drawing to win an autographed Steve Yzerman jersey. Doors will open at 5 p.m. with the televised pre-game ceremony scheduled to begin at 6:30 m.

Tickets are \$25 and are on sale at the Fox Theatre and Joe Louis Arena box offices, Hockeytown Authentics in Troy, and at all Ticketmaster locations, including Macy's. Charge by phone at (248) 433-1515 or purchase online at www.olympiaentertainment.com or www.ticketmaster.com.

For more information, call (313) 471-6611.

## NASA astronaut visits Cranbrook

Mark your calendars for A Place in Space: The Cosmic Journey of Ellen S. Baker 1-4 p.m. Jan. 7 at Cranbrook Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills.

Cranbrook Art Museum and Institute of Science present Family Fun Day and welcome NASA astronaut Ellen S. Baker who will present A Place in Space.

Before and after Dr.
Baker's lecture, see the
exhibition Space Is the
Place, at Cranbrook Art
Museum (through Jan. 14).
Featuring paintings, sculpture, photographs, sound and
video this exhibition combines
humor and serious reflection about
humankind in the space age.

During Family Fun Day, the Art Museum will feature gallery games and interactive tours that will involve visitors of all ages in lively discussions.

Baker is the lead astronaut for medical issues and education programs at Johnson Space Center since 1985 and veteran of three space flights. Baker has logged over 686 hours in space. Tickets are \$4-\$8 for museum members (CAM/CIS) and \$6-\$10 for non-members.

Lecture tickets include admission to both museums and planetarium program discount

Public museum hours are 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesdays-

Sundays, and 11 a.m.- 9 p.m. the fourth Friday of each month.

The Museum is closed on Mondays-Tuesdays and selected holidays.

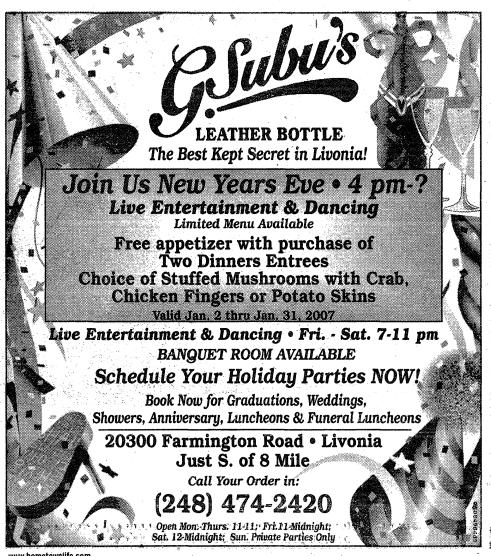
Cranbrook Academy of Art and Cranbrook Art Museum are located at 39221

Woodward Avenue in Bloomfield Hills.

Enter on the west side of Woodward Avenue between Lone Pine and Long Lake Roads.

Free parking is available adjacent to the Art Museum and in Cranbrook's new parking deck, located between Cranbrook Art Museum and Cranbrook Institute of Science.

For more information, call 1-877-GO-CRANBrook (1-877-462-7262) or visit the Web site at www.cranbrookart.edu.





## American Music photo exhibit closes Jan. 7

Procrastinators beware — the *Annie Leibovitz: American Music* exhibit will close Jan. 7.

Time is running out to see the popular photography exhibition at the Detroit Institute of Arts. The show is on view for only three more weeks.

The holidays mark a perfect time for those who have been planning to see the exhibition, but haven't yet made the time. During the week between Christmas and New Year's — when many people have a break from school and work — the museum will be open one additional day, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 26.

American Music features intimate portraits of those who shaped and were influenced by American roots music, which includes folk, blues, country, gospel and bluegrass. Aretha Franklin, The White Stripes, Willie Nelson and Etta James are just a few of the artists whose images were captured by Leibovitz, one of America's most renowned photographers. In



Detroit, the exhibition is sponsored by LaSalle Bank.

The show includes 70 color and black-and-white portraits of Leibovitz's recent work in addition to several classic images from the late 1970s and 1980s.

Detroit music celebrities are represented in the show, including rapper Eminem, the "queen of soul" Aretha Franklin, and rock icons Iggy Pop, Patti Smith and The White Stripes.

Leibovitz has created casual, formal and whimsical portrayals of music personalities in settings as diverse as juke joints, recording studios, hotel rooms, rehearsal spaces, city streets and the expansive American landscape.

Country singer Emmylou
Harris appears against an ethereal twilight sky. Johnny Cash
strums guitar with daughter
Roseanne on their family porch
in Virginia. Grammy Awardwinning rap artist Missy Elliot
appears larger-than-life in diamonds and fur. Delta bluesman
Johnnie Billington is seen in the
midst of a music lesson with
students at his Mississippi
school.

Leibovitz also presents stark depictions of longtime musical performers, such as the black-and-white portraits of Willie Nelson and rocker Iggy Pop. To Leibovitz, their faces appear like "road maps" of their lives. She personally recalls her encounters, perceptions and the history of these legendary figures in the audio tour that accompanies the exhibition.

The DIA has altered its popular Friday nights for the run of

American Music, with Macy's sponsorship of Macy's American Music Fridays. Performers have included five-time Grammy winner Flaco Jimenez, folk artist Dan Zanes and El Vez the Mexican Elvis. Three Macy's American Music Fridays remain: Dec. 22 features karaoke, where visitors can show off their talent and compete for prizes; Dec. 29 features Seeley & Baldori, two phenomenal performers who combine their talents for a night of jazz, blues, and boogie; and Jan. 5 brings Continuum, a collective of composers and musicians dedicated to presenting contemporary music.

Performances begin at 6:30 p.m. and again at 8 p.m. They are free with museum admission.

Exhibition tickets, which include an audio tour and museum admission, are \$10 for adults, \$5 for youth ages 6-17, and \$8 per person for groups of 20 or more. Tickets are available at the DIA box office and online at dia.org.

## ANNIE LEIBOVITZ: AMERICAN MUSIC

**What:** The final chance to experience this photography exhibit, which closes Jan. 7.

Where: The Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit. When: Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays; 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Fridays, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. The DIA will be closed Sunday, Dec. 24, and open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 26.

Admission: Recommend donation is \$4 for adults and \$1 for children. DIA members are admitted free. More information: (313) 833-7971.

Annie Leibovitz: American Music is organized by the Experience Music Project, Seattle and all works are courtesy of Annie Leibovitz. In Detroit, the exhibition has been made possible by a generous grant from LaSalle Bank. Additional support provided by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the city of Detroit.



## Give the gift of art appreciation this year

Still searching for a last-minute gift to give the art lover in your life? Shop locally and support metro Detroit's own art history and institutions,

Diego Rivera's Detroit
Industry murals were a
momentous undertaking,
grand in concept and execution. Rivera considered it his
greatest work. It has been used to
represent the city of Detroit, and has
become a signature image of this insti-

Now a slice of the city's history can fit in a holiday stocking or under the Christmas tree.

The newest book on the subject, Diego Rivera: Detroit Industry, was a joint venture of the DIA and Scala Publishers. It is not quite 5-by-7 inches tall, but it still provides an innovative approach to the frescos through horizontal and vertical foldouts. The book is ideal for capturing the size and scope of the murals. Its lively text includes information on the artist and his technique; the patron, Edsel Ford; and a detailed analysis of the various panels that make up the fresco cycle.

With 50 color illustrations as well as black-and-white archival pictures, the book by Amy Pastan is available

for purchase in the museum shop for \$9.95 or \$8.95 for DIA members.

#### SUPPORT THE INSTITUTIONS

is home to more than 60,000 works that span from ancient times through the 21st century. From the first van Gogh painting to enter a U.S. museum (Self Portrait, 1887), to Diego Rivera's world-renowned Detroit Industry murals (1932–33), the collection is known for its quality, range and depth.

Share a donation with the museum or become a member. Call (313) 494-5239 for information.

The Detroit Symphony Orchestra, housed at the Max M. Fisher Music Center, relies on donations and support. Call the Development Office at (313) 576-5596 or (313) 576-5059 for details. To send a gift by mail, postmark it before Dec. 31 and send it to:

PLEASE SEE GIFT, E20

## Give the game: Pistons merchandise on sale

The Detroit Pistons have made it easier than ever to shop for the sports fan on your holiday gift list.

Choose from special ticket packages, team merchandise and accessories, one-of-a-kind items and gift cards. All of these gifts are available online at Pistons.com or at each of the four Palace Locker Room stores.

#### TICKETS UNDER THE TREE

Do you know a family of Pistons fans or do you want to treat a group of friends to a night out at a game on you? The Pistons are offering a *Home 4 The Holidays 4 Pack* including four tickets, four hot dogs and four soft drinks for just \$99.

■ The 4-pack includes these upcoming games:

Saturday, Dec. 23, at 7:30 p.m. Detroit Pistons vs. Atlanta Hawks

- Tuesday, Dec. 26, at 7:30 p.m. Detroit Pistons vs. New Jersey Nets
- Sunday, Dec. 31, at 4 p.m. New Year's Eve game Detroit Pistons vs. Phoenix Suns
- Monday, Jan. 15, at 3:30 p.m. matinee game Detroit Pistons vs. Minnesota T'Wolves

The special offer *Home 4 The Holidays 4 Pack* is available through Pistons.com, The Palace Box Office or by calling (248) 377-0100.

#### **SHOW YOUR TEAM SPIRIT**

The Detroit Pistons earned the 2005 Team Retailer of the Year award from the NBA thanks to its successful merchandise sales and the

wide variety of items offered online and at the team's four Palace Locker Room store locations.

Here is a list of items for the Pistons fans on your list:

- Keep it simple: Purchase the Palace Card in any amount. It can be used for the purchase of tickets, merchandise, food and other concessions at The Palace. The card can also be used at any Palace Locker Room location.
- Special deals: Pistons adult team replica jerseys cost \$34, while youth team replica jerseys cost \$28 through the holiday season.
- Fan favorites come in all shapes, sizes and genders: Choose from 170 styles of Pistons team and player hats; 75 varieties of T-shirts; 30 styles of sweatshirts; player jerseys in red, white and blue; team

warmups and shooting shirts and team outerwear.

- For children: Pistons baby bibs, socks and pacifiers make great gifts for the littlest fans. Purchase sippy cups, snack/sippy cups; kid-sized warm-ups and shooting shirts, Pistons teddy bears, infant gift sets and team basketballs.
- Stocking stuffers: Pistons playing cards, player medallions, dog tags necklaces and pins, key chains, pens and pencils, stickers and magnets, even a team logo Slinky fit nicely into holiday stockings.
- For the home: Decorate your home in Pistons style. Choose from wall clocks, digital scoreboard clock, welcome mats, waste baskets, mini-basketball hoop set with backboard, and individual player photos and posters.
- Holiday items: Christmas wreaths, a variety of team and player tree ornaments, Christmas teddy bears, holiday Pistons snow globes, team stockings and Santa hats, stuffed snowmen in team colors, and Pistons wrapping paper and gift bags are all for sale.
- For the fan and driver: Pistons window flags, team emblem bumper medallion, visor organizers, visor CD wallets, license plate holders and window decals can adorn your vehicle.

■ Make a big splash: Purchase any of three styles of Pistons leather jackets, NBA legends game jerseys, or official NBA basketballs with a Pistons logo.

#### WHERE TO SHOP

The Palace Locker Room stores can be found at:

- The Palace of Auburn Hills, 5 Championship Drive, Auburn Hills, (248) 377-8750.
- Village of Rochester Hills, 358 N. Adams Road, Rochester Hills, (248) 609-4379.
- Great Lakes Crossing, 4374 Baldwin Road, Auburn Hills, (248) 334-3825.
- Prime Outlets, 12373 S. Beyer Road, Birch Run, (989) 244-2102.

#### **HELP A WORTHY CAUSE**

Pistons MP3 players are available with proceeds to benefit Detroit Medical Center in breast cancer prevention. For holiday buyers, the purchase of five MP3 players at the regular price of \$25 earns the buyer a free player.

Go to Pistons.com or participate in silent auctions on the concourse during a Pistons home game to purchase autographed and one-of-a-kind items. Proceeds benefit the Pistons-Palace Foundation.

## Celebrate Kwanzaa or the holidays with world music

If you don't already know, Kwanzaa is an African-American celebration that focuses on African values of family, community responsibility and selfimprovement.

It doesn't replace Christmas and it's not political or religious.

Celebrated from Dec. 26 to Jan. 1, Kwanzaa means "first fruits of harvest" in the language of Kiswahili. The double "aa" in its name reflects African American in addition to the African celebration in Africa, respectively.

Here's some great music to help celebrate Kwanzaa – or Christmas – by Afropop Worldwide.

Africando, *Ketukuba* (Senegal) – The African Salsa super group's seventh release is a tribute to the late Gnonnas Pedro o, from Benin who graced earlier Africando works.

Various Artists, African Guitar Summit 2 – Toronto-based combo of sterling axemen from Ghana, Madagascar, Guinea, Rwanda, and Kenya has coalesced into a remarkably unified group.

Ali Farka Touré, Savane (Mali) -

Mali's king of desert guitar died in March, but not before delivering an eloquent last word. It stands as Touré's most expansive exploration of Malian roots music.

Cheikh Lô, Lamp Fall (Senegal) – Senegalese pop with sensuous Latin grooves and soaring vocal hooks. It incorporates spiritually charged percussion and vocals from the north of Brazil. Lô chants mystic strains of African Islam, reprises "golden oldies" from Guinea and Congo, and originals.

Various Artists, Congotronics 2: Buzz 'N' Rumble From the Urb 'N' Jungle (Congo) – This CD/DVD showcases six of Kinshasa's urban traditional bands. Booming, buzzing marimbas generate deep trance grooves. Amped-up traditional sounds of roots and the influence of Congo.

Etran Finatawa, Introducing Etran Finatawa (Niger) – The success of Tuareg blues/rock group Tinariwen has inspired an outburst of desert guitar bands.

PLEASE SEE KWANZAA, E8



## Spend the holiday week at the DIA

Wondering how to spend the week between Christmas and New Year's Day? The Detroit Institute of Arts offers a full schedule of activities for all ages.

From great art and lively entertainment, to drop-in workshops, everyone can find something fun to do after the presents are unwrapped. The museum will open at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 26. And all activities are free with museum admission.

#### ■ Take a guided tour.

Tours are offered at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 26, and every Wednesday-Sunday; 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Fridays and 2:30 p.m. Sundays.

#### ■ Drop in for a workshop.

On Tuesday, Dec. 26 visitors can learn a traditional Inuit game, Snow Snakes.

On Wednesday, Dec. 27, use felt and burlap to create your own hand puppet.

On Thursday, Dec. 28, decorate gingerbread cookies with icing and beads. Then add felt and create a puppet.

On Friday, Dec. 29, make whimsical felt spider marionettes.

Workshops last from noon to 4 p.m. Children 12 and younger must be accompanied by an adult.

■ Take in a holiday show.

At 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 26 and Wednesday, Dec. 27, Ann Arbor's Wild

Swan Theater presents Jack and the Beanstalk, detailing Jack's journey up a fantastical beanstalk. He encounters a silly giant and rescues his long-lost father. Children 12 and younger must be accompanied by an adult. Then, at 2 p.m. Friday-Sunday,

catch Detroit PuppetArt Theatre's take on the West-African folktale *Ananse the Spider*. Actors dressed in hip-hop style, table top puppets and some rap music will reveal the nature of the loveable trickster Ananse.

#### ■ Take in light and photography.

From 6-8:30 p.m. Friday-Sunday, visit the DIA's photography studio.

Let a resident artist help you find your creative spark and then display your results.

Or attend a drop-in workshop Friday and learn about luminaries, Explore infinite patterns and colors using tissue paper on a simple glass jar that you can illuminate at home with a small candle.

#### ■ Enjoy the sound of music.

At 6:30 p.m. and again at 8 p.m. experience Macy's American Music Friday with Seeley & Baldori. Bob Seeley and Bob

Baldori represent four hands, twenty fingers and 100 years of boogie. The performers combine their talents for an evening of extraordinary jazz, blues, boogie, stride and rock.

#### **■** Create your own art Saturday.

From noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 30, the DIA hosts Drawing in the Galleries for Youth and Adults. Artists and instructors help participants create pencil drawings to take home.

Or, stop by for Rod Bug Puppet-making. Use foamcore, toothpicks, pipe cleaners and beads to make a fantastical bug puppet on a stick. Children 12 and younger must be accompanied by an adult

#### Create your own art Sunday.

From noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 31 experience *Adventures in Drawing*. Children explore creative expression through drawing.

Or, stop by for a Finger Puppets workshop. Bring a finger from a glove to life as you decorate it with a variety of art making materials. Children 12 and younger must be accompanied by an adult.

Admission is a recommend donation of \$6 for adults and \$3 for children. DIA members are admitted free. For more information, call (313) 833-7971.

#### KWANZAA

FROM PAGE F7

Marisa Monte, *Universo au Meu Redor* (Brazil) – Monte focuses on the acoustic samba tradition. As in the past, she joins forces easily with star collaborators Carlinhos Brown, Arnaldo Antunes and David Byrne.

Salif Keita, M'Bemba (Mali) – Meticulously produced, acoustic dance music. The sounds are light, the grooves heavy. His wounded but stalwart voice has never sounded more majestic.

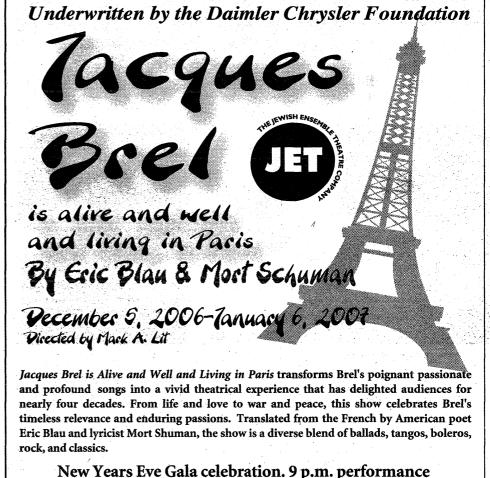
Sierra Leone's Refugee All Stars, Living Like a Refugee (Sierra Leone) – From the refugee camps of Guinea to the stages of the world, palm wine, gumbe, and roots reggae from a spirited group of survivors.

Soulful vocal harmonies reminiscent of the early Wailers.

Thomas Mapfumo Rise Up (Zimbabwe) – Exiled and embattled, the lion of Zimbabwe still writes memorable songs in African pop. There aren't many African bandleaders of his generation still in the game. Mbiras plays (thumb pianos), guitars and keyboards that owe less to Zimbabwean traditions than to Mapfumo's idiosyncratic songcraft.

Visit www.Afropop.org to purchase or hear samples.





followed by dancing, food and live music.

GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY! 248.788.2900

## Sketching in nightclubs: The Dr. Sketchy trend

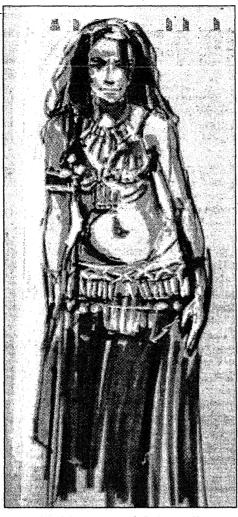
t's 11 p.m. on a Thursday and a group of artists pack a corner of the casual Belmont Bar in Hamtramck, sip cocktails and bury their heads in their sketchbooks.

They raise their heads every few seconds to study the subject of their drawings: me. I'm not a model and that was part of the

There's a new trend that's popped up nationwide, including Detroit, where nightclubs are no longer just places to drink and dress to impress. At the friendly Belmont, once a month, a group called "Dr. Sketchy's Anti-Art School" brings in "models" interesting subjects — and for \$5, artists can draw and socialize while listening to

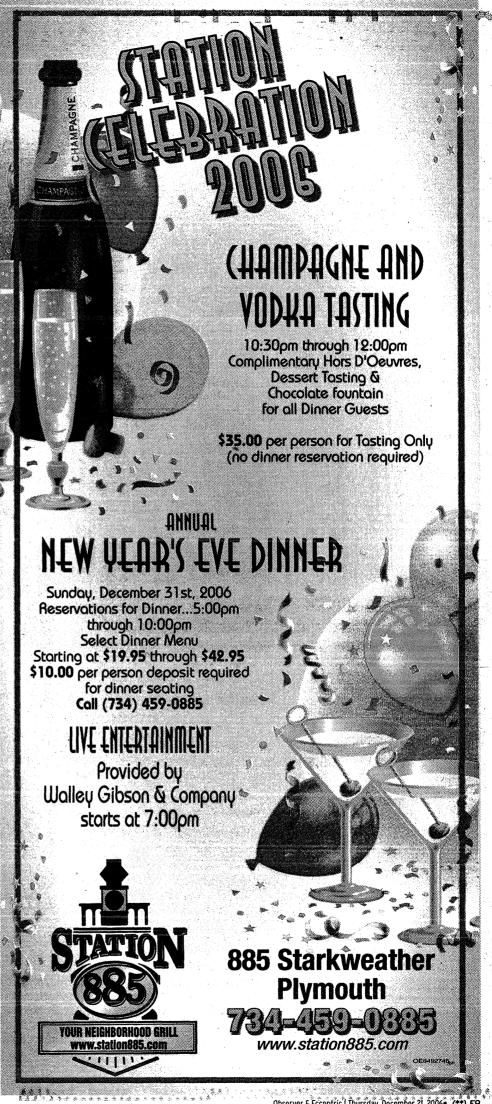
good music in a lounge atmosphere. Because I perform and study Middle Eastern Oriental dance - known in the Western world as belly dance — Dr.

PLEASE SEE DR. SKETCHY, E18



Sean Bieri of Dr. Sketchy Detroit drew me in a five-minute pose.







## Take in these holiday happenings

So your normally peaceful household is turned into chaos this time of year as in-laws and kids return home for the holidays.

Aside from the eating and gift-giving, what social things can you do to keep your out-oftowners entertained this year?

Here are a few suggestions of our holiday favorites:

#### THEATER SHOWS

Fox Theatre - One of the most beautiful theaters in Detroit, it's worth the drive just to view the stunning, ornate lobby. Add some holiday magic at the holiday hit show Irving Berlin's White Christmas, through Dec. 30, \$20-\$100, 2211 Woodward, Detroit, (248) 433-1515, OlympiaEntertainment.com,

<u>୍ର୍ୟ ବ୍ୟକ୍ତର୍ଷ୍ଟ୍ର୍ୟ ପ୍ରତ୍ତ୍ୟ ପ୍ରତ୍ତ୍ର ପ୍ରତ୍ତ୍ର ପ୍ରତ୍ତ୍ର ପ୍ରତ୍ତ୍ର ପ୍ରତ୍ତ୍ର ପ୍ରତ୍ତ୍ର ପ୍ରତ୍ତ୍ର ପ୍ରତ୍ତ୍ର ଅଧିକ ଅଧି</u>

Ticketmaster.com.

The Theatre Ensemble/Meadow Brook Theatre – The classic tale, A Christmas Carol, will be per-

formed through Dec. 24 on campus of Oakland University in Rochester,

(248) 377-3300, www.mbtheatre.com.

www.mbtheatre.com.

It's a Wonderful Life

- It's worth the drive to go to the east side, Feel happy to be alive at Marty Bufalini's It's A Wonderful Life - The Radio

Show, 7 p.m. Dec. 23, at Assumption Cultural Center Hall, 21800 Marter Road (near Vernier) in St. Clair Shores, (586) 779-6111.

After the show, head east to Jefferson Avenue (on the lake) and drive south to view the stunning light displays on the elegant homes throughout the Grosse Pointes. The Queen of Soul – Aretha Franklin's Christmas Card, her holi-

day concert with American Idol star Ruben Studdard, 8 p.m. Dec. 21, at Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison, Detroit, \$45-\$75, (248) 645-6666 or (313) 887-8501.

The Colors of Christmas – Holiday celebration with Peabo Bryson, James Ingram, Stephanie Mills and Deniece Williams, 8 p.m. Dec. 22, Max M. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 576-5111, www.detroitsymphony.com.

Jim Brickman: A Holiday Concert
- 8 p.m. Dec. 23, Max M. Fisher
Music Center, 3711 Woodward,
Detroit, (313) 576-5111, www.detroitsymphony.com.

#### LIGHTS AND MORE

**Big, Bright Light Show –** Downtown Rochester, display 6-10 p.m. every night through Dec. 31, (248) 656-0060, www.downtown-rochestermi.com. Charming downtown Rochester is transformed into a charming Christmas village. A nice walk with the family.

walk with the family.

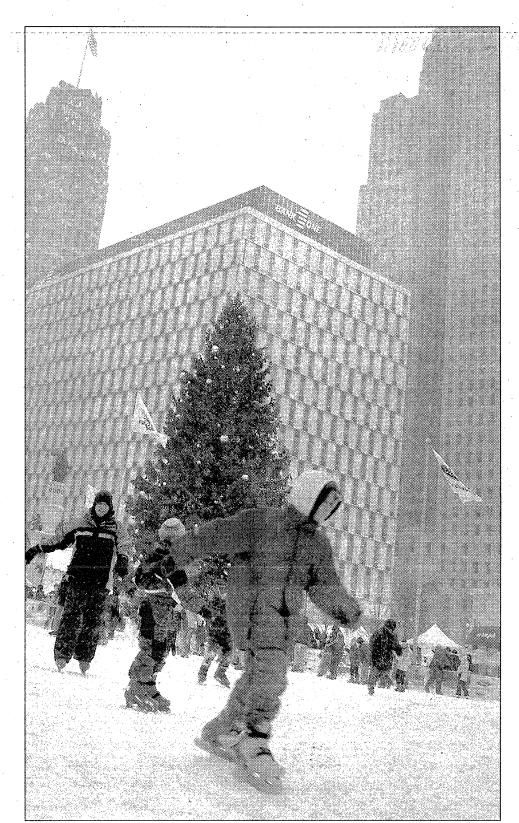
Meadow Brook – Tours of historic
Meadow Brook Hall, decked out for
the holidays, continue through Dec.
22. The mansion on the grounds of
Oakland University is open for selfguided tours every day from 11 a.m.
to 5 p.m.

Greenfield Village Holiday Nights

- Step into a Christmas card of the
past during Holiday Nights in
Greenfield Village through Dec. 23.
Tickets can be bought by calling
(313) 982-6001 or at www.thehenryford.org.

Experience Christmas in the streets in Victorian and Edwardian

PLEASE SEE WINTER FUN, E11



Enjoy ice skating at Campus Martius.

# Two Great Parties! Two Great Options! Choose One That Suits You! Celebrate the New Year at Burton Manor Banquet and Conference Center Nightline Band 27777 Schoolcraft Livonia, MI 48150 (734) 427-9110 \$150/couple Sunday, December 31, 2006 7:30 pm to 2:00 am TICKETS NOW ON SALE! Mon. through Sat. 10 am - 5 pm Cash/Check/Money Order www.burtonmanor.net www.romabanquets.com

#### WINTER FUN

FROM PAGE E10

style with live music, hundreds of lit lanterns, ice skating and fireworks. New this year is a 10-foot-tall illuminated, Victorian-style gingerbread house with candy decorations, hand-crafted by The Henry Ford executive chef, Nick Seccia.

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Artisans inside Liberty Craftworks can be seen making Christmas ornaments, see Santa and enjoy a Village Green singalong. Snacks offered are warm winter fruit dumplings; hot and cold cider, eggnog or beer; warm muffins and cinnamon rolls, or you can reserve a dinner spot at the Eagle Tavern.

Campus Martius – Ice skate to music and feel Detroit's spirited holiday vibe at Campus Martius Park. The huge holiday tree is twinkling and spirits are high at the outdoor rink. Skating cost for adults is \$7.

Bring your own skates or rent them there. If yours are dull, have them sharpened at the park for \$5. Visit www.campusmartiuspark.org.

Winter wonderland – In Plymouth: It's free to walk in Kellogg Park, on South Main in Plymouth, and see the decorated Christmas trees donated by local businesses and community organizations. And the trees are lit all night long.

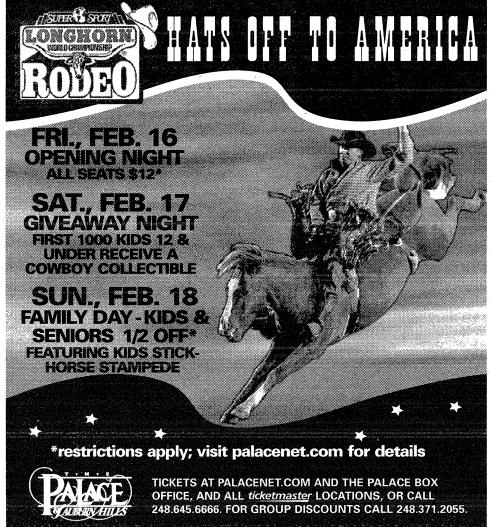
Wayne County LightFest - This drive begins in Westland. It runs through Jan. 1 with 4.5 miles of giant animated displays and one million lights along Hines Drive. Hours are from 7-10 p.m. daily. Closed on Christmas. Enter at Hines Drive and Merriman. Cost is \$5 per car, call (734) 261-1990 for information.

#### MOVIES

Opening Christmas Day – While the kids are at *Charlotte's Web*, adults can check out the creepy *Black Christmas*. It's a remake of the 1974 original where a killer terrorizes a sorority house during Christmas break. Directed by Glen Morgan and starring Michelle Trachtenberg, Oliver Hudson, Mary Elizabeth Winstead, Katie Cassidy and Lacey Chabert. Written and directed by Glen Morgan. (Dimension) This film is not yet rated. Horror.

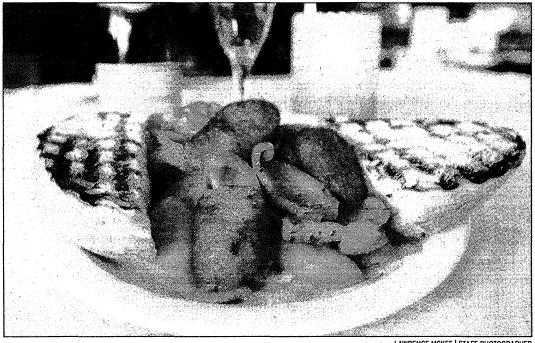
Dreamgirls – More family-friendly. It's PG-13. Inspired by The Supremes. Starring Jamie Foxx, Beyoncé Knowles, Danny Glover, newcomer Jennifer Hudson, Anika Noni Rose and Eddie Murphy. Set in the turbulent early 1960s to mid-70s, *Dreamgirls* follows the rise of a trio of women who have formed a promising girl group called The Dreamettes. Directed by Bill Condon from a screenplay he adapted from the stage musical's original book by Tom Eyen. Lyrics are by Tom Eyen, music by Henry Krieger. (Paramount Pictures) Drama/musical.

Lana Mini and Stephanie Casola



## Hip with loads of cool

#### New Side Bar opens tomorrow



LAWRENCE MCKEE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Andouille Sausage and Sweet Peppers with Grilled French Bread will be one of many dishes offered at the new Side Bar inside Beans & Cornbread in Southfield.

BY ELEANOR HEALD CORRESPONDENT

Opening Dec. 22, Side Bar is the newest innovation of proprietor Patrick Coleman whose brainchild Beans & Cornbread, opened nearly a decade ago, brought metro Detroit traditional and imaginative soul food in a casual, upscale setting.

Coleman's Beans & Cornbread offers the tastiest African-American cooking in the form of Baby Sister's Babybacks, Tempura Battered Shrimp, hand-patted Salmon Croquettes and Grits plus an array of other southern culinary traditions. With Side Bar, located next to Beans & Cornbread, Coleman has created a hip and cool small plates cocktail bar so unlike B&C, vou won't believe it's next door.

There's room for 40, 30 seated at

comfortable bar stools around a classy copper-topped bar with maple wood trim and fully stocked mirror-backed shelves. Slate and mystic gold wall hues gently reflect the glow from large, somewhat funky, contemporary light fixtures suspended from an

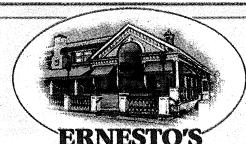
open ceiling.

#### **INSPIRATION**

"I've tried to create the feeling of a Chicago-style shotgun bar," Coleman said. "Yet, with the popularity of wine, today, I also wanted to create a wine bar serving wine-complementary small

Coleman has hired Master Sommelier Claudia Tyagi to advise him on a tightly edited wine list that will include, among other options, Veuve Clicquot champagne by the glass. Wine-by-the-glass prices range \$6-\$16.

PLEASE SEE SIDE BAR, E13



Steaks • Seafood • Pasta

**Banquets and Catering** Sample one of our new menu items

or one of our classic favorites



Scallops Frico

Colossal sea scallops dredged in parmesan cheese, pan-seared and served over angel hair pasta that is tossed in a sun-dried tomato pesto with asparagus and a garlic cream

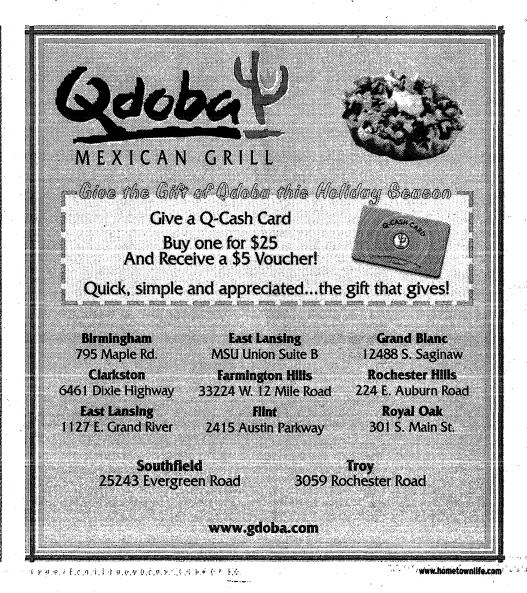
**Lobster & Rock Shrimp Pettuccini** Garlic broiled Maine lobster tail over sweet rock shrimp sautéed with fresh asparagus, garlic, and shallots then tossed with fettuccini in a rich, house-made lobster-feta cream sauce.



Banquet Services Available

We provide a full range of catering and banquet services for your home or office. Let Ernesto's take the work out of your next party, BBQ, graduation, rehearsal dinner, bridal or baby shower.

41661 Plymouth Road • Plymouth • 734-453-2002 Hours: Tues., Wed., Thurs. 4-10; Fri.-Sat. 4-11; Sun. 12-9



#### SIDE BAR

8 9 8

FROM PAGE E12

#### **SMALL PLATES**

Executive chef Marlan Smith, 35, formerly with the Appeteaser Group and a graduate of Scottsdale Culinary Institute, oversees both the Beans & Cornbread menu and the Side Bar small plates offerings.

Although items such as Honey-Glazed Spareribs have a southern and soulful ring, others such as Eggplant Blinis stuffed with chevre cheese and sundried tomatoes with spicy Palamino sauce do not.

Shrimp Cocktail served with housemade cocktail sauce is traditional but Chicken Satay with three dipping sauces (chili lime, spicy barbecue and raspberry) is not. Andouille Sausage and sweet red peppers with grilled French bread screams for a glass of red wine.

Look for Smith's take on yummy sliders or his specials which may include steak with a cognac-butter sauce.

Smith's parents, Linda and Bruce Smith, are Detroit Symphony Orchestra violinists, so their chef son comes by creative food "orchestration" naturally. "My mantra is food with lots of flavor but simplicity," Marlan said.

#### **MORE TO COME**

Beginning in the New Year, Side Bar

#### SIDE BAR

Where: 29508 Northwestern Highway (in Sunset Strip), Southfield, (248) 208-1680.

Open: 11 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday; until 1 a.m. Friday; noon to 1 a.m. Saturday; and noon-10 p.m. Sunday.

**Food style:** Bar noshing menu featuring small plates.

Cost: \$6-\$12.

Reservations: Not accepted.

will feature Thursday and Friday night jazz entertainment with a solo guitarist or a jazz trio.

With its opening now, however, Side Bar offers a refreshing, new place to gather with friends during the holiday season, before or after a meal at Beans & Cornbread or just to stop in for a delicious small plate and a cocktail or glass of wine.

Always ready-to-please owner Patrick Coleman won't restrict you to his bar menu if you really yearn for a taste of something from his Beans & Cornbread menu served in his new bar digs.

Check Side Bar out this weekend. It's not only new but very cool.

Eleanor Heald is a nationally published writer and Troy resident who writes about restaurants, food, wine and spirits for the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*. Contact her by e-mail at focuson-wine@aol.com.

## Holiday dinners and menus highlighted

Seven Victorian Christmas trees, one mile of cedar roping, 8,000 lights, classic American dinners and traditional holiday drinks combine as the spirit of Christmas embraces the Holly Hotel. The halls are "decked" and will remain so until Jan. 15.

"A Cup of Christmas Tea" special luncheons feature a complimentary "Santa" or "Holly Berry" porcelain tea cup and saucer to commemorate your visit.

Step back and remember the inspired Christmas times when family and friends would gather in parlors and vivid stories were told of Christmas' past. Recapture the spirit of these times during the week prior to Christmas from noon to 3 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Dec. 21, 22, 23.

The first course features a choice of soup, breads or Irish-smoked salmon and cucumber salad. Main courses are a choice of sweet potato shepherd's pie or beef onglet, treacle gravy and carrots or tea-smoked duck and fig and goat cheese biscuit. The dessert course is strawberry and white chocolate steamed pudding with a Belgian dark chocolate

cookie.

The luncheon is \$25 per person. Reservations are required. The Holly Hotel is located at 110 Battle Alley. Call (248) 634-5208.

For the frazzled host or lastminute planner, Stage Deli in West Bloomfield recently

unveiled its "instant party" menu that will allow customers to order any combination of signature dishes that, in a matter of minutes, can be picked up, warmed up and served up for any number of guests. The deli

serves its famous BBQ salami, miniature latkes, variety of sandwiches and assorted desserts.

The deli also provides party hosts with an ordering guide to more accurately estimate the quantity of food needed. The guide outlines how many pints, quarts, loaves and pounds of soup, salad, meats and bread to lay out for any number of guests. The guide also outlines the best way to prepare, heat and store the food.

Stage Deli is located at 6873 Orchard Lake Road in West Bloomfield. Call (248) 855-6622.





Send, fax of e-mail items for consideration in Get Out! at least two weeks in advance to Ken Abramczyk, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009, fax (248) 644-1314 or e-mail kabramcz@hometownlife.com. Please include a short summary with details of the event, a phone number . and/or Web site that members of the public can contact for more information.

#### **ART EXHIBITS**

#### Cranbrook Art Museum

Space is the Place, exhibition of installations, paintings, other works by contemporary artists, through Jan. 14, 39221 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, \$6, (877) GO-CRANBrook (1-877-462-7262) www.cranbrookart.edu.

#### **Detroit Institute of Arts**

Annie Leibovitz: American Music Intimate portraits of those influenced by American roots music, through Jan. 7; 5200 Woodward Ave., (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org.

#### Flint Institute of Arts

Exhibit of Excavating Egypt, Great Discoveries from the Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology, University College, London, through Jan. 7, Graphics Gallery, 1120 E. Kearsley, Flint, (810) 234-1695, www.flintarts.org.

#### **ART GALLERIES**

#### **ArtCraft**

Real and Imagined, oil paintings by Malo exhibit through Dec. 31, 32410 Woodward, Royal Oak, (248) 549-9000.

#### Center for the Visual Arts Gallery

Tom McGlauchlin of the American Studio Glass Movement will exhibit hand-blown sculptures through Dec. 29, 620 Grove Place, Toledo, Ohio, (419) 530-8300.

#### **Neal Davis Gallery**

Holiday exhibit with East Coast and Midwest artists, through Jan. 19, 314. W. Fourth, Royal Oak, www.nealdavisgallery.com, (248) 298-

#### **Elaine Jacob Gallery**

Unembedded: Four Independent Photographers on the War in Iraq, Old Main 480 W. Hancock, Wayne State University, through Jan 12 (313) 577-5980

#### **Ellen Kayrod Gallery**

4750 Woodward (southeast corner of Woodward and Hancock), Detroit, (313) 833-1300, Ext. 18, www.hannan.org.

#### Flatlanders Art Galleries

Heavy Metal, sculptures fabricated in steel by Ken Thompson; Tidal Forces, new sculpture by Judith Greavu, through Feb. 4; 11993 E. U.S. 223, Blissfield, (517) 486-4591, www.flatlander sculpture com

#### **Michigan State University**

Department of Art & Art History's celebration of its 75th anniversary, exhibition includes 21 studio artists who teach and create art the first floor of the Kresge Art Museum; Yousuf Karsh photographs, Jan. 8-March 18; The Worker's Landscape, Jan. 8-March 18, Kresge Art Museum, at Auditorium and Physics roads, East Lansing, (517) 355-7631, visit www.artmuseum.msu.edu.

#### **Oakland University Art Gallery**

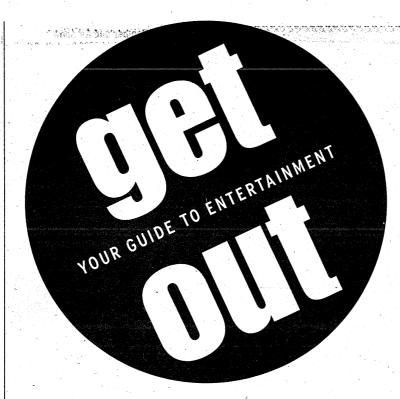
Telegraph, featuring Harmut Austen, Haley Renee Bates, Fabio Fernandez, Shannon Goff, Tom Lauerman, Brent Sommerhauser and Christian Tedeschi, opening reception 6-8 p.m Saturday, Jan. 13, runs through Feb. 25, 208 Wilson Hall, Oakland University, Rochester, (248) 370-3005 or www.oakland.edu/ouag.

#### Paint Creek Center for the Arts

The Tick Tock auction of artful clocks, displayed through Dec. 29, at 407 Pine St., Rochester, (248) 651-4110 or www.pccart.org.

#### **Pewabic Pottery**

Earthly Treasures Holiday Invitational, features 100 ceramic artists' work, now through



Dec. 31: Caulkins & Perry the Early Years, now through Jan. 19; Vessels produced from 1901-1967, Feb. 3-May 18, all at 10125 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit, (313) 822-0954 or www.pewabic.org.

#### The Print Gallery

Detroit's Top Ten, lithographs of Esteban Chavez, through Dec. 30, 29173 Northwestern Highway, Southfield (248) 356-5454, www.everythingart.com, www.monalisamania.com.

#### Sherrus Gallery

Tiny Treasures, smaller works of acrylic, pastel, glass and metal artists, through month of December' A Painter's Play - Act II, exhibit and sale, opening reception 6-9 p.m. Jan. 5, through Jan. 31; 109 N. Center, Northville, www.sherrusgallery.com

#### Susanne Hilberry Gallery

John O'Reilly, Tadzio series and other montages, through Jan. 19, 700 Livernois, Ferndale, (248) 541-4700.

#### **University Art Gallery**

EMU Faculty Art Exhibition Jan. 19-March 9. 210 Student Center, 900 Oakwood, Ypsilanti,

#### University of Michigan Museum of Art

The Rouge, photographs by Michael Kenna through Jan. 14; Embracing Etonville contemporary photography runs Jan. 20-March 18, free, guided tours available, UMMA Off/Site Exhibition Space, 1301 S. University Ave., Ann Arbor. (734) 763-UMMA.

#### **Woods Gallery**

New paintings by Sylvia Clark, through Dec. 22, lower level of Huntington Woods Library, 26415 Scotia, between 10 Mile and 11 Mile roads, west of Woodward, (248) 581-2696, www.woodsgallery.org.

#### ART, ETC.

#### Cranbrook Academy of Art

Wayne State University graduate student exhibition, through Jan. 12, Forum Gallery, Cranbrook Art Museum, 39221 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, (248) 645-3300, www.cranbrookart.edu.

#### Sisson Gallery

Henry Ford Community College, MacKenzie Fine Arts Center, 5101 Evergreen, Dearborn, (313) 845-6485.

#### **Wavne State University**

Cranbrook Academy of Art grad student exhibition, through Jan. 12, Community Arts Gallery, 450 Reuther Hall (at Cass between West Kirby and Palmer), (313) 577-2423.

#### BALLET

#### Ford Community & Performing Arts

The Sleeping Beauty, presented by the Moscow Festival Ballet, set to Tchaikovsky score, 8 p.m. Jan. 6, 15801 Michigan, Dearborn. \$30-\$40, tickets at box office or (313) 943-2354, or www.dearbornfordcenter.com.

#### CLASSICAL

#### **Detroit Symphony Orchestra**

Dvorak's Pastorale, Jan. 4-6; Demaine's Dvorak, Jan 26-27; All Beethoven, Feb. 2-3; Chinese New Year Celebration, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18, 3711 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 576-5111, www.detroitsymphony.com.

#### **University Musical Society**

Takacs Quartet, 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 12, Rackham Auditorium, 915 E. Washington, Ann Arbor, \$20-\$44; Bright Sheng's Silver River, 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 12, Power Center for the Performing Arts, 121 Fletcher Street, Ann Arbor, \$18-\$40; Sekou Sundiata, 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 20, Power Center for the Performing Arts, 121 Fletcher Street, Ann Arbor, \$14-\$34, (734) 764-6833.

#### 220 Merrill Street & Edison Lounge

Extensive drink menu, live music, dancing, eclectic and American nouveau cuisine 220 F Merrill, Birmingham, (248) 645-2150.

#### 313...lac's

Located upstairs at Jacoby's, 624 Brush in Bricktown, (313) 962-7067, 21 and over, doors open 10 p.m., cover \$5, www.staticrecords.com/shows.htm.

#### Blue Martini

Live music from 8-11:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays, and Saturdays and Sundays, 201 Hamilton, between Woodward and Old Woodward, one block north of Maple, (248) 258-3005

#### Bosco

Enjoy noWax nights at 7 p.m. every Wednesday, download music into your MP3 Player, take a number and wait your turn to be DJ and spin three songs, no cover, 21 and over only, 22930 Woodward in Ferndale, www.thebosco.com, (248) 541-8818.

#### Club 2000

Fat Twosdays with DJ Carl the Invisible Man 9 p.m. Tuesdays, hip-hop, 18 and over, 299 E. Woodbridge, Detroit, (313) 235-2233.

#### Crazy Moe's Cafe

Food, dancing, music, 2 N. Saginaw St.,

Pontiac, (248) 322-5550.

#### Danny's Irish Pub

Laid-back, small, friendly, 22824 Woodward, Ferndale, (248) 546-8331.

#### **Dino's Lounge**

Live bands on weekends, hip, laid back, friendly, 22740 Woodward, just south of Nine Mile in Ferndale, (248) 591-DINO.

#### Edison's

Mystery Train Featuring Jim McCarty, Dec. 21; The Randy Brock Group, Dec. 22-23; Robert Penn, Dec. 28; The Blue Kings, Dec. 29-30; The Snakes, Dec. 31, 220 Merrill, Birmingham, (248) 645-2150.

#### Elysium

Lounge, dance and happy hour from 3-9 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays, nightclub hours Fridays and Saturdays, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m., (313) 962-2244, 625 Shelby, Detroit. www.elysium-lounge.com.

#### Fiamma Grille

Roy Scoutz, 7-10 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays, George "The Kat" plays saxophone, 7-10 p.m. Thursdays, 380 Main, Plymouth, (734) 416-0100.

#### Gala

33316 Grand River, Farmington, (248) 478-2355.

#### Gator Jake's

Retro 80s Thursdays, DJ Tony Fridays and Saturdays, 36863 Van Dyke, Sterling Heights, (586) 983-3700, www.gatoriakes.com.

#### **Ginopolis on the Grill**

Don Swindell and Shuffle Play, with Swindell, Sheila Brown, Mike Lorenz and Jake Reichhart, 7:30-11:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 27851 Middlebelt at 12 Mile in Farmington Hills, no cover, (248) 851-8222.

#### **Leland City Club**

Avant garde, open until 4 a.m., access through unmarked door on the First Street side of the Ramada Hotel building, 400 Bagley, Detroit, www.lelandcityclub.com.

#### The Locker Room Saloon

Wild Wednesdays with DJ Oz, Trivia Night and Ladies Night Thursdays, Funky Fridays with DJ Paul, Insane Saturdays with DJ 0z, 7790 Auburn, Utica, (586) 731-3323, www.locker roomsaloon.com, www.ckpep.com.

#### Madison's Mount Clemens

Dance parties Thursday, Friday and Saturdays, 15 N. Walnut, Mount Clemens, (586) 468-7777, www.madisonsmtclemens.com.

#### The Magic Bag

22920 Woodward, Ferndale, (248) 544-1991, event hot line (248) 544-3030, www.themagicbag.com.

#### O'Mara's Restaurant and Pub

Vocalist Meri Slaven with pianist Keith Vreeland and bassist Dennis Horvath, Dec. 22. 2555 W. 12 Mile (at Coolidge), Berkley, (248)

#### 0-Zen Lounge

Formerly the Buddha Lounge; Hot 'N Ready with DJ U.N.I. hip hop soul, Thursday; Insomnia Music, hip hop, soul, old school, Friday; Super Sonic Smooth Music with DJ Shug, Saturday; karaoke with Chez, Sunday; 80s and Rock N Roll; bring your CDs, Tuesday; and Energetic House with DJ Tony Bell. Wednesday; www.ozenlounge.com, 21633 W. Eight Mile, Detroit (313) 535-4664.

High-energy dance club, 1500 Woodward, northeast corner at John R, Detroit, (313) 963-

#### **Seldom Blues**

Big Band Wednesdays with Johnny Trudell and his 18-piece band, 7-11 p.m., playing a mix of jazz favorites, located in Tower 400, Level 1 of the GM Renaissance Center next to the Marriott, call (313) 567-7301.

#### Sky Club

Tango, salsa, and Latin dancing every Wednesday beginning at 8 p.m., located above Sangria's Restaurant, 401 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak, (248) 543-1964.

#### Wild Woody's

DJ Adam Douglas, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays; Corona Bikini Beach Bash with DJ Mike Scroggs and Gnyp, Sundays, 32500

Gratiot, Roseville, (586) 294-5331, www.wildwoodys.com, www.ckpep.com.

#### COMEDY

#### 336 1/2

Connie Ettinger & Crystal P, Dec. 22-23, 336 S. Main St., Plymouth (734) 454-6500.

#### **Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase**

Open Mic/Comedy Jamm, Dec. 27; Chili Challis, Dec. 21-23; Jeff Brannan, Dec. 28-30, 314 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor, (734) 996-9080.

#### JD's House of Comedy

Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday; 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield, (248) 348-2420 or www.ticketmaster.com.

#### Historic Holly Hotel Comedy Club

Steve Bills with Jeff Dwoskin, Dec. 22-23; The Desperate Houseguys (Mike Malec, Mike Bobbit, Russ Brown and Steve Lind), Dec. 28-31; PJ Butland with Kate Brindle, Jan. 5-6; Billy Ray Bauer with Scott Loftis, Jan. 12-13; Nelson Addison with Dick Canty, Jan. 19-20; Dennis Ross with Simply Shanell, Jan. 26-27, 110 Battle Alley, Holly, (248) 634-5208.

#### Improv Inferno

Citizen Improv, 8 p.m. Wednesdays; Super Fun Karaoke, 10 p.m. Wednesdays; The Catfight, 8 p.m. Thursdays; High Octane, 10 p.m. Thursdays; Biff! Bang! Pow!, 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, The Damnation Game, 10 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; The X Show, midnight, Fridays and Saturdays; The Corner, 7 p.m. Sundays, Get Up! Stand Up!, 8:30 p.m. Sundays; The Weekend Wild Card, 10 p.m. Sundays, The Sweet Spot with Eye Candy, 11 p.m. Sundays, 309 S. Main, Ann Arbor, (734) 214-7080, www.improvinferno.com.

#### Joey's Comedy Club

36071 Plymouth, Livonia, (734) 261-0555, also has comedy at second location, 5070 Schaefer, Dearborn, (313) 584-8885: www.ioevscomedv.com.

#### Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle

Tom McGillen, Dec. 21-23, John Caponera, Dec. 28-31, at 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak, call (248)

#### Second City

Second City's Dysfunctional Holiday Revue, through Dec. 31, \$15-\$20, 42705 Grand River, Novi, call (248) 348-4448.

#### Wise Guys Comedy Club

Bryan McCree with Dave Landau and Connie Ettinger, Dec. 29-31; Kevin Zeoli with Keith Lenart and Marv Anderson, Jan. 5-6; P.J. Butland with Manny Shields and Matt McClowry, Jan. 12-13; Bill Bushart with Mike Stanley and Bob Stackhouse, Jan. 19-20; Billy Ray Bauer with Crystal P and Sal Demilio, Jan. 26-27; Steve lott with Jeff Dwoskin and Sal Demilio, Feb. 2-3; 40380 Grand River, Novi (248) 919-3216

#### Wise Guys at Portofino

Mike Green with Jason Benci, Dec. 22-23; Bryan McCree with Connie Ettinger, Dec. 29-31; 3455 Biddle, Wyandotte, (734) 752-1015.

#### DANCE

#### **Ballet Hispanico**

Contemporary dance, Feb. 16-17, Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit. \$19.50-\$55, (313) 887-8501 or www.musichall.org

#### **Eisenhower Dance Ensemble**

The Soldier's Tale, 8 p.m. Saturday, March 17, Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township, \$18-\$30, (586) 286-2222; New Dance Fest V. 7 p.m. Friday, April 20, Troy High School Auditorium, 4777 Northfield Pkwy, Troy, \$6-\$12, (248) 823-

#### Savion Glover: Unmasked

Tap dancing 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 11 and 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 13, Orchestra Hall, Detroit, (313) 576-5111 or detroitsymphony.com.

#### FAMILY

#### **Detroit Science Center**

Exhibits include As Time Goes By, new exhibit about the aging process, and A Journey to Our Future, now open to accompany center's new permanent Space Laboratory exhibit. 5020 John R, Detroit, \$6-\$7, (313) 577-8400, www.detroitsciencecenter.org.

#### Plowshares Theatre Co.

Dark Cowgirls & Prairie Queens, a Young Company production, through Dec. 31, 2870 E. Grand Blvd., Suite 600, Detroit, \$10-\$21, (313) 872-0279

#### Metro Mid-Winter Dog Show

Obstacle and relay competitions (guests should not bring pets to the show), 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Jan. 19-21, Rock Financial Showcase. \$10, \$5 parking, (269) 343-9020, www.ukcdogs.com.

#### FILM

#### **Detroit Film Theatre**

Inside the Detroit Institute of Arts, for tickets, call (313) 833-3237, www.dia.org/dft.

#### Main Art Theatre

118 N. Main, Royal Oak

#### JA77

#### Nikola's

25225 Telegraph, Southfield, (248) 355-4695.

#### Windsor/Detroit Jazz Club

Ongoing gigs, 1-4 p.m. first and third Saturday of every month, Shield's Pizza, 25101 Telegraph (northwest corner of 10 Mile and Telegraph), Southfield, \$8 cover, (248) 478-0172.

#### Jazz and dinner

"Kind of Blue Tuesdays," at Lola's, Harmonie Park. Led by the Gerard Evans Quartet, the shows help musicians play with the core group at 9 p.m. every Tuesday, 1427 Randolph St. in Detroit's Harmonie Park, (313) 962-0483.

#### Jazz at Lincoln Center's Afro-Latin Orchestra

Feb. 16, Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit. \$19.50-\$55, (313) 887-8501 or www.musichall.org.

#### One for All

Jan. 19-20, Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit. \$25, (313) 887-8501 or www.musichall.org.

#### **MORE MUSIC**

#### The Ark

Crossroads Ceili with Barbara MacDonald Magone; Brian Conway, master Irish fiddler; and dance master Nick Gareiss; Dec. 29 and 30; tickets \$15; also workshops noon-4 p.m. Dec. 29 and 30, \$20-\$30; 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor, (734) 761-1451 or www.theark.org, contact Mick Gavin about workshops at (313) 537-

#### Cadieux Cafe

4300 Cadieux, Detroit, (313) 882-8560, www.tracykash.com.

#### Carrick House Concerts

5418 Boyne Highland Trail, Clarkston, (248) 394-0113 or e-mail carrickhome1@netscape.net.

#### First Presbyterian Church

A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood: The Music of Mister Rogers, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 19-20; 1669 W. Maple, Birmingham, free admission, offering will be collected to benefit Variety FAR Conservatory, bring new sweaters for sweater drive, (248) 540-9124.

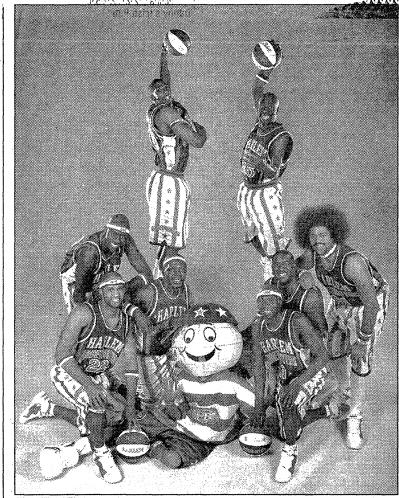
#### Hill Auditorium

The 30th annual Ann Arbor Folk Festival to benefit The Ark, featuring headliners Rufus Wainwright and John Prine, Jan 26-27, \$30-\$250 patron tickets, (734) 763-TKTS.

#### Joe Louis Arena

Scream Tour 5 featuring Omarion, Ne-Yo, Pretty Ricky, Mario and more, 7 p.m. Dec. 26, at 600 Civic Center Drive. \$35.75-\$49.75. (313) 471-6611.

Tony Ruda and Pat Smith play jazz from 7-10



#### **FAMILY FUN**

The Harlem Globetrotters are celebrating the team's 81st year. Showtime is 1:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 29 at The Palace of Auburn Hills. Tickets are \$37, \$27, \$20 and \$15. For tickets or more information visit www.palacenet.com.

p.m. every Thursday (bass and piano), 885 Starkweather, Plymouth, (734) 459-0885.

#### **Trinity House**

At 38840 W. Six Mile (just west of 1-275), Livonia, \$10-\$12, (734) 464-6302, www.trinity house.org.

#### Troy Mario's

Christmas shows, Dec. 22 and 23, vocalist Tarya, pianist Charles Boles, drummer Butter Hawkins, bassists Hubie Crawford and Glen Oliver, John R south of 15 Mile, (248) 506-

#### MUSEUMS

#### Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum

See everything from ice cream making to cold-blooded reptiles in The Big Freeze exhibit Dec. 26-31, at 220 E. Ann St., Ann Arbor, (734) 995-5439 or www.aahom.org

#### Birmingham Historical Museum and Park

The Public Realm, Public Buildings & Spaces, through Feb. 24, 556 W. Maple, Birmingham, \$1-\$2, (248) 642-2817.

#### **Henry Ford Museum**

20900 Oakwood Blvd., west of the Southfield Freeway and south of Michigan Avenue, Dearborn. Additional charges and varying hours for entry to Greenfield Village, Ford Rouge Factory Tour and IMAX Theatre. Call (313) 982-6001 or visit www.hfmgv.org.

#### **Cranbrook Science Museum**

Featured exhibit is It's a Nano World. Permanent exhibits include planetarium, nature center and Bat Zone Conservatory, 39221 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, general admission \$5-\$7, planetarium, \$1-\$3, (248) 645-3200 or www.cranbrook.edu.

#### **Detroit Science Center**

Premiere of Magnificent Desolation: Walking on the Moon narrated by Tom Hanks and new planetarium show, Journey to the Edge of Space and Time, \$6, shows run indefinitely, 5020 John R, Detroit, \$6-\$7, (313) 577-8400, www.detroitsciencecenter.org.

#### Museum of Contemporary Art -Detroit

Meditations on an Emergency runs through April 29; Artrageous 2007 including an artist's market, fashion shows, wine tasting, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10, \$100-\$125, all at 4454 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 832-6622.

#### Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm

1927 Dairy Barn, 1850 and 1840 furnished farmhouses with permanent and temporary exhibits about regional history. General admission \$5 adults, \$3 seniors and students, (248) 656-4663, www.rochesterhills.org.

#### REHEARSALS

#### Plymouth Oratorio Society

7:15 p.m. Jan. 8, First United Methodist Church of Plymouth, N. Territorial west of Sheldon, F. Schubert's Mass in Eb major and Robert Ray's Gospel Mass will be performed, (734) 455-

#### SOMETHING DIFFERENT

#### Al Jarreau Valentine's Day Benefit

Feb. 14, Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit, \$38.50-\$98.50, (313) 887-8501 or www.musichall.org.

#### Birmingham Historical Museum & Park

Allen House kitchen, restored to reflect 1920s decor, complete with vintage stove, work table, porcelain sink and monitor top refriger ator, also exhibits on artifacts and history of schools in Birmingham, \$2 admission, museum open from 1-4 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday 556 W. Maple (at Southfield Road), (248) 642-

Michigan Camper and RV Show Jan. 25-28, Ford Field, 2000 Brush St., Detroit \$3-\$7.50 (800) 328-6550.

#### Michigan's Family Album

Special historical photography exhibit of 1,200 photographs from David Tinder collection, runs through Jan. 14, Michigan Historical Museum, inside Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, for more information, visit www.michigan.gov/museum or call (517) 373-

#### **Moscow Cats Theatre**

Show runs Dec. 22-23, at Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit. \$49.90 to \$54.90, call (284) 645-6666 or (313) 887-8501

#### North American International Auto Show

Open to the public Jan. 13-21, Cobo Center, 1 Washington Blvd., Detroit. Visit www.naias.com.

#### School of Rock All-Stars

Free concert with "best and brightest" students of the acclaimed Paul Green School of Rock, 8 p.m. Dec. 29, tickets can be obtained in person at the Royal Oak Music Theatre box office, show is all ages, call (248) 399-2980. Ext. 13. for show information, for more information on the School of Rock All-Stars, visit www.SchoolOfRock.com.

#### Shows at the Redford Theatre

17360 Lahser, Detroit, visit www.redfordtheatre.com or call (313) 537-2560.

#### White Rose Ball 2007

The Hungarian Arts Club of Detroit sponsors this event with music from Europe, Saturday, Feb. 3, Dearborn Inn, Dearborn, (248) 352-

#### THEATER - COMMUNITY

#### **Avon Players**

Over the River and Through the Woods, Jan. 12-14, 19-21 and 26-27, \$14, 1185 Washington (one mile east of Tienken and Rochester roads), Rochester Hills, (248) 608-9077.

#### **Community Theatre of Howell**

Heywood Banks comedy night fund-raiser, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 26, Howell High School, 1200 W. Grand River, Howell, \$15-\$25, (517) 545-1290.

#### Eastern Michigan University

The Tempest, Jan. 25-27, Sponberg Theatre, 103 Quirk, Ypsilanti, \$6-\$15, (734) 487-1221.

#### Ford Community & Performing Arts Center

The Sleeping Beauty - By the Moscow Festival Ballet, 8 p.m. Jan. 6, 15801 Michigan Ave., Dearborn. \$30-\$40, (313) 943-2354, www.dearbornfordcenter.com.

#### Marquis Theatre

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, through Jan. 21, 2:30 p.m. Saturdays, Sundays and Dec. 26-29, \$8, 135 E. Main, Northville, 222.northvillemarquistheatre.com, (248) 349 8110.

#### **Pontiac Theatre IV**

131 Hillside Drive, Pontiac, \$10, www.pontiactheatreiv.org, (248) 681-6215.

#### **Dinner Theater**

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change! Jan. 5-14, The Club Venetian, 29310 John R, Madison Heights, (248) 399-6788.

#### Village Players of Birmingham

Pal Joey, 8 p.m. Jan. 12-13, 19-20, 26-27, 2 p.m. Jan. 21 and 28, pre-performance cash bar and complimentary hors d'oeuvres at 6:30 p.m. Jan. 13 only, 34660 Woodward, Birmingham (two blocks south of Maple). \$15, (248) 644-2075 or www.birminghamvillageplayers.com

#### The Village Theater at Cherry Hill

Numerous musicals, movies, concerts, magic, dinner theater, bands, kids' shows, orchestra and comedy. Open for free tours, art exhibition and tickets: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday; 7-9 p.m. Friday and Saturday; and 5:30-7:30 p.m. Sunday. Charge tickets by phone: (734) 394-5460. Visit www.canton-mi.org/vilis lagetheater, 50400 Cherry: Hill Road (corner of Ridge), Canton.

#### THEATER - PROFESSIONAL

#### **Detroit Repertory Theatre**

Millan Theatre Company, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit, (313) 868-1347. See *Arborphilia* (*Tree Love*), a sappy satire by Jacob M. Appel. Showtimes are 8:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday; 3 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Saturday; and 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sunday, through Dec. 30. Beginning Jan. 11 to March 18, see Between Men and Cattle by Richard Kalinowski.

#### **Purple Rose Theater**

137 Park, Chelsea, call (734) 433-7673 or visit www.purplerosetheatre.org.

#### Fisher Theatre

Monty Python's Spamalot, through Jan. 7: 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, call (248) 645-6666 or visit www.NederlanderDetroit.com or www.ticketmaster.com.

#### **Breathe Art Theatre**

Call (519) 980-0607 in Windsor or (313) 965-1515 in Detroit.

#### **Gem Theatre**

2111 Woodward Ave. Detroit., (313) 963-9800,(248) 645-6666, or visit www.ticketmaster.com

#### Masonic Temple Theatre

Rent, March 6-11, 500 Temple Avenue, Detroit, \$29-\$56, (313) 871-1132 or visit www.ticketmas-

#### Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts

Tyler Perry's What's Done in the Dark, Jan. 9-14; Tea at Five - The Story of Katharine Hepburn, Feb. 2-4, all at 350 Madison Ave., Detroit. \$19.50-\$55, (313) 887-8501 or www.musichall.org.

#### Performance Network Theatre

The Fantasticks, through Dec. 31, 120 E. Huron, Ann Arbor, (734) 663-0681, www.performancenetwork.org.

#### TICKETS ON SALE

The Palace of Auburn Hills: Bob Seger, Dec. 22 and 28, \$62.50; High School Musical, Jan. 16, \$38.50-\$58.50; Cirque du Soleil - Delirium, 8 p.m. Jan. 24, 25 and 27, \$39.50-\$112.50; Smucker's Stars on Ice, 7:30 p.m. Feb. 9; Longhorn World Championship Rodeo, Feb. 16-18, \$16-\$23; Josh Groban, 8 p.m. Feb. 23, \$50-\$99; Justin Timberlake with Pink, March 11, \$56-\$87.50; Christina Aguilera, April 9, \$57.50-\$87.50; Lord of the Dance, 7:30 p.m. April 19 and 20, \$29.50-\$49.50, tickets available at Palacenet.com, The Palace box office and all Ticketmaster locations, (248) 645-6666.

#### **Fisher Theatre**

Call the Fisher Theatre at (313) 872-1000. Ext. 0. or visit www.NederlanderDetroit.com.

#### **Gem Theatre**

Respect: A Musical Journey, preview performances Feb. 7-14, show runs Feb. 15 to April 1, (313) 963-9800, Ticketmaster Charge By Phone (248) 645-6666, online at www.ticketmaster.com, and in person at the Gem Theatre box office and all Ticketmaster locations.

#### **Masonic Temple Theatre**

RENT, March 6-11, 500 Temple, Detroit, \$29-\$56, tickets at www.ticketmaster.com, www.broadwayindetroit.com, (248) 645-6666 or for information, (313) 872-1000. Hill Auditorium

The Chieftains, 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 21, 825 N. University Ave., Ann Arbor, \$10-\$48, (734) 764-

#### **Royal Oak Music Theatre**

An Evening With The School of Rock All-Stars, 8 p.m. Dec. 29, free admission; located 318 W. Fourth St., Royal Oak, (248) 399-2980; www.royaloakmusictheatre.com.

#### Wharton Center for the Performing Arts Ladysmith Black Mambazo, the South African

a cappella group featured on Paul Simon's acclaimed Graceland album, 7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18, \$20-\$32, Michigan State University, www.whartoncenter.com.







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The Inn at It films

HOTEL INVESTMENT SERVICES

## Lettin' it rock

### We've got a Seger quiz to celebrate his shows

BY JIM TOTH STAFF WRITER

Michigan has always considered Bob Seger a hall-of-famer, and now for the first time in his illustrious career the native rock 'n' roller is taking to the stage sporting those credentials and rockin' audiences like decades past.

The Ann Arbor native who arrived on the rock scene playing the garage band sound of the '60s, Seger returns to the area that, in the decades that followed, built the foundation to what would be recognized universally in 2004 as a Hall of

Opening a four-show stay at The Palace of Auburn Hills Wednesday night, Bob Seger & the Silver Bullet Band's Face the Promise Tour continues in full swing with three more electrifying performances before the end of the year. And what better way to reminisce about those memorable nights of long ago at Cobo Arena or Pine Knob, than to dig deep into the Seger archives and see how much rock 'n' roll you never forget.

- 1. The single  $Like\ a\ Rock$  can be heard advertising what product?
  - a. Ford trucks
  - b. Tonka trucks
  - c. Chevy trucks

#### **SEGER SHOWS**

When: 8 p.m. Dec. 22; 7:30 p.m. Dec. 28; and 8 p.m. Dec. 30.

Where: The Palace of Auburn Hills Tickets: The shows have been reported as sold out, but some tickets are being released daily. Tickets are \$65 on sale at Palacenet.com, The Palace box office and Ticketmaster.

- d. Dodge trucks
- 2. What famous actress inspired Seger to write Her Strut?
  - a. Jane Fonda
  - b. Joan Collins
  - c. Sally Struthers
  - d. Michelle Pfeiffer
- 3. Prior to reaching stardom with another band, what guitarist played rhythm guitar on Ramblin' Gamblin'
  - a. Ron Wood
  - b. Joe Walsh
  - c. Eddie Van Halen
  - d. Glenn Frey
- 4. Which is the only Seger single to reach No. 1 on the U.S. Pop Singles chart?

- a. Old Time Rock & Roll
- b. Against the Wind
- c. Katmandu
- d. Shakedown
- 5. Seger co-wrote what No. 1 song released by the Eagles?
  - a. Hotel California
  - b. Heartache Tonight
- c. Life in the Fast Lane
- d. Take It Easy
- 6. What song did Seger perform prior to the first game of the 2006 World Series?
  - a. America the Beautiful
- b. O Canada
- c. Night Moves
- d. The Star Spangled Banner
- 7. Seger's first gig as frontman was with what band?
  - a. Silver Bullet
- b. Bob Seger System
- c. The Decibels
- d. The Stooges
- 8. On Live Bullet, which song does Seger perform written by Tina Turner?
- a. Let it Rock
- b. Get Out of Denver
- c. Nutbush City Limits
- d. Heavy Music



- 9. Which Seger album reached No. 1 on the Billboard 200?
  - a. Live Bullet
  - b. Against the Wind
  - c. Stranger in Town
  - d. Face the Promise
- 10. Which original members of Silver Bullet are part of the Face the Promise Tour?
  - a. Alto Reed/Chris Campbell
  - b. Charlie Martin/Drew Abbott
- c. Robyn Robbins/Alto Reed
- d. Punch Andrews/Chris Campbell

Beautiful; 7. c. The Decibels; 8. c. Nutbush City Limits; 9. b. Against the Wind; 10. a. Alto Reed/Chris Campbell Correct answers: I. c. Chevy trucks; 2. a. Jane Fonda; 3. d. Glenn Frey; 4. d. Shakedown; 5. b. Heartache Tonight; 6. a. America the

## Trio con Brio Copenhagen performs Jan. 20

It's a hot ticket in Detroit, so get don't wait to get a seat.

Internationally acclaimed Trio con Brio Copenhagen will take to the stage Jan. 20, as the Chamber Music Society of Detroit continues its 63rd season of the Opus 9 Series.

The young musicians are on tour and performing in Detroit as winners of the Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson International Trio Award.

The Trio con Brio Copenhagen, with violinist Soo-jin Hong, cellist Soo-kyung Hong and pianist Jens Elvekjaer, has appeared in major concert halls and at festivals throughout Europe and Asia. In 2006-07, they will perform New York, Los Angeles, Vancouver, Jacksonville, Korea, Germany, Holland, England, Norway, Sweden and Denmark.

The musicians will also release a new CD in February that features Maurice Ravel's Piano Trio in A minor, Ernest Bloch's Three Nocturnes and Antonin Dvorak's Piano Trio No. 4, "Dumky."

The KLRITA award is the first piano trio award in the world of classical music. It was created to encourage promising young piano trios (piano-violin-cello). Winners are chosen by a panel of musicians and chamber music presenters.

That they were selected as winners of the KLRITA Award is a testament to their outstanding musical talent and their ability to capture the acclaim and admiration of audiences around the world," said Lois R. Beznos, Chamber Music Society president. "As the founders and managers of the KLRITA Award, this concert will be a very rewarding experience for us.'

The award was developed by Beznos, under the auspices of the Chamber Music Society of Detroit.

First announced in December 2001 at Carnegie Hall, the award honors the Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio's 30 years of achievement and its contribution to classical music worldwide. The award is supported in part by the contribution of

\$30,000 by 20 participating chamber music presenters

At the concert they will perform Haydn, Piano Trio in C major, Hob. XV:27; Ravel, Piano Trio in A minor and Dvorak, Piano Trio in Eminor, Op. 90, "Dumky."

The concert begins at 8 p.m. at the Seligman Performing Arts Center, located at 22305 W. 13 Mile Road (at the corner of Lahser and 13 Mile Road), Beverly Hills, on the campus of the Detroit Country Day School.

Other upcoming concerts on the Opus 9 Series are: Pacifica Quartet, Saturday, Feb. 10, and Nash Ensemble of London, Saturday, March 24; Emanuel Ax, piano, Saturday, March 17; and Yefim Bronfman, piano, Saturday, May 19.

Single concert tickets are available from \$41 to \$75, students \$25. Call the Chamber Music Society of Detroit Ticket Service at (248) 855-6070 or visit www.ComeHearCMSD.org.

Lana Mini







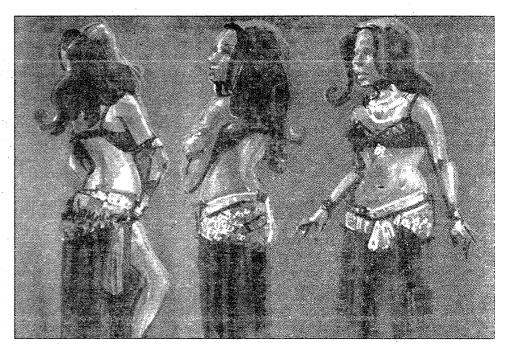
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REDKETTLECAMPAIGN.ORG



Artist James Anderson created a colorful sketch.

#### DR. SKETCHY

FROM PAGE E9

Sketchy's Detroit invited me as the muse for the evening.

The Dr. Sketchy concept was founded in New York in 2005 by artist Molly Crabapple. At bars around the country, burlesque dancers, fire breathers, martial arts experts and performance artists rather than cliché supermodels — are brought in as inspiration. The slogan is "what happens when cabaret meets art

The idea has spread worldwlide and there's now Dr. Sketchy events in New York; Norfolk, Va; Los Angeles; Phoenix; Auckland, New Zealand; Melbourne; London; Toronto; and other cities.

Throughout the night, I was instructed to hold poses for various lengths of time. Several for 30 seconds and a few for one minute, all building up to two grueling 20minute poses.

Have you ever tried to hold still for that long? It's not an easy task, but the challenge was fun and I found myself trying to prove that I could handle it. Nothing, I told myself, would make me move and ruin my pose. Not even when my hand started to shake as it was held high above my head, not even when my knees started to tremble, not even when I realized that standing still for 20 minutes made me so cold. And not even when I realized that holding a smile for 20 minutes causes the saliva glands to activate and I started to drool.

"I'm drooling," I said, ventriloquist-style. "Suck it in," one of the artists said jokingly. Hard not to laugh when the crowd is light and kind.

Throughout the evening, Dr. Sketchy Detroit coordinator Sean Bieri worked as the timekeeper. With his stop watch, he sets time frames for artists to draw each pose. It's a social event as everyone peers and compliments each other's works and breaks for drinks.

Anyone is welcome to draw. Just bring your own sketchbook and drawing materials — no easels or messy paints permitted. Newcomers aren't judged, rather they're encouraged.

Recently in Detroit, Dr. Sketchy models included performer Tim March, also known as TimTV, of the fire-breathing group Fire Fabulon. Detroit cabaret/burlesque performer Sparkly Devil, who recently relocated to California, wore her pinup-style costumes for a session. Ms. Sparkly introduced me to Dr. Sketchy's

And most recently, I was their Arabicstyle dancer dressed in traditional costum-

The night isn't all serious, it's about fun and inspiration. There's drawing contests and a "round robin" where artists trade sketchbooks every five minutes and contribute to a single drawing that was actually very good.

At one point, Beiri called for a "Christmas belly dance theme" and artists drew me with reindeer antlers, with a Rudolph nose, and even on a magic carpet near the Three Wise Men. I'm also an animal rescuer, so during another drawing session, the creative metro Detroiters created a setting of me with elephants, giraffes and even a humorous bear holding a gun (you know, supporting his right to bear arms).

Artist Jim Anderson added stunning color to his drawings and his work, among others, is posted online. Bieri's is, too. See the examples at myspace.com/drsketchydetroit. Next month's subject isn't posted yet. But if you're an artist, or an artist-wannabe, and you're looking for something different on a Thursday night, try Dr. Sketchy. I had more fun than expected and was humbled to see how much talent is in Detroit.

The drawings here, were created in just minutes. How inspiring.

The Belmont Bar is located at 10215 Jos Campau, Hamtramck (between Holbrook and Caniff). (313) 871-1966. For details on the Dr. Sketchy phenomena, visit www.drsketchy.com.

# Fisher's new season is full of stars

Stars of stage and screen will shine at Detroit's Fisher Theatre this coming year. Look for famous faces like Molly Ringwald, Martin Short and Michael York to lead a whole new season of shows in 2007. Subscription tickets are already on sale.

The all-new line-up for the Fisher Theatre's Broadway in Detroit series opens with a love story, Camelot, starring Michael York begins in April, followed by Sweet Charity with Molly Ringwald in May. The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee comes to the theater in October, followed by Martin Short's Fame Becomes Me in November. The year ends with the dramatic Twelve Angry

Men and Disney's The Lion King.

#### CAMELOT

Enter King Arthur's enchanted kingdom of *Camelot*, where honor and chivalry reign. British stage and film legend, Michael York stars in this new production of Lerner and Loewe's timeless masterpiece. The memorable score includes the romantic and haunting *If Ever I Would Leave You*, the captivating *How To Handle a Woman* and the majestic *Camelot*.

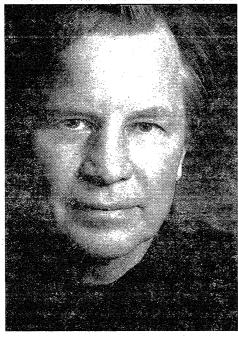
#### **SWEET CHARITY**

Get ready to have some fun with *Sweet Charity*, the Broadway musical based on Neil Simon's book that offers laughs, good times and the sensational Molly Ringwald. She takes center stage as Charity Hope Valentine, the original eternal optimist – and the unluckiest romantic in New York City.

The show's tuneful score features such hits as Hey, Big Spender, There's Gotta Be Something Better Than This and If My Friends Could See Me Now.

#### 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE

In the Tony Award-winning new musical comedy *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, six young people in



Michael York

the throes of puberty, overseen by grownups who barely managed to escape childhood themselves, learn that winning isn't everything and that losing doesn't necessarily make you a loser.

#### **FAME BECOMES ME**

In the grand American tradition of musical theater, sketch comedy and gut-busting hilarity comes Fame

Becomes Me, Martin Short's new comedy musical. Part variety show and part celebrity send-up, Fame

Becomes Me is a tour-deforce journey through Short's rise to fame.

Fame Becomes Me is Broadway's most riotous party with a new score from the composer and lyricists of Hairspray and special "appearances" by Joan Rivers, Jiminy Glick, Judy Garland, Ed Grimley, Britney Spears, Katharine Hepburn and others.

#### **TWELVE ANGRY MEN**

The American movie classic and greatest courtroom drama of all time, *Twelve Angry Men* brings together 12 jurors from 12 different walks of life.

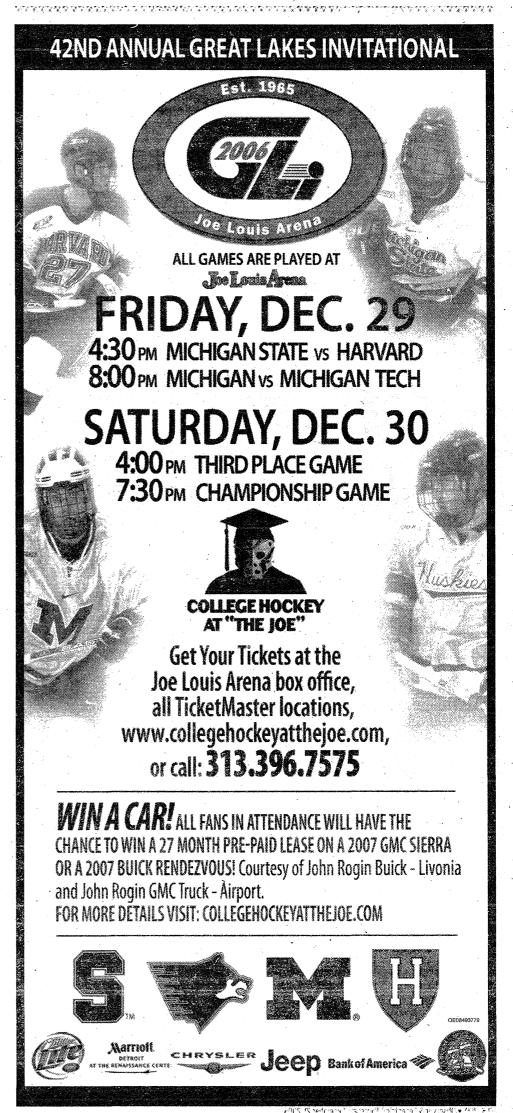
They must rule in what first seems like an open-and-shut case but becomes a twisted puzzle of prejudice and intrigue. With the task of playing hangmen, these men must first face themselves in their attempt to unearth the truth.

#### FOR TICKETS

Subscription season tickets cost \$239 for all six shows and are now on sale. Call (313) 872-1000, Ext. 0, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday to order, or visit www.BroadwayinDetroit.com.

Current Broadway in Detroit subscribers will soon receive a renewal form by mail.

Group tickets of 20 or more, for individual shows, are available by calling (313) 871-1132, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.



Max M. Fisher Music Center, Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Development Department, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI 48201.

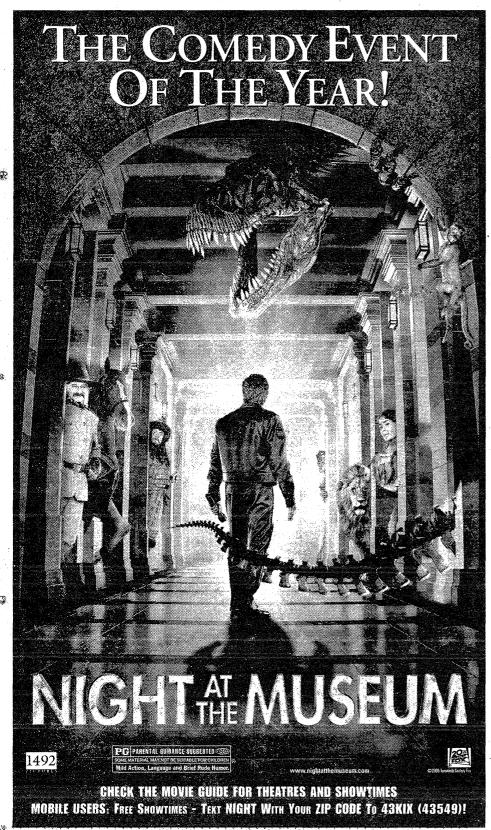
Ann Arbor's University Musical Society is celebrating its 128th season. Give a gift to one of the oldest performing arts presenters in the country by calling (734) 764-8489.

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organization supports itself through ticket sales, grants, contributions and endowment income. 5 cket revenues cover only 47 percent. I the costs of presenting art performances and associated educational offerings.

■ The Detroit Science Center offers fun for the whole family. For a limited time, science lovers can purchase a family membership gift for \$60, purchase two family memberships for \$45 each, or three or more memberships for \$30 each.

Call (313) 577-8400, Ext. 433, Monday through Friday until Dec. 31.



## Bocelli tops video sales

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weekly charts for the nation's most popular videos as they appear in this week's issue of Billboard magazine. Reprinted with per-

#### **TOP MUSIC VIDEO SALES**

(Compiled from a national sample of sales reports)

- 1. Under the Desert Sky, Andrea Bocelli. 2. Farewell Tour: Live From Melbourne, Eagles. (Platinum)
- 3. The Videos: 1989 2004, Metallica.
- 4. Live at the Greek, Il Divo.
- 5. Voliminal: Inside the Nine, Slipknot. 6. Kissology: The Ultimate Kiss Collection Vol. 1 1974-1977, Kiss.
- 7. Tony Bennett: An American Classic, Tony Bennett. 8. Harajuku Lover Live, Gwen Stefani. 9. The Information, Beck.
- 10. Pulse, Pink Floyd.

#### **TOP VIDEO RENTALS**

(Based on data provided by the Video Software Dealers Assn.)

- 1. Superman Returns, Warner Home Video. 2. You, Me and Dupree, Universal Studios Home Video.
- 3. The Da Vinci Code, Sony Pictures Home Entertainment.
- 4. Ice Age: The Meltdown, 20th Century Fox.
- 5. Clerks II, The Weinstein Company.
- 6. See No Evil, Lions Gate Home Entertainment.
- 7. The Ant Bully, Warner Home Video.
- 8. Accepted, Universal Studios Home Video. 9. Cars, Walt Disney/Pixar.
- 10. The Break-Up, Universal Studios Home Video.

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Nielsen SoundScan, Inc.

#### **TOP VHS SALES**

(Compiled from a national sample of sales

- 1. 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea (Special Edition), Walt Disney Home Video.
- 2. Frosty the Snowman, Sony Pictures Home Entertainment.
- 3. The Red Skelton Show, Madacy Video.
- 4. The 12 Days of Christmas, GoodTimes
- Home Video.
- 5. Dora the Explorer: World Adventure, Nick Jr. 6. SpongeBob SquarePants: Sponge Buddies,
- Nickelodeon Video.  $7. \it Yoga Conditioning for Athletes, Gaiam \it Video.$ 8. Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, Sony
- 9. Miracle on 34th Street, FoxVideo.
- 10. Dora the Explorer: Silly Fiesta, Paramount Home Entertainment.

#### **TOP DVD SALES**

(Compiled from a national sample of sales reports)

- 1. Superman Returns, Warner Home Video.
- 2. Ice Age: The Meltdown, 20th Century Fox.
- 3. Cars, Walt Disney/Pixar.
- 4. Clerks II, The Weinstein Company.
- 5. The Da Vinci Code, Sony Pictures Home Entertainment.
- 6. The Ant Bully, Warner Home Video.
- 7. You, Me and Dupree, Universal Studios Home Video.
- 8. Over the Hedge, Paramount Home Entertainment.
- 9. See No Evil, Lions Gate Home Entertainment.
- 10. The Cheetah Girls 2, Walt Disney Home

## Caesars Windsor adds entertainment center

Now that Casino Windsor will be rebranded as Caesars Windsor, what kind of changes can we expect?

Perhaps the completion of the casino's \$400 million expansion will spur curiosity. The revamped casino under the prestigious Caesars brand will include a new 22-story hotel tower and 5,000-seat entertainment center.

Last week, the unveiling of the casino's 9,545-square-foot rotunda revealed a sixstory dome with soaring skylights and renovated main gaming floor. It features carved archways, Romanesque sculptures and marble columns inspired by Italian piazzas. It also incorporates architectural and design elements consistent with the Caesars brand. The rotunda also includes the new Cosmos Lounge and the Vu Bar, a second-level Las Vegas-style nightclub.

The new Premier Lounge is an exclusive venue for the casino's most loyal customers that offers complimentary food

and beverages in an upscale setting.

When the casino is re-branded in 2008, hotel towers will be upgraded and will feature 800 "four-diamond" hotel rooms.

Caesars Windsor will also launch new incentives for customers including "Total Rewards," which will allow customers to earn credits toward meals, merchandise, concerts and more based on how much and which games they play. The credits may be redeemed at any casino operated under the Harrah's, Caesars, Horseshoe, Harvey's, Rio, Paris and Showboat brand names, including resorts in Las Vegas, Lake Tahoe, Atlantic City and New Orleans. In the casino itself, wider aisles and shorter banks of machines allow customers to maneuver throughout the casino in an easier manner.

For more information, visit www.casinowindsor.com.

## Cheer for the villain - or the end - of 'Mr. Hell'

re you one of those people who thinks that anyone with a camera can make a movie?

Well, if you are, you're right. As proof I offer Mr. Hell, which has just slithered onto the shelves of the video store. This is an outstanding example of how people with absolutely no talent — writing, directing, acting, whatever — can still manage to make a

This movie stinks in every way imaginable, which is quite astonishing for a film that features a serial killer who treasures a jar full of eyeballs.

The story begins 14 years ago at a super secret weapons laboratory where the director lets his 10-year-old daughter and her little friend play among the containers of deadly yuck. What good father wouldn't?

The kids come to discover that the janitor, or whatever he is, is actually a killer. He is one Harry Eugene Loveless (initials HEL — Get it? Isn't that clever?)

After being reprimanded for trying to kill the kids, Mr. Hell cuts out the eyes of the father and really takes after the kids. But the girl disposes of him by opening a pipe and showering him with flesh-dissolving chemicals.

Shoot forward to the present time, when the girl is now all grown up and working as a security guard at the plant, which is in the process of being closed. A



**Beyond Bad** 

Greg Kowalski

nerdy government agent is overseeing the process, and also present is a writer doing a book about Mr. Hell. He wants the daughter to spill her guts and especially help locate Mr. Hell's jar of eyeballs, which he hid before his unseemly

It gets worse.

A group of mercenaries break into the plant, bent on stealing the poisonous yuck to sell to terrorists. In another plot twist, two clunky disposal guys clearing out the chemical tanks release the poison which somehow regenerates Mr. Hell from the goo. He promptly goes on a killing spree, seeking more eyeballs for his collection.

In one especially idiotic encounter, Mr. Hell kills one idiot guy as his idiot pal sits across the room eating lunch. Naturally, the other idiot guy doesn't see or hear anything.

This is the kind of movie that will have you rooting for the villain.

By the way, Mr. Hell collects eyeballs

because they are windows into people's souls. As if you care.

Honestly, I can't tell you how Mr. Hell is finally done in. I got distracted at the critical moment by something - there may have been a spider crawling down the wall — and by the time I looked back at the TV, the movie was over.

And I certainly wasn't about to replay the end.

To add further insult to this fiasco, the

CD makers put a block on the fast-forward feature so I couldn't shoot past the awful coming attractions at the beginning of the tape.

Still think you couldn't do better?

Greg Kowalski wastes too much time watching junk, but still has enough time to write Beyond Bad for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. He can be reached at (248) 901-2570 or by e-mail at. gkowalski@hometownlife.com.

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 21, 2006 • (\*\*) E21

#### CATS

he said. Among the "craziest things" Gelfman said he's ever seen is a cat who can do a front paw-stand on cue.

Kuklachev works on routines with his said. Performances are generally held on

Some of the felines achieve feats considered by even a cat owner as hard to imagine. The cats stand on their hind legs and push a rocking horse across the stage. Or they perch upon their front paws and

hoist their tail ends high in the air. The unusual sight evokes plenty of "oohs and







Where available by deadline, features and times are listed.

Observer & Eccentric

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UNACCOMPANIED MINORS [PG] HAPPY FEET [PG]

> APOCALYPTO [R] DE JA VU [PG13]

THE HOLIDAY [PG13]
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Ring in 2007 with Blues and Bluegrass cour tesy of Detroit rockers Howling Diablos, Catfish Mafia and The Reefermen. DJ Linda Lexy will spin old school funk in between sets. Doors open at 9 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 31, Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. Fourth St., Royal Oak (248) 399-2980

#### Go back in time

The Mega 80's host a retro party beginning at 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 31, The Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale, \$35, call (248)

#### Laugh in the new year

Tom Foss gets the crowd cackling Sunday, Dec. 31, Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase, 314 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor, (734) 996-9080.

Holiday Revue continues through Dec. 31, Second City, 42705 Grand River, Novi, \$15-\$20, (248) 348-4448.

#### Taking the stage

Mike Epps laughs it up at 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 31, Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward, Detroit, \$53.50-\$78.50, call (248) 433-1515 or visit OlympiaEntertainment.com.

Hal Sparks keeps the crowd on it toes with offbeat comedy at 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 31, Max M. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward, Detroit, \$30-\$70, (313) 576-5111 or visit www.detroitsymphony.com.

#### The Pioneers of Techno

Derrick May, Kevin Saunderson and Carl Craig ring in the new year with turntables at 10 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 31, Max M. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward, Detroit, \$55-\$100, call (313)

#### RINGING IN 2007

#### The \$10 New Year's Eve Party

the bosco, 22930 Woodward Ave., Ferndale, 9:30 p.m. to 2007. DJ Brian Gillespie. Tickets are available at (248) 541-8818.

New Year's Eve Block Party, 234 W. Larned, Detroit, www.envydowntown.com One cover gives access to four nightclubs including Envy, Plan B. Confidential and 150 Lounge.

#### Clutch Cargo's

New Year's Eve Masquerade Ball, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac, www.clutchcargos.com. \$15. Four levels of music. Two balloon drops and prizes. This event has sold out for 10 straight years. Get tickets soon.

#### **Bleu Room Experience**

High-energy dance club featuring DJs Kenneth Thomas, Elevation, Shawn Michaels, Colleen Riley, Marcus Beier, Todd Smith and

Thomas Emmanuel. Doors 9 p.m. Drink specials all night. 1540 Woodward Ave., Detroit, call for VIP tickets (313) 222-1900 or visit www.wanttickets.com.

#### **Boogie Fever**

22901 Woodward Ave., Ferndale, www.boogiefevercafe.com. Tickets \$25. Celebrity lookalike contest with prize to Las Vegas, Doors at 9 p.m. Party favors, pizza and champagne.

#### Pulse

Chic attire. DJ Sir Real. 156 Monroe St., Detroit. Tickets \$125, www.pulsedetroit.com.

#### **Townsend Hotel**

100 Townsend St., Birmingham, www.townsendhotel.com, tickets: \$95 for 5 p.m. dinner and \$125 for 9 p.m. seating. Live music; dancing, top hats, tiaras and noise makers.

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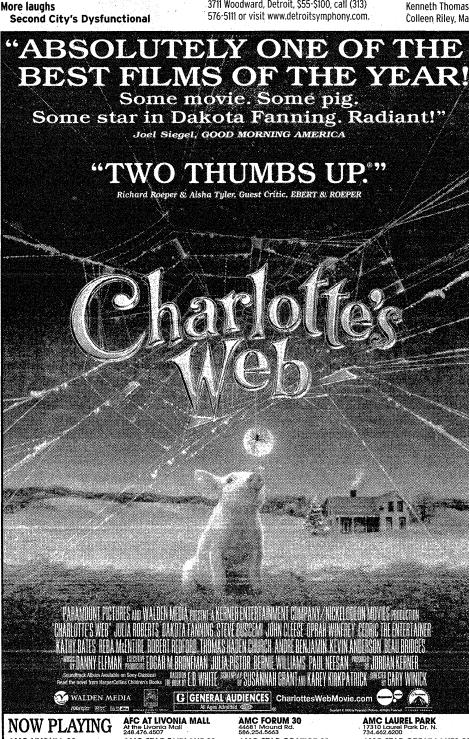
Feast, 21633 W. Eight Mile, Detroit. Doors 9 p.m. www.ozenlounge.com.

#### The Royal Park Hotel

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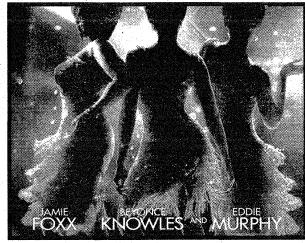
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