

Musical is tribute to Ray Charles

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Governor: Consolidate or else

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Locals embrace governor's call for sharing

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

When Gov. Jennifer Granholm, in her State of the State address Tuesday, said future state funding for municipal governments would be based on how well communities consolidate services, Plymouth Mayor Dan Dwyer envisioned additional revenue-sharing money in Plymouth's future.

"We're already ahead of the game," Dwyer said. "We have a joint fire department, we saved \$20,000 on recreation software we share with Northville, we're pushing regional fire service, and we purchase our gasoline with the school district. We could have helped her write the speech."

As Granholm prepares to outline specifics for balancing the state budget, Dwyer believes Plymouth was in the forefront of that, too.

"When Plymouth was projected to go into the tank several years ago, we not only didn't raise taxes, but cut expenses to the point our budget is OK," Dwyer said. "We want to push regionalization to some things that make sense while we are in the black, before we are broke and forced to look at this under a different light."

Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume agreed his community and the City of Plymouth have shown a willingness to lead the state when it comes to consolidation of services, so he's not concerned with Granholm's warning of cuts in revenue sharing from communities that don't.

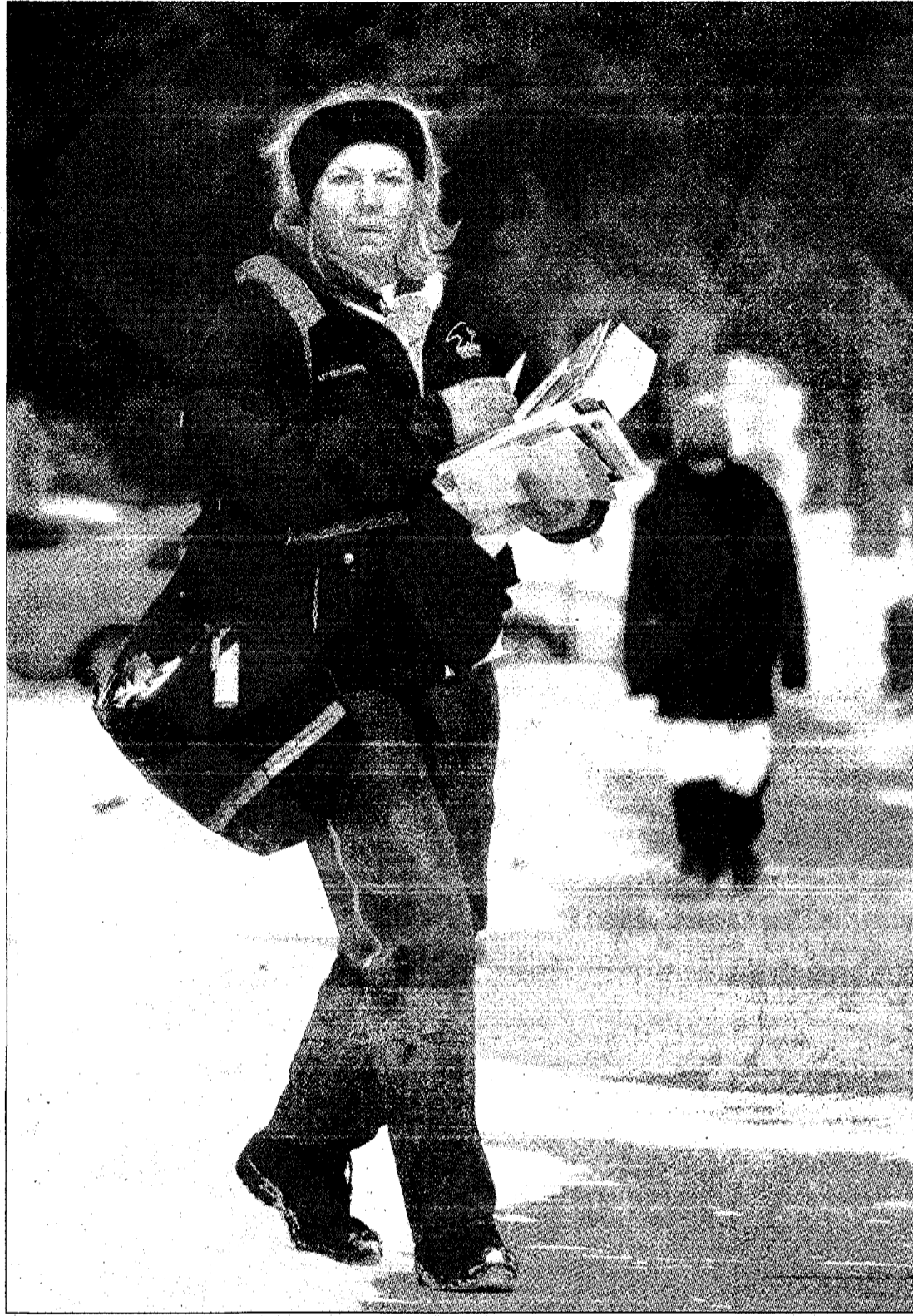
"We usually end up getting requests from other communities that want to look at our models on joint dispatch and the community fire department," Reaume said. "I think the process in place over 10 years ago was probably an example for leading within the state."

Granholm also indicated she will not cut the state foundation grant for school districts this year, which Plymouth-Canton Schools administrators estimated could have cost the district \$2-\$4 million in state funding.

"I'm grateful she acknowledged it's the middle of February and it would be difficult, if not impossible, for us to cut at this time," Superintendent Jim Ryan said. "At this point I'm cautiously optimistic. A lot could still happen."

The governor also encouraged school districts to consolidate services with county intermediate school districts to save money, and Ryan acknowledged "we're all for that."

"For Plymouth-Canton, we'll have to start thinking about what we can do with Wayne County RESA on such areas as how we handle our substitutes and savings through a purchasing consortium," he said. "I think we can gain some budget savings through consolidation."



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Six-degree temperatures didn't slow down mail carrier Beth Gillen, a Livonia resident, while she delivered along her route on Starkweather in Plymouth. The secret to staying warm, according to Gillen, is good boots and gloves.

Adapting to the cold

Reaction gets district to adjust to the weather

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

Superintendent Jim Ryan remained in his office until about 9 p.m. Monday, answering telephone messages and e-mails from parents and students, many of them angry that Plymouth-Canton Schools

remained open, despite wind-chill temperatures well below zero that forced most school districts in the region to cancel classes Monday.

From his office on Tuesday, a day in which classes were canceled because of the frigid temperatures, Ryan — who makes it a point to personally answer

all his correspondence — said of the approximately 100 messages, about half were from those who challenged his decision-making abilities, while the other half didn't have a problem with sending their kids to school.

PLEASE SEE COLD, A5

Comau Pico pulls out of Plymouth

BY BRAD KADRICK
STAFF WRITER

The folks at Comau Pico, the automotive systems company whose headquarters is in Southfield, still aren't sure where they're headed as they research co-location plans for its 13 metro Detroit locations.

But they do know one thing: It won't be Plymouth Township.

A spokesperson for the company confirmed Wednesday morning the firm is still considering options, but the idea of a 1.2-million-square-foot campus in Plymouth Township was no longer one of them.

"We're still working on a co-location plan, but we just aren't sure where yet," said Keri McCartney, corporate communications coordinator and technical assistant to Comau Pico Chief Executive Officer John Newman. "But we are definitely pulling out of the Plymouth plan. We have no other comment at this time until we finalize our plans."

According to Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume, the campus would have been built on the site of the former Detroit House of Corrections property now owned by DeMattia at Five Mile and Ridge.

The original plan was to have created 197 new jobs and retained 1,360 in the state, according to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, which offered a Single Business Tax credit for \$7.6 million over 15 years. Plymouth Township chipped in with a 12-year tax abatement for \$8.6 million.

Reaume said Comau Pico's decision is a blow to the township.

"That's a big loss," Reaume said. "It would have meant almost 2,000 Michigan jobs locating here. Those workers would have spent locally and, hopefully, some would have eventually moved here, which would have helped our home sales. Those are the positives, and we won't be able to reap the benefits."

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano was likewise disappointed at the decision, but said the county would be ready if the company's plans changed.

"We are certainly disappointed to hear Comau Pico has decided not to move forward with their new campus project in Plymouth Township," Ficano said. "It is my understanding Comau Pico has not received approval from the Fiat Corporation Board of Directors to invest in this new development at this time. If and when this investment opportunity is revisited, Wayne County is prepared to reactivate our plans to help them build a new corporate environment in support of their business goals and objectives."

Comau Pico produces industrial automation and assembly systems. It has 18 facilities and 1,900 employees in Michigan. The company was founded in 1939 as Progressive Tool & Industries Company. In 1999, it was acquired by Comau, which is owned by Fiat Auto S.p.A., and based in Turin, Italy.

Reaume was encouraged, at least, that the company is apparently still considering other options in southeast Michigan.

2
8
07

Museum board goes 'inside' for director

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

When the Plymouth Historical Society's search committee completed interviews of the four finalists for the vacated director's position last week, the choice became obvious — and soon afterward, unanimous — as the committee chose the only internal candidate, the museum's archivist, Elizabeth Kelley Kerstens

of Plymouth, to lead the museum into the future.

"I felt like I could offer the museum a lot because of my background," said Kerstens, a retired Marine major. "We needed somebody who could take hold and give us direction so we could start moving on, healing, working as a team ... and providing the community what we're here to do, tell it about its history."

MILITARY BACKGROUND

Kerstens moved to Plymouth with her husband, Marty — a Plymouth native — after retiring from the Marines in 1999. She's been volunteering at the Plymouth Historical Museum ever since, cataloguing the archives and helping visitors use the information for various projects. It



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Elizabeth Kelley Kerstens, former museum archivist, is the new museum director.

PLEASE SEE DIRECTOR, A4

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Coming Sunday
in Health

Flu prevention kits the latest trend for those hoping to stay well this season.



DIRECTOR

FROM PAGE A1

was that position where Kerstens admittedly learned the difference from being a leader in the military to one in a nonprofit organization. "When I was in the Marines, people who worked under me had to listen to me," Kerstens jokingly said. "In a nonprofit, if people don't like what you have to say, they'll walk away and you'll never see them again. I think I've learned to work with people, and more importantly, volunteers." That experience, plus her leadership skills, were main reasons Kerstens was offered the 24-hour a week position after the final interviews. "She came on very strong as

far as leadership, organizational skills and the knowledge of the museum," said Armando Lopez, a member of the Historical Society's nine-member search committee. "People bring different talents and skills to the organization, and one of the things Liz can help us with in a big way is to help bring the community together." Sanford Burr, a board member who took over the daily operations in August as interim director, said he's been impressed with Kerstens' work with volunteers and those who use the archives. "That kind of background gave her good training for stepping into a position such as this," Burr said. "She has the respect of everyone that works here, and that stands in my mind as the most outstanding attribute."

Kerstens, a genealogist who owns several companies and has written a couple of books detailing Plymouth history, said one of her first priorities is to expand the museum's list of volunteers. It's the lack of volunteers that recently forced the museum to close on Thursdays, making it a four-days-a-week operation. "It gets more difficult in January, February and March when many of the volunteers, mainly seniors, go south for the warm weather," Kerstens said. "It's getting more and more difficult to find people who want to come in once or twice a month." "Volunteers come because they want to, and if they don't like what they're doing, they won't keep on coming," she said. "My challenge (in archives) was always to try and

give volunteers something that intrigued them, give them ownership of what they were doing, so they would want to come back and see something from start to finish. We've got to make it fun to be here."

MONEY TALK

Next on the list is the financial picture. "I need to learn a lot about fund raising and grant writing," Kerstens said. "Those are probably my weakest points. It takes a lot to run a museum this size, which is the largest of comparable museums anywhere in Michigan." "Long-term, it would be really fun to have lots of programs to draw people in here, like lectures and people who do old-fashioned crafts," she said. "And, we want to reach out more to the schools." Margaret Dunning of Plymouth, the benefactor of the Plymouth Historical Museum who funded both the museum and an expansion, said she's pleased with the choice of Kerstens as director. "She has a lot of experience and loves the community," Dunning said. "I think she'll work very hard for us, and I'm sure she'll promote the museum in a fitting way."

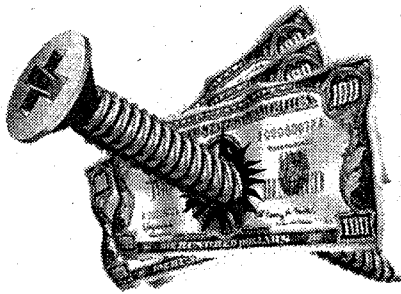


Elizabeth Kelley Kerstens, the new director of the Plymouth Historical Museum, is retired from the U.S. Marines.

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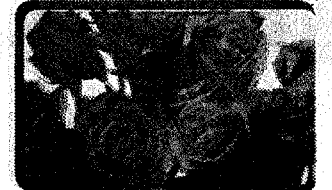
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Valentine's Day is next Wednesday, February 14th!

COLD

FROM PAGE A1

"Our mechanics were able to get the fleet going, and we didn't have any reported building problems at the time we were discussing it, about 5 a.m. (Monday)," said Ryan, who is in contact with nearby districts early in the morning to help make the call.

"My mistake was I thought people would dress to handle the cold," he said. "Some told me there are people who can't afford to, and I have great respect for that. In spite of my 17 years as a superintendent, I learn something every day."

In a letter sent home to parents, Ryan said they did consider the temperature as they thought about canceling classes.

"I knew at the time we made the call that the decision could have gone either way, and in hindsight, I probably would have canceled school," wrote Ryan. "I can assure you the districts in this area that closed, did so because their buses would not start or they had building problems."

"As the superintendent of schools, I realize the buck stops here and I take responsibility for the decision," he said. "We will certainly consider your comments as we continue to deal with the weather this week."

Ryan said the decision to cancel Monday afternoon kindergarten was made, in part, after the district received hundreds of calls.

"Once we found out how bitterly disappointed and concerned parents were, this was the first chance to show we were listening," Ryan said. "Actually, the main area of (parents') concern was the Educational Park because students move between the three high schools."

Jane Curtis of Plymouth, who takes her kindergartner to Smith Elementary, said she was disappointed classes were canceled Monday.

"The building was open and heated, the buses were running and the kids didn't have to line up outside before going in, so I didn't think the cold weather was a big deal," Curtis said. "People in Minnesota do this all the time. We need to toughen up a little."

Meanwhile, the district reported five buildings had heating issues and frozen water lines late Monday and early Tuesday. They included Dodson, Gallimore, Isbister and Workman elementary schools, as well as the Curriculum Center.

"Essentially, some of the typical problems that you normally would associated with bad weather," said Ken Jacobs, assistant superintendent of administrative services. "We expect them to be fixed by tomorrow."

Jacobs said all the buildings had repairs completed Tuesday and were ready for classes Wednesday morning.

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Fair shows high-tech vision products

Products and technological applications to help people with visual impairments will be demonstrated at a fair Friday.

The fifth Biennial Technology Blizzard for People with Visual Impairments and Learning Disabilities brings more than 30 manufacturers, distributors, service providers and educators. Half-hour sessions introducing products and their use in school and adult life are offered throughout the day.

The blizzard runs from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9, at the Dickinson Center, 18000 Newburgh Road in Livonia.

The event is geared toward people with visual impairments of all ages, seniors, adult children of people with vision loss, parents, educators and employers.

It is sponsored by the Wayne County RESA; the Livonia, Detroit and Lincoln Park school districts; and the Greater Detroit Agency for the Blind and Visually Impaired. For more information, call the Greater Detroit Agency for the Blind and Visually Impaired at (313) 272-3900.

The Plymouth District Library offers the following programs during February:

■ CONSTRUCTION UPDATES — Completion of the Youth area is drawing nearer. Check out the latest developments on the Library's renovation project by going to plymouthlibrary.org and clicking on the Building Blog. Current project updates and photos will take you behind the scenes.

■ GREAT BOOKS, Monday, Feb. 19, 7 p.m. — The discussion group is open to anyone who is curious and willing to work with others in developing an understanding and appreciation of great literature. For further information, contact group facilitator Karen Berrie at (734) 453-2454. To learn more about The Great Books Foundation, go to http://www.greatbooks.org/

■ WRITING MY LIFE STORY: A SENIOR WRITING GROUP, Tuesday, Feb. 20, 4 p.m. — Seniors can share and preserve their life stories with the guidance of Plymouth author, Jane Saylor. No previous writing experience or advance registration is required.

■ YOUR POETRY GROUP, Sunday, Feb. 11, 1:30-3:30 p.m. — Round-table readings of poems, your own or by others, are held on the second Sunday of the month. Reader's discretion of language is asked in the works read. For more information, contact Don Hewlett, (313) 272-3548, or donhewlett@aol.com

■ BASEBALL ISN'T JUST BASEBALL - IT'S A METAPHOR FOR LIFE, An afternoon with authors Robert Samaras and Raymond Rolak, Sunday, Feb. 11, 2 p.m. — The Library concludes this special baseball series, "Hot Stove League: Professors of Baseball share their love of America's pastime" with these Detroiters. Robert Samaras,

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Edd, former coach of the Wayne State University baseball team, will talk about such varied topics as "The one-run game: pathway to pennant" and humanistic psychology in baseball coaching. Raymond Rolak, former director of the City of Detroit 3,000 member PaR Baseball School, will present "Different Universes: A comparative look at competitive and recreational baseball. Register for this free program by calling the Reader's Advisory Desk at (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4 or online at plymouthlibrary.org. This program is made possible with the generous support of the Friends of the Plymouth District Library.

■ WORLD WAR II PERSPECTIVES, Tuesday, Feb. 13, 7 p.m. — Patrick Ignani returns to address The Pacific Theater: A Clash of Races and Cultures. He will examine the cultural differences between Japan and the United States

that caused the war in the Pacific to evolve into a bitter racial and ethnic struggle. Register for this free program by phone, (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4 or on-line at plymouthlibrary.org

■ STARS, MOONS AND PLANETS, Monday, Feb. 19, 7 p.m. — He loves the skies and after this informal gathering, you will too. Plymouth resident Mike Best leads a lively discussion each month for adults and children over the age of 6. No registration is required. For more information contact (734) 459-BEST or starmikebest@comcast.net

■ CONTEMPORARY BOOKS DISCUSSION, Wednesday, Feb. 21, 7:30 p.m. — Members of this book discussion group are invited to read The Memory Keeper's Daughter by Kim Edwards. Copies of this book are available at the circulation desk. New members are welcome at any time. For further informa-

tion, please call Sue Patterson at the library, (734) 453-0750, or email spatterson@plymouthlibrary.org

■ ALL ABOUT OSCAR, Thursday, Feb. 22, 7 p.m. — Lawrence Jeziak, film instructor at Oakland Community College and former film critic, will deliver a light but thoughtful examination of this year's Academy Award nominations. Novices as well as film buffs will learn about the essence of cinema and the history of the fickle finger of Oscar. Register for this free program by calling the Reader's Advisory Desk, (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4 or online at plymouthlibrary.org

■ NEEDLECRAFTERS MEETING, Monday, Feb. 26, 7 p.m. — Knitters, quilters, needlepointers are all invited to attend this informal group gathering. Lessons are not provided, but ideas exchanged among attendees. No registration required. Bring your latest project!

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P.A.R.I.S.I.A.N.

Examine your tax forms closely when preparing your return

By now, you should have received any W-2 and 1099 forms to prepare your tax return. To me, one thing that everyone should do is to review the accuracy of these documents. Most people never look at these documents and assume that they are always correct. Unfortunately, this is not always the case. Mistakes are made and those mistakes can cost you a substantial amount of money. Therefore, I believe it pays to spend a few minutes to review the forms to make sure that they are accurate.

In reviewing your W-2, the first thing you should do is to make sure that your Social Security number is accurate. You are paying substantial amounts of money into Social Security and it is important that you get credit for it. In order to assure that there is



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

proper credit, your Social Security number must be accurate. If there is a problem, it is easier to correct today than it will be down the road.

On your 1099 and W-2, you also need to review the accuracy of the numbers. On the W-2, one of the best ways to review accuracy is to look at your last payroll stub for 2006. The numbers for wages and federal, state and city withholding should be the same as on your W-2. If there is a discrepancy, you want to contact your employer's payroll depart-

ment as soon as possible.

In reviewing your 1099, it is sometimes a little more difficult. If it is a 1099 from a brokerage house or an investment company, then you can review your year-end statement and compare the numbers on your year-end statement to your 1099. However, a 1099 can be issued for other items such as real estate transactions and in those cases you have to review the underlying documentation to make sure that they are accurate. The one mistake that people always make is that they assume that banks and financial institutions are always right. That is not the case. They make mistakes and you and I need to correct them when they occur.

If you have not received your W-2 or a 1099 that you should have received, you need to be proactive. If it is a W-2 from a

job, you need to contact that company and have them issue the documents ASAP. If for some reason the company is no longer in business or you are having difficulty dealing with it, then you need to complete IRS form 4582. This form is a substitute for a W-2 and should accompany your 1040.

It is important to recognize that whether you receive a 1099 or a W-2, you are still liable to report the income and pay the appropriate taxes. If you attempt to use the excuse that you did not receive the appropriate documentation from the employer or the financial institution, not only will the IRS access you with the tax, but it can also hit you with penalties.

I know this may sound strange, but it is true. A great place to go for tax information is the Internal Revenue Service

Web site at www.irs.gov. This is an excellent user-friendly Web site regarding tax information. In addition, if you need forms, you can also get them from the IRS Web site.

For many individuals, the IRS Web site can also be used to complete and file your tax return. The IRS has a free tax service which allows you to complete your return electronically as long as your adjusted gross income is below \$52,000. For reference, that means that about 70 percent of people, 95 million taxpayers, can take advantage of the free file program through the IRS. All you need to do is go to the IRS Web site at www.irs.gov and click on "free file."

One question that I am frequently asked is, when is the best time to file your return in order to avoid an IRS audit?

Although you may hear all sorts of talk, in reality it doesn't make any difference when you file your return from an audit standpoint. There is no increased risk of audit if you file your return early nor if you file your return with an extension.

What increases your risk of audit is if you file inaccurate or sloppy returns. Therefore, my advice always to taxpayers is to never rush, take your time and make sure that when you complete your return, it is complete and accurate.

Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. *Observer & Eccentric* readers can submit questions at money@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit his Web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com. You can hear Rick from noon to 3 p.m. Sundays on WDTK-AM (1400).

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Focus:HOPE gets interim leader

The Focus:HOPE Board of Directors formed a search committee recently to replace outgoing CEO Keith Cooley and named Chief Operating Officer Timothy Duperron as the interim chief executive officer.

The board also elected William F. Jones Jr., vice president of Chrysler Financial for DaimlerChrysler Financial Services America, as chair and Elizabeth Ardisana, CEO of ASG Renaissance, as vice chair. Jones replaces attorney William Brodhead, who had chaired the board for seven years.

The transition in CEO positions was prompted after Gov. Jennifer Granholm appointed Cooley to her cabinet as director of the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth. Duperron's long-standing leadership role at Focus:HOPE will make the transition smooth, noted co-founder Eleanor Josaitis. He has served as chief operating officer for five of the last eight years and is well respected throughout the organization, she said.

"Tim helped Focus:HOPE and myself through the difficult period after (co-founder) Father William Cunningham's death," said Josaitis. "He has played a pivotal role in our operations ever since."

Duperron came to Focus:HOPE in 1998 after a 34-year career at Ford Motor Co. He began his career at Ford as a skilled trades apprentice and progressed through the company holding many assignments at Ford plants. Just prior to joining Focus:HOPE, he managed the Ford Cleveland Casting Plant.

Duperron served as COO for four years before recruiting Cooley to replace him,

then became executive adviser to the leadership team. He resumed the COO position at the request of Board members and Josaitis during a leadership transition in 2006 when Cooley became CEO. A resident of Grosse Ile, Duperron served in the U.S. Navy and holds a bachelor of science degree from Wayne State University and a M.B.A. from Central Michigan University.

Jones, a resident of Birmingham, joined the Focus:HOPE board in July 1999. At DaimlerChrysler Financial Services Americas, Jones is responsible for directing all of the activities within Chrysler Financial and DaimlerChrysler Insurance Co. in the United States. Since joining the company in 1981 as a corporate analyst, he has served in many capacities. Prior to his current position, he served as vice president of corporate financial control for the Chrysler Group. Jones holds a bachelor of arts and an M.B.A. from Columbia University.

Ardisana, a resident of West Bloomfield, is the principal owner of ASG Renaissance, a technical and communications services firm. She also serves as chair of the Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Ardisana earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Texas and an M.B.A. from the University of Detroit and a master's in mechanical engineering from the University of Michigan.

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Michigan Library names 2007 notable books

The Library of Michigan recently announced the 2007 Michigan Notable Books (www.michigan.gov/notable-books), 20 books highlighting Michigan people, places and events.

This quality selection of Michigan-related books (published in 2006) represents a wide range of Michigan experiences and events. Included are historical accounts such as the hopeful story of Covert, a Michigan town that became racially integrated in the 19th century; essays and poetry inspired by Michigan and the Great Lakes; and mysteries and youth fiction that use as their settings some of Michigan's best-known places: apple orchards, resort communities and the Mackinac Bridge.

"Once again, this year's list of Michigan Notable Books is one for the whole state to enjoy," said State Librarian Nancy R. Robertson. "These books tell the stories of Michigan - defining our home as a place rich with spirit, history and inspiration - and they reaffirm Michigan as a well-spring of literary energy, creativity and unique voices."

Each year's Michigan Notable Books list features 20 books published the previous calendar year that are about or set in Michigan or the Great Lakes region or are written by a native or resident of Michigan. Selections include nonfiction and fiction and typically have a wide appeal to the audience, covering a range of topics and issues close to the hearts of Michigan residents.

For more information about Michigan Notable Books, call (517) 373-1300, visit www.michigan.gov/notable-books or e-mail michigan-notablebooks@michigan.gov.

The 2007 Michigan Notable Books are:

Burning Rainbow Farm: How a Stoner Utopia Went Up in Smoke, by Dean Kuipers (Bloomsbury) - This detailed and readable account describes the 2001 tragedy on Tom Crosslin's and Rollie Rohm's farm in Vandalia, a rural Cass County town.

Death's Door: The Truth Behind Michigan's Largest Mass Murder, by Steve Lehto (Momentum Books) - This book explores the enduring mystery and drama surrounding the 1913 Christmas Eve tragedy at Italian Hall in Calumet.

Donutheart, by Sue Stauffacher (Alfred A. Knopf) - In this young-adult sequel to Donuthead set in fictional central and west Michigan, Franklin is still obsessive but begins to gain a heart for others.

Fresh Water: Women Writing on the Great Lakes, edited by Alison Swan (Michigan State University Press) - The lilting, poetic language of these essays brings to life the sights, smells and sounds of Michigan's best-known resource.

Guilty at the Rapture, by Keith Taylor (Hanging Loose Press) - Heart-touching poetry and prose, filled with clear insight and humor, combine to tell stories of the human condition.

The History of Michigan Law, edited by Paul Finkelman and Martin J. Hershock (Ohio University Press) - This collection of essays by members of the legal community and academia traces the evolution of Michigan law, exploring the state's leadership in developing civil rights law, the impact of industrialization, and the history of labor law.

House of Fields: Memories of a Rural Education, by Anne-Marie Oomen (Wayne State University Press) - Drawing on ordinary moments from her childhood, with settings such as her family's farmhouse and the local schoolyard, the

author employs a gentle touch and poetic details to tell a compelling coming-of-age story in rural Oceana County.

Keewaydinoquay: Stories from My Youth, by Keewaydinoquay Peschel, edited by Lee Boisvert (University of Michigan Press) - Told in first-person, these stories of a Michigan woman with both Native American and white heritage shed light on the experiences of growing up in an Ojibway community in northern Michigan during the early 1900s.

Landscaping with Native Plants of Michigan, by Lynn M. Steiner (Voyageur Press) - This beautifully illustrated guide to gardening in Michigan describes the state's native plants, explains how to grow them successfully, and gives tips and advice on solving common gardening issues.

Mackinac Bridge: The Story of the Five-Mile Poem, by Gloria Whelan, illustrated by Gijsbert van Frankenhuyzen (Sleeping Bear Press) - Set in the 1950s, while the "Mighty Mac" was being built beautifully illustrated and well researched, this timely story coincides with the 50th anniversary (in 2007) of the official opening of the bridge.

The Muskegon: The Majesty and Tragedy of Michigan's Rarest River, by Jeff Alexander (Michigan State University Press) - Take a journey down the Muskegon River in this well-written scholarly study that explores the waterway's environmental history and possible future.

Nicotine Kiss: An Amos Walker Novel, by Loren D. Estleman (Forge) - In this 18th novel of the award-winning series featuring hard-boiled

Detroit PI Amos Walker, Walker's old friend and long-time cigarette smuggler has turned up missing.

Saving Daylight, by Jim Harrison (Copper Canyon Press) - Northern Michigan, as well as the mountains and forests of the American West, play a central role in Jim Harrison's 10th book of poetry

So Cold a Sky: Upper Michigan Weather Stories, by Karl Bohnak (Cold Sky Publishing) - From the first European explorers to pioneer settlers to modern-day Michiganders, the Upper Peninsula's inhabitants have faced weather's most devastating challenges: extreme snowstorms, heat waves, floods, fires and more.

A Stronger Kinship: One Town's Extraordinary Story of Hope and Faith, by Anna-Lisa Cox (Little, Brown, and

Company) - In this powerful story of 19th-century Covert, blacks and whites lived peacefully and equally with shared political power, integrated schools and interracial marriage.

Summer of the War, by Gloria Whelan (HarperCollins) - In this beautifully written young-adult novel set on an island in Lake Huron during World War II, Belle and her two siblings take their annual summer trip to their grandparents' island home, where they are surprised by an unknown cousin who fled Paris to escape the war.

Taking Care of Cleo: A Novel, by Bill Broder (Hansel Books) - Set in Prohibition-era Charlevoix, and complete with booze, bootleggers and the Purple Gang, this engaging novel with a strong historical sense of place details the lives

of the Bearwadds, the only Jewish family in this small Lake Michigan resort community.

An Unquiet Grave, by P.J. Parrish (Pinnacle Books) - In this suspenseful thriller, Florida PI Louis Kincaid, a native of Detroit, is called back to Michigan by his foster father, who needs help with a personal situation.

The Widower: A Novel, by Liesel Litzenburger (Shaye Areheart Books) - Memorable characters and a strong sense of place dominate Litzenburger's novel.

William G. Milliken: Michigan's Passionate Moderate, by Dave Dempsey (University of Michigan Press) - This political biography explores the life and career of William G. Milliken, Michigan's 44th and longest-serving governor (1969-1982).

MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES

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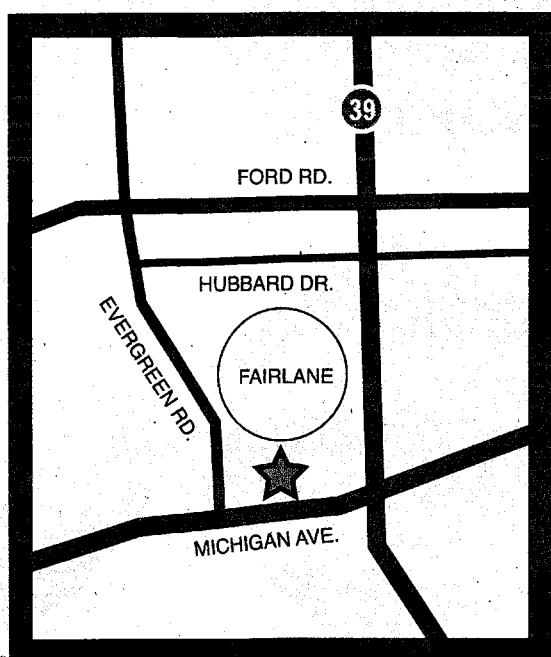
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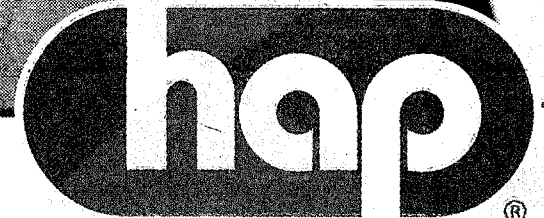
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DEATHS

A
Leslie J. Allen
 Allen, 37, formerly of Livonia, died Jan. 31.

D
Ivan S. Doctor
 Doctor, 82, died Feb. 5.

E
Elton R. (Randy) Eaton
 Eaton, 66, of Plymouth, died Jan. 28.

G
Joseph D. Gitre
 Gitre, 79, of Birmingham, died Jan. 26.

M
Stephen James Labuhn
 Labuhn, 32, formerly of Rochester Hills, died Feb. 2.

M
Michael H. McNally
 McNally, 51, formerly of Livonia, died Feb. 1.

Z
Hanna Josephine "Jo" Zack
 Zack, 79, of Beverly Hills, died Feb. 5.

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

Symphony names top youth artists

The Plymouth Canton Symphony Society handed out some \$1,500 in cash prizes while announcing the 2007 winners of the society's annual Youth Artist Competition. The event is an annual concerto competition for piano and orchestra students in Grades 7-12. Students compete not only for the cash, but for an opportunity to perform with either the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra or Orchestra



Pao



Tseng

Canton. The winners will be presented their awards at the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra's upcoming concert, "Brahms & Bolcom," set for 8 p.m. Saturday at Northville High School.

Symphony officials said no contestants scored well enough to meet the Board of Directors' criteria for first-place winners in the top two divisions; how-

ever, the lack of first-place honors allowed the board to hand out more honorable mention awards.

Viola player Kurt Tseng took home a \$400 second-place prize in the "Senior Instrumental" division. Tiffany Pao won second-place and \$400 in the "Senior Piano" division, and cellist Elise Chagas won a first-place prize of \$250 in the "Junior Combined" division.

Many students received honorable mentions and \$100 for their hard work and growing talents. In the Senior Division, Derek Thieleman (cello), Corwin Stout (saxophone), Joshua Tavana (euphonium), and Katherine Opperman

(harp) all received honorable mentions. Kelly Kaiser (violin) received honorable mention in the Junior Division.

Symphony officials said the competition is possible "because of the generous support of Evola Music, Plymouth Rotary Foundation, Optimist Club of Plymouth, Plymouth Kiwanis Foundation, and the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts."

For more information on the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society programs, concerts and events, visit the symphony's Web site at www.plymouth-symphony.org or call (734) 451-2112.



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OUR VIEWS

'Yes' vote urged on school bond

It would be easy, in the face of a struggling auto industry, the loss of 70 Pfizer jobs right here at home and a faltering state economy, to automatically turn a thumbs-down to the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools' \$62.1 million bond proposal in the Feb. 27 election.

We think that would be a mistake.

The proposal on which voters will cast their ballots later this month is a greatly scaled-back revision of the two-question bond voters turned down in May. Gone are niceties such as a new theater and athletic facility improvements, viewed widely as "wants" and not "needs" and a reason the first proposals were shot down.

The proposal asks taxpayers to support \$31.2 million for a new middle school in Canton Township to replace an aging Central Middle School; and another \$13.6 million to refurbish Central for alternative education (replacing Starkweather Education Center), community education and a curriculum center.

It also includes \$13.1 million for new classrooms and a gym, \$4 million for cafeteria improvements, just over \$1 million for new school buses and \$2.3 million to reimburse the general fund for the purchase of the middle school property on Cherry Hill, just west of Canton Center, in Canton.

To the district, the latter is very important, because this is the last chance officials have to recoup that money. Naysayers will tell you they bought property for a middle school they don't need. Before you agree, consider: Central Middle School has outlived its usefulness as a learning environment for nearly 900 students; and some 70 percent of those students are bused in from Canton.

Voters who doubt Central has outlived its usefulness as a learning environment for middle schoolers need only visit the school; Supt. Jim Ryan has offered to conduct tours. The three-story building is a security risk and lacks the same educational opportunities as the district's more-modern middle schools.

It has been suggested the district wants to put its alternative education program into a refurbished Central Middle School in order to open it up to students from outside the district as a means of increasing revenue.

We don't believe the district plans any such move. District officials simply believe the facility at Starkweather is ill-suited as a learning environment and, frankly, anyone who has walked the halls at Starkweather knows they're right.

We understand this is a tough economic era. The state is struggling, and public school funding could face cuts. If that happens, school districts already struggling to cut their budgets will face enormous challenges. Even in bad economic times, we have to decide where our priorities lie.

We believe the education of our children is one of those priorities, and urge a "yes" vote on the school bond proposal Feb. 27.

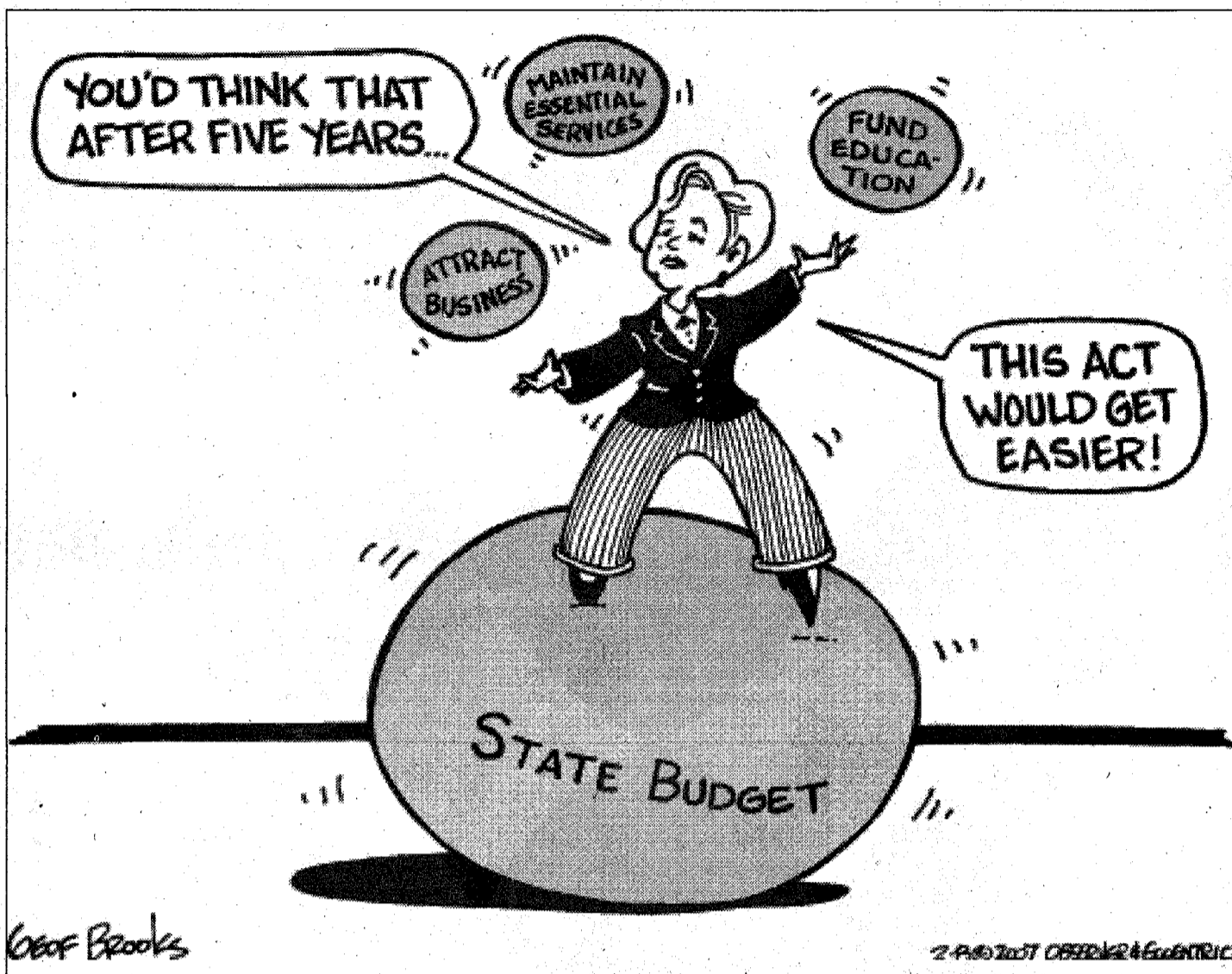
Granholtm 'vision' will be tough sell

Today we'll get the details, on Tuesday we got the vision. Gov. Jennifer Granholtm has been good at the "vision thing" during her annual State of the State addresses, often laying out bold initiatives to bring Michigan into the 21st Century. Tuesday's speech was also loaded with interesting, creative programs but the governor wasn't her usually buoyant self.

After outlining what needed to be done to move the state forward and improve its bleak economic outlook, Granholtm prepared the state for the mix of spending cuts, tax increases and fiscal restructuring that will be proposed in her budget released today. Based on Granholtm's speech, she and state budget director Bob Emerson will be following the recommendations of her Emergency Financial Advisory Panel, chaired by former governors William Milliken and James Blanchard. The panel warned in its report released last week that the state couldn't cut its way out of its current fiscal crisis, nor could it tax its way out without seriously hurting the already damaged economy. And it warned the time to act was running out as projected deficits could rise to \$3 billion without a replacement for the single business tax.

Republicans in the Legislature have already signaled that they will not support a tax increase and Democrats will find it difficult to cut any deeper into state government, especially if they hope to achieve any of the programs outlined in Granholtm's address. Granholtm repeated some common themes - creating programs to attract new businesses especially in the life science and alternative energy fields, promising not to cut the school foundation grant for this year and increases for next school year and more investment in cities.

She warned municipalities and school districts that they must move toward consolidation of programs or risk losing state funding. She suggested reforms in the criminal justice system to reduce the number of prisoners in the state's overburdened and expensive prison system. She challenged other cities to promote private/public partnerships to match the Kalamazoo Promise. But the devil is in the details and in the ability to work toward compromises with a Senate steered against raising taxes. The governor has a tough selling season ahead.



No more for water

I guess I don't understand how we pay for water. It seems to me that the water the people of Plymouth Township use passes through their meters and they pay for according to usage.

Then there is water that bypasses the meters and is used by the fire department and other government services that we all benefit from, and should be paid for I guess with tax dollars.

And then there is water used by profit-making companies that are getting it for free. I can see why the city of Detroit wants its money, but why are we responsible to pay for all of it?

Richard (Reaume, township supervisor) has told me twice that it will be only \$5 or \$6 more. I don't want to pay 5 more cents.

Richard Ford
Plymouth Township

Tired of hearing it

I am a voter and a taxpayer who is tired of being told how little a tax increase is going to cost me. I am a voter who is tired of being told how I must be re-educated, re-taught, re-informed or how I must have been confused about an issue after a tax increase has been voted down.

Plymouth Township would not except no for an answer and now our school board officials won't either. I am tired of not hearing how these little tax increases will impact our local neighborhood businesses - how much taxation will it take to break the businessmen's back?

My entire 2006 summer tax bill, except for a Wayne County tax, went exclusively to schools.

Those who receive a slice of my tax pie included Schoolcraft College, Plymouth-Canton Schools, RESA and the state of Michigan for the school fund that feeds into all schools.

As a homeowner, I am taxed for education at 14.42 mills or \$14.42 per \$1,000 on my property value. As a business property owner, I am taxed at 32.42 mills or \$32.42 per \$1,000 on my business property value for education, over double what a homeowner pays.

Now add to those figures a 4-percent yearly increase added to my property value for the Headlee Amendment to catch up with property increases, and finally a 2-percent sales tax increase to the state of Michigan for education on everything I buy as a homeowner and as a business.

These figures do not include what I pay to the city of Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Wayne County, Wayne County jail, Wayne county parks and the Plymouth library, which all receive a large portion of taxes. The Plymouth-Canton school board now wants to try a second time for an increase for the needs of the district.

With plant closings, and plants due to close, bankruptcies, foreclosures, people still getting laid off because of cutbacks, people leaving our state to find work elsewhere, now is not the time. Just announced is that the state of Michigan wants to raise taxes to cover its shortfall.

I would ask the board to be more concerned about its shortfall and how it is going to balance its budget, instead of concentrating on what it wants. Every homeowner needs to ask themselves a question

and answer it also. Businesses can close their doors and leave our communities like they are, but what are we as homeowners willing to do when the city or township you live in can no longer pay its bills? Are you willing to make up the differences the businesses that were once there paid?

I want to make a suggestion for our school board members: Create classes to teach our children how to start, run and manage a business instead of always training them all to go work for a corporation. What has made America great is small to medium businesses, not large corporations.

Don Schnettler
Plymouth Township

Column deceptive

Reading Mr. Rosenbaum's rather "rosy" and cleverly deceptive article (in the Feb. 4 *Observer*), which is more suitable as Israeli propaganda, I was left shaking my head in total shock and incredulity!

Unlike Mr. Rosenbaum, I travel to the Holy Land along with my children every summer to visit family in our ancestral village of Beit Hanina, which is located near Jerusalem. In fact, I happen to have been born in the Holy City of Jerusalem, which the vast majority of Palestinian Muslims and Christians are forbidden from entering.

The memories and experiences of our annual pilgrimage to Palestine that my children and I come away with, contrast rather starkly with the "warm and fuzzy" description that is painted by Mr. Rosenbaum.

While Mr. Rosenbaum was able to freely travel to Jerusalem and drive "straight through" the occupied, not "disputed" West Bank, he fails to mention that he was traveling on Jewish-only highways, which are forbidden to the Palestinians whose lands these apartheid thoroughfares cut through.

Also, the realities of the "Jewish villages" that he refers to are nothing more than illegally built Jewish-only colonies which were built on stolen Palestinian lands, serviced by an extensive highway system that is off-limits to the Palestinians, which is also the reason that Mr. Rosenbaum never encountered any of the more than 700 documented checkpoints and roadblocks that strangle the fabric of Palestinian society, whereby common everyday tasks that we take for granted here in America, such as going to school, seeing a doctor, or visiting loved ones, becomes an impossibly arduous task.

Next time Mr. Rosenbaum decides to visit the Holy Land, I hope he can break away from his Israeli handlers and see the cruel realities of Israel's nefarious occupation and oppression of the Palestinians. A simple visit to the village of my birth, Beit Hanina, which is bisected by a Jewish-only highway, a 30-foot-high Israeli-constructed concrete wall imprisoning its inhabitants, and three Jewish-only colonies built on lands which were stolen from my family and the rest of its inhabitants, would be a more accurate portrayal, even though there are many Palestinian villages that are in worse shape.

I find Mr. Rosenbaum's article to be nothing more than yet another attempt to

shore up Israel's image by the pro-Israeli supporters designed to counter the damning indictment of Israel and her policies by former President Jimmy Carter in his latest book, *Palestine: Peace not Apartheid*.

Mike Odetalla
Canton

Voting no again

Judging by the snub of making a presentation before the League of Women Voters, Big Jim and his cronies exhibited their fear of coming before women with brains. I am so thankful that the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools don't have direct access to more taxpayer monies and are forced to ask our permission. I'm voting "no" again.

Phyllis Counts
Canton

Buy American

In a few weeks, the voters will face a school millage. Chances are, it will not pass. People are out of work, houses are for sale and we are in a very bad economic time.

This area has always thrived because of the American automotive companies. I've always driven an American car because, not only do I enjoy them and their reliability, I believe it supports our country. I try to buy American products because it keeps Americans working - my friends and neighbors.

People choose to drive foreign cars for various reasons and I'm sure many will argue that it is their right. And so it is. But they have to accept the liability of what it is doing to our economy and our school system.

If you drive your child to school in a foreign car and you are upset about the cuts in school programs, the crowded classrooms, please remember that this is part of the cost of driving a foreign car. Any time you buy a foreign product, whether it is a car or a can of beans, you put an American out of work and this affects our entire economy.

Please think about the ramifications of buying foreign goods. Your child's education may well be one of the losses.

Peg Robichaud
Canton

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Richard Reaume, Plymouth Township Supervisor, on efforts to scale back a proposed 29.1 percent increase in water rates

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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.

Michigan needs an extreme makeover, not just a facelift

Michigan has been ostrich-like, with its head in the sand, for too long. Here are some ideas to address the chronic structural spending and revenue problems and prepare our citizens and children for the future.

A six-pack of ideas:

■ **Stop pretending.** Michigan's leaders have to level with residents. The only way to honestly balance a budget is to cut expenses, raise revenue, or a combination of both.

Our "fiscal crisis" exists because Michigan's leaders have not made the structural changes necessary to align income and expenditures. You cannot cut taxes while maintaining and increasing funding and services simultaneously. Pretending is not a solution.

■ **Ask yourself** — if you found this great peninsula, with 10 million people and 1.7 million K-12 school age students confronting this disruptive, technologically driven, transformational global economy, would you create 83 counties, establish 500 cities, constitute more than 1,200 townships, spawn nearly 800 traditional and charter school districts, spend more to lock up people in jails and prisons than to educate them, have school funding increases go toward pension and health care insurance for current and retired school personnel?

If your answers to the above are "no," you may wonder how we change. Lansing must stop funding a system of governance that is outmoded, expensive, ineffective and inefficient. Schools and local units of governments cannot and will not reform themselves without the push from Lansing.

■ **Let the sunshine in.** Peel back the cost of government, make it immediately available to the public and let them see where the money is spent. Ask the residents of Michigan, "Is this what we are willing to pay for?" For example — should school districts provide pensions to part-time substitute teachers? Should school districts provide lifetime health benefits for employees who work for a district for only five years? Could we reduce overhead costs through consolidation and joint operating agreements, redirecting the savings to the classroom?

(See www.michigan.gov/documents/michiganschoolfunding_110803_7.pdf for a report I wrote while state superintendent [2001-05] that provides additional examples.)

■ **Scrutinize the entire tax structure.** Provide the same level of scrutiny and exposure for the special tax breaks and loopholes provided to various businesses over the years. Are these "exceptions to the rules" good public policy or simply good for the lobbyist securing them for businesses? Tighten or eliminate existing and future loopholes that rob the state treasury of necessary resources.

■ **Appropriately define the problem.** If the

problem is a nail, the solution is a hammer. However, a hammer can be used to drive the nail in or pull it out. Michigan's leaders must stop defining the problem solely as a "funding/revenue crisis." If the governor's appointed emergency financial advisers view the problem as solely a funding problem, we all are likely to get hammered by new taxes.

■ **Invest in our future.** Be willing to invest as well as cut. We must help the most vulnerable, educate our children and assure we are safe and secure. Our elected leaders must take on the special interests and cut not only services, but also unaffordable tax breaks as noted above. Our goal must be to become the brain bank of the world, where knowledge, creativity, innovation and education are valued investments, where people the world over come for deposits and withdrawals.

■ **Cut costs and then invest.** Michigan should borrow or tax to provide necessary and immediate resources for our children's education. Continuing to cut money from our schools and universities is the equivalent of a farmer eating his seed corn. These funds should be provided only after the Legislature takes action to cut administrative (including retirement and health care) costs and redirect the resources to the classroom.

■ **Create a state fund that will provide a 40-percent match to a local community's efforts to mirror a Kalamazoo Promise** (www.kalamazoopublicschools.com) or guarantee college funding to a two- or four-year state college or university.

■ **Catch up with other states and nations** by investing in high-quality preschool programs. Research has documented that investment in our youngest children (birth to age 5) has tremendous payoff to society in terms of reduced delinquency and higher achievement rates, building the foundation for success later in life.

■ **The state that invests in its people will be the state that thrives in the 21st century knowledge economy.** This is not a short-term investment. We must plant a tree, knowing that future generations of Michigan citizens will enjoy the shade.

The governor must force change. She must set clear goals, objectives and measurements for operating a government that provides transparency about how money is being spent and invested. She must provide the vision and hope for the "next Michigan" and show how these sacrifices will make a better Michigan.

Maintaining the status quo or dabbling around the edges will not get our heads out of the sand or take us where we need to go. The time is now for bold and courageous leadership to get Michigan out of the rut.

Tom Watkins is a business and education consultant. He served as state superintendent of schools from 2001-05 and state mental health director from 1986-90. Read his internationally recognized report, *The New Education (R)evolution*, at www.nacol.org. He can be reached at tdwatkins@aol.com.



Tom Watkins

Stand on the risers before casting your ballot on bond

At Central Middle School, teachers working with autistic children are in their classroom, while right next door, another class is using the auxiliary gymnasium.

Even with the doors closed, the noise emanating from the auxiliary gym is too much, making the environment in the autistic classroom a difficult one in which to learn. Teachers make the best of a bad situation, but eventually have to send some of the students to another part of the building.

In the music room, members of the eighth-grade girls choir are going through their paces, standing on risers too small for the job, but too large for the room. The girls on the top risers stand a foot, maybe less, beneath large ceiling fans which provide the room's only circulation.

We got into the building using a key carried by Ken Jacobs, the Plymouth-Canton school district's assistant superintendent for administrative services. Once we were inside, we could have gone anywhere we wanted, virtually undetected, because of the building's three-story layout that renders it a severe security risk.

"Security is a real problem," said Joyce Johnson, the bundle of energy who serves as Central's principal. "Once you're in the building, we don't know you're here until we actually see your face."

Those are some of the problems district officials hope to correct by refurbishing Central as an alternative education center and moving the 885 middle school students it currently houses into new digs if a \$62.1 million bond proposal passes Feb. 27.

If the proposal passes, some 70 percent of those students, currently bused from Canton, would find a new home in a new middle school built in Canton. The rest would likely be spread out to the three other middle schools — East, West and Pioneer — that serve Plymouth.

The thought of Central no longer serving as a school evokes some pretty strong emotions around here, and rightly so. After all, it's been a school for about a million years. It's a historic building in the heart of downtown Plymouth, something you don't see very often anymore.

But district officials are trying to operate with one eye on history, and the other on the future. And even a 20-minute tour will tell you, if you look at it unemotionally, Central has outlived its usefulness as a full-time educational facility.

Classrooms are small. They used to be bigger, according to Johnson, but many got sliced in half to make more room. The sixth-grade choir class, for instance, had to be divided into two semesters to be able to accommodate the number of kids who wanted to sing.

"Classroom management is tough," choir teacher Janine Grady said. "It's hard to make sure they're all participating and that they stay safe and secure. The students are great, though. They've made sacrifices to stay in here."



Brad Kadrich

A couple of years ago, a loud crashing noise was heard from one of the classrooms. Johnson laughs lightly when she remembers the incident now, because at the time she assumed it was students getting into mischief. What had actually happened was the ceiling had caved in. Luckily, the classroom was empty at the time.

No one is suggesting Central Middle School is a deathtrap or a national security risk, but when you compare it to the other schools, you begin to wonder about some of the differences. For instance, Johnson said science students at other schools get to perform experiments, while students at Central can only watch teachers demonstrate the experiments because of a lack of facilities and resources.

Supt. Jim Ryan said the need for a new middle school is a matter of equal time.

"It's a matter of equity in learning," said Ryan, who is passionate about the subject. "We want all of our students to have the same opportunities to learn."

It's the same problem at Starkweather. The classrooms are small, but the students are big. They're older students trying to come back and get their diplomas, and they're trying to do it in what is basically an elementary school. Want perspective? Go sit in one of those desks you sat in back when you were an elementary student. That's sort of what it's like for these kids.

Starkweather's 300 students attend classes that can begin at 8 a.m. and go as late as 10 p.m. There's an art room with no water, a science department with no lab facility. Bathrooms don't meet the American With Disabilities Act standards, and the state-licensed day care facility has no playground.

There's no public address system, no bell system and no sprinkler system for fire suppression. During fire drills, Principal Irene Ras has to blow an air horn. There's enough storage space for the records of current students; records from past students are kept in a garage. There's no bus service, only two computer labs where computers are used mostly by students, leaving teachers scrambling for computer time, and no real library, although some teachers have established small libraries in their classrooms, paid for out of their own pockets because the district doesn't have the funds.

Still, classes are being taught and the 300 students are making progress toward their goal — graduation.

"We manage," Ras said. "The teachers are very creative in their instruction. They go to workshops and come up with ideas. We make do with what we have."

No one is suggesting the students at these facilities aren't being educated; they are. And it's easy to understand the history behind the buildings, particularly Central Middle School. And I'm not suggesting you vote one way or the other for the bond.

Each taxpayer has to decide for themselves what's important to him or her. But before you cast the ballot, I would suggest you take advantage of the tours Ryan is offering, and stand on the risers for yourself.

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) 459-2700.

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The old man and the young reporter

Writer recalls her memories of a legendary author, who was also her father-in-law



Valerie Hemingway met Ernest Hemingway's youngest son, Gregory, at the author's funeral and later married him. Their marriage lasted 21 years.

BY JAY M. GROSSMAN
STAFF WRITER

She was a child, he was a legend.

Valerie Danby-Smith was a 19-year-old reporter working for a Belgium news service when she was assigned to interview Ernest Hemingway in May 1959.

The interview took place at a hotel in Madrid. At the time, she hardly knew of the man and his writings.

"His books were banned in Ireland where I grew up," she said. "So when I met him, he was entirely different than what I expected ... he was much older.

"I had one question at the time, 'Mr. Hemingway, why is it you have come to Spain for the first time since the Spanish Civil War. What made you come back?' He just looked at me and said, 'Well, I was back in 1953 and again in 1956 ...' and suddenly it was 'Oops, where do we go from here?' So I had to improvise a little bit."

A friendship formed from that meeting. Valerie became something of a personal secretary to the Hemingway family, traveling with them over the next several months through Cuba, Spain and France.

"It wasn't such a big deal in my life meeting Hemingway

and I think that amused him," she said, looking back. "He was used to the adulation ... for me it was just a job."

A SIMPLE STORY

Her relationship with the family took a turn after Hemingway's death. She met his youngest son, Gregory, at the funeral and later married him. Their marriage lasted 21 years.

Those experiences led her to write *Running with the Bulls*, a personal memoir about her life with the father and the son.

"It was after Greg died that I decided to write the book," she said. "There was a certain amount of publicity, a number of people were trying to get in touch with me, and I just thought it was the time to sit down and write the story."

In some ways, she was a daughter to Hemingway; in other ways, a muse to inspire him.

"Almost everything you can say about him, you could almost say the exact opposite ... but toward me he was very fatherly," she said. "He told me what I ought to read, he taught me how to shoot and how to deep sea fish.

"The relationship was calm and peaceful, always learning and exploring. And I think this made him think of his

youth, when he was my age and a fledgling reporter himself just starting to sell his first stories. I just think it brought him back."

Why the lasting popularity? "It's something that absolutely dumbfounds me," she said.

"Hemingway seemed a fusion of the man and the work. When people read Hemingway, they're excited. What appears to be a simple story leaves so much unsaid, so readers tend to put their own experiences in there.

"The other part is the mystic — people love Hemingway's life. I can't tell you how many e-mails I receive from people who bought their 'Hemingway safari outfit,' or their 'Hemingway deep sea fishing equipment.' It's extraordinary. The man I knew was not a big showoff ... he didn't want the world copying what he did."

A BETTING MAN

She talks about a writer who was confident in his skills, a journalist with a nose for news, whose tales always spoke of grace under pressure, whether it was about an ambulance driver, a safari or a bullfight.

"He never underestimated his writing — he knew he was a very good writer," she said. "And when he was talking to

me in terms of writing, he used his early stories to illustrate how you use what is around you to inspire your work.

"To be a writer, you don't need catastrophic events ... you take the little things in your life and go from there. You start with one true sentence."

They met in Spain, and parted there. The last time Valerie saw Ernest Hemingway was in October 1960. He had returned to Madrid and was editing a piece he had written for *Life* magazine when she joined him.

"He was very depressed and a little paranoid," she said of the meeting. "At the time he told me that he intended to commit suicide — but he was a betting man, always hedging his bets, and said if he changed his mind he'd get back to me."

On July 2, 1961, Hemingway took his life by way of shotgun. He was 61 years old.


She was the daughter, he was the legend.

"Writing well was the most important thing in his life," Valerie Hemingway said of her father-in-law. "He just loved to tell a good story."

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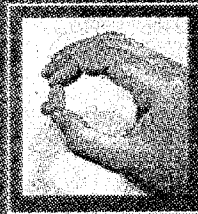
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Governor warns communities, schools consolidate or else

BY ALEX LUNDBERG
STAFF WRITER

In the governor's annual address to the legislature, communities and school districts looking for respite from shrinking funding got a glimpse of hope with a condition; show proof you're trying to curb costs and the cash faucet will open again.

In her State of the State address, Gov. Jennifer Granholm outlined a way for communities to see state-shared revenues and per-pupil foundation grants rise while threatening that failure to adopt her plan would surely have consequences.

"I propose changes to revenue sharing for cities and townships. To see more funding they will have to show they're consolidating to save taxpayers' money. It's simple, show consolidation and we'll show them the money," Granholm said. "We'll also ask school districts to cut costs by consolidating at the county or regional level. The budget I will submit a year from now will penalize those districts who do not embrace this com-



Gov. Jennifer Granholm presents the State of the State address. On the left is Speaker of the House Andy Dillon of Redford and on the right is Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop of Rochester. Behind the governor, and hidden from view, is Lt. Gov. John Cherry.

mon sense way to save money." The governor said it doesn't make sense for 10 districts to buy the same software individually when they could save money by buying it together. Reach for

the carrot or suffer the stick — she made it clear that consolidation was the way communities would see their funding rise.

At the same time, she made a pledge that schools will not

see a funding cut in the coming year and went further to say that 2008 would see an increase. Granholm said the recently released MEAP scores showed the value of setting the

bar higher and she would continue to pressure for better and more schooling in the future.

"We are going to provide more funding for districts to provide a whole day of preschool," she said. "For many young students, this is going to mean doubling their early education. We are also going to fix an absurd law and require all students to attend school until they are 18 years old."

EDUCATION A MAJOR FOCUS

Education was a major focus of the speech. She said the first Michigan Promise Scholarship winners will be attending college this coming fall. While they would be turning good test scores into cash for higher education, a short window would also open for unemployed and downsized workers to get retrained as well.

"For the next three years, there will be a one-time offer for free community college for workers going back to school for retraining and degrees," Granholm said. "This will be paid for with federal dollars."

She quoted Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates to illustrate her point about the

importance of education and her greater message about investing in the state. Gates said low cost of business — lower taxes and lesser regulation — took a back seat to the availability of an educated work force. Along the same lines, she said good roads and stable communities were integral to building an attractive business environment.

The end of the speech was dominated by the state's budget deficit. She said the "\$2 billion hole" in the state's financial picture had grown to \$3 billion and no change in state or national economics would fill it. With 40 percent less revenue than her predecessors, budget cutting will not correct the problem.

"Cuts are a piece of the solution, reorganization is another piece," Granholm said. "On Thursday I will present a budget that will have cuts, reorganization and revenues that will be simple, fair and progressive. Some businesses will pay their fair share; those paying too much will pay less."

The state's financial woes, she vowed, was something she would not pass on to the next governor.

Legislators will wait and see on governor's budget proposal

Legislators from both parties were taking a wait and see attitude Wednesday following Gov. Jennifer Granholm's State of the State address.

Democrats were generally upbeat about Granholm's vision for the state but wanted to see the details in her state budget, scheduled for release today. Republicans said they wanted to work with the governor but don't support tax increases.

The differences suggest the difficulties ahead as the governor and state Legislature work to deal with the state's \$800 million deficit and find a replacement for the state's single business tax, scheduled to sunset by the end of the year.

In her speech, Granholm said that cuts in government spending alone won't be enough to correct the state's fiscal problems. Following the recommendations of her emergency Financial Advisory Panel, Granholm's budget is expected to include spending cuts, tax increases and govern-

ment restructuring.

New House Speaker Andy Dillon, D-Redford, released a statement praising Granholm "for unveiling a bold plan to make Michigan a magnet of 21st century jobs."

"Democrats in the House and the governor are committed to tackling Michigan's challenges head on," Dillon said. "Tonight, the governor shared some bold ideas for how we can act today for a stronger tomorrow."

He praised the governor for making "tough cuts" in government spending but he did not address possible tax increase proposals.

But Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop, R-Rochester, while pledging to work with the governor, said he was disappointed in her speech.

"I still am shocked by the speech," he said. "I really expected the governor to come before the state to give a candid assessment. ... To me it wasn't realistic at all. ..."

"I appreciate the fact that she's identified some concerns.

But I just think the speech showed to me a gigantic disconnect between the average Michigan family and the average business owner that I've never seen in state government."

Freshman state Rep. Marc Corriveau, D-Northville, praised Granholm's speech.

"It is clear that Michigan is facing serious challenges right now, and I applaud Gov. Granholm for bringing bold ideas to the table to tackle these challenges head on," Corriveau said in a statement. "We cannot rely on the solutions of yesterday to solve the state's problems today."

In a telephone interview Wednesday, Corriveau said he was inspired by Granholm's vision but was taking a wait and see approach on taxes until he sees the budget proposal being released today.

Corriveau said he has been attending "budget boot camp" trying to learn about areas where spending can be cut.

"I found out so much cutting

had already taken place and there was so little cutting left to do," he said.

But state Rep. John Pastor, R-Livonia, a member of the Tax Policy Committee, is skeptical of increasing taxes to solve the state's problems.

"Taxing our way out of the current budget crisis is not a permanent fix," he said. "We need to focus on reforming bureaucracy to create a smaller, more efficient government. Despite an ever-decreasing population, we have an increasingly large government. We need to live within our means and protect funding for our priorities. We can properly prioritize and fund programs without further burdening Michigan's taxpayers."

State Rep. Phil LaJoy, R-Canton, top-ranking

Republican on the House Transportation Committee, said he agreed with the governor on "investing in Michigan."

"As we examine ways to solve the \$800 million budget deficit, all sides must come together and work to create a thriving Michigan," LaJoy said. "This is a critical time in terms of fixing and developing the new state budget."

In language similar to Pastor's, LaJoy advocated more cuts in government spending without increasing taxes.

Sen. Bruce Patterson (R-Canton) praised the style of Granholm's speech but questioned why she signed, by her admission, 94 business tax cuts over the past four years and then complains about lack of funding. He said he is opposed to raising taxes.

"I think it is important to work together, but as we move forward, I'm going to vote my district, and it is clear my constituents don't want to raise taxes," Patterson said.

Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, supported Granholm's job proposals.

"The governor put forth an aggressive plan to manage our state's budget crisis while continuing to invest in the people that make Michigan great," Anderson said in a statement. "The big stories tonight — promise zones, worker retraining — those are issues that I fought for in my campaign and my tenure in the House. I look forward to working with the governor and my colleagues to make these programs that will strengthen our workforce and create jobs a reality."

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

FEBRUARY

Love's Secrets
7-9 p.m. Thursday, February 8, 15, and 22, at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, north of Six Mile, Livonia. The series examines Pope Benedict XVI's encyclical, Deus Caritas Est - God is Love. Discover the Church's philosophical world-view of love and explore the relation of Church and state, charity and justice as love is expressed in action. Call (734) 425-5950, ext. 203 to obtain your copy of the encyclical. Read articles 1-8 before our first session.

Valentine card party
6:30-10 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9, at S.S. Simon and Jude Church, 32500 Palmer, Westland. Door, table prizes, 50-50. Light meal and snacks. Bring your friends and play cards and games of your choice. Tickets \$8 at the door. Proceeds go to the Building Fund. For information, call (734) 722-1314.

Blood drive
American Red Cross holds a blood drive 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 11, in the Parish Hall at St. Edith Catholic Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Walk-ins welcome. Call (734) 464-1222.

New production
The Wellspring Players present the debut of "The Sojourner and the Wanderer in the Land of IT" 10 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 11, at Wellspring Church, 36350 W. Eight Mile, Farmington Hills. Written by Tony Blauvelt, the play weaves the stories of two people. The community is welcome. For information, call (248) 442-0412.

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. For details, call coordinator Richard Dahlke at (734) 455-6474.

Blood drive
2-8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 12, at St. John's Episcopical Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth. Call Carolyn Libeau at (734) 455-5395 to make an appointment or just drop in.

Pasties fund-raiser
Pasties are \$3 each and can be ordered by calling Newburg United Methodist Church at (734) 422-0149. There will be someone to take your order 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, Feb. 13-14. Call in orders only. Do not leave orders on answering machine. Orders faxed, e-mailed or left on answering machine will be ignored.

Pick up times are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 22, and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 23, at the church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Order early. Only 1000 pasties will be made for the church fund-raiser.

Religious talk
Persecution in the Land of our Savior by Rev. Canon Naim Ateek, director of The Sabeel Liberation Theology Center in Jerusalem, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 15, at First Presbyterian Church, 1669 W. Maple, Birmingham. Sponsored by Friends of Sabeel-North American-Detroit Group.

VBS preview
Preview the offerings for this summer's Vacation Bible Schools 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 17, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, west of Haggerty, Northville. View exhibits and demonstrations from national publishers, expand your skills by attending four of 20 workshops on timely topics including how to organize a VBS, plan a youth camp week, administer backyard Bible club, and make and take puppetry. Registration fee is \$35 by Jan. 17, \$40 by Feb. 13, \$45 at door, \$20 teen through college students, and includes lunch. Puppet workshop is \$25 extra. This event is non-denominational and open to the

general public. Register now. Call (248) 557-5526 or www.iceaOnline.org.

MAMA'S Coffeeshouse
Featuring Joel Mabus Saturday, Feb. 17, open mic at 7:15 p.m., show at 8 p.m., at in Birmingham Unitarian Church, 38651 N. Woodward, near the northwest corner of Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Hills. Ruth and Max Bloomquist open. Tickets are \$12, \$10 seniors and age 16 and under. Refreshments available. Call (248) 569-0965 for more information. To reserve a slot for open mic, call (248) 626-4650.

Ministry to the Sick
Join Msgr. John Kasza as he speaks about the church's ministry to the sick, highlighting the premise of his new book, Understanding Sacramental Healing: Anointing and Viaticum, 1 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18, in the Fellowship Hall at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. Kasza's book will be available for purchase and signing. Those who are involved in any way with ministry to the sick will especially want to come. All are welcome. For more information, call (734) 425-5950.

Concert
Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church's Music Ministry Department is excited to have the privilege to once again host the Light Metal Band Brass Quintet 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18, at the church, 14175 Farmington Road, north of I-96, Livonia.

Brass concert
Got the winter blues? Do you love the sound of a brass band? The Light Metal Band Brass Quintet Concert performs at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18, in the sanctuary at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, north of I-96, Livonia. This professional brass quintet is one of the most sought after brass quintets in the Detroit area. Formed in 1989, the quintet consists of two trumpets, horn, trombone, and tuba. They will be performing a variety of music including Classical, 19th Century American, Patriotic, Ragtime, and Jazz. The concert is free and open to the

public with a freewill offering being taken. For more information, call Mark Lohmeyer at (734) 522-6830 or visit the Web site at www.christsavior.org, or www.lightmetalband.com.

Ash Wednesday
Pancake dinner at 5:30 p.m., service at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 21, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Feb. 28 Lenten Service Project will be fun jobs around the church. (734) 464-0211.

Young people's ministry
Burning Questions on the last Wednesday of each month, Feb. 28, 6 p.m. potluck or just come, we have food, 7 p.m. The Gathering with music, sharing, celebration, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Inkster and Middlebelt. Call (734) 421-1760.

Divorce recovery
Workshop 7-9:30 p.m. began Thursday, Feb. 1 and continues every Thursday for seven weeks, presented by Single Point Adult Ministries (30 years and older) at Ward Presbyterian Church 4000 Six Mile, west of Haggerty, Northville. Registration closes after second week. Cost is \$30 pre-registration, \$35 at door, \$15 repeat participants with their manual from previous workshop. If you're experiencing the emotional pain of divorce, no matter how recent or long ago it happened, this workshop will help you heal. Free childcare. Call (248) 374-5920.

Grief support
For widowed men and women in all stages of grief, covers copings with loss of a spouse, loneliness and other issues dealing with grief, began 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 4 and runs for six weeks, at St. Columban Parish Center, 1775 Melton, north of 14 Mile, between Woodward and Coolidge, Birmingham. A \$20 fee for materials is payable at first meeting. To register, call (248) 540-9848 or (586) 795-0477 by Feb. 2. Presented by Widowed Friends of the Archdiocese of Detroit.

Bible study
The Gospels and You Bible Study began 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 5, at The Basilica of St. Mary Orthodox Church activity center on the lower level, 18100 Merriman, Livonia. No charge. The study focuses on applying the Gospel of St. Luke to daily life. Sessions will be led by Rev. George Shalhoub and Jim King, the church's director of youth and outreach ministry. For information and to register, call (734) 422-0010.

Grief workshop
From Grief to New Hope began 7-8:45 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5, and continues for eight weeks, at Ward Presbyterian Church 4000 Six Mile, west of Haggerty, Northville. For those grieving the loss of a loved one, it is normal to feel overwhelmed, angry and alone. Advance registration appreciated. For more information, call Carol Jacoby at (248) 374-5966.

Sunday service
All are welcome to attend worship service at 10 a.m. Sunday in the sanctuary at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, one block west of Inkster, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 422-1470.

Bible study series
St. Theodore Catholic Church presents the Catholic Interpretation of the Book of Revelation beginning 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 11, and continuing for eight weeks, at the church, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland. For more information, call (734) 425-7310.

Scripture study
Board the Starship Evangelize, seek out and explore new world of scripture study - The Book of Numbers - 10 a.m. Tuesdays through May at St. Priscilla Church, 19120 Purlingbrook, Livonia. For information, call Mary Rice at (734) 522-1095.

UPCOMING

Book fair
Scholastic Book Fair returns the evening of Friday, March 9, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0211.

Church members as well as the general public are invited to the book fair being held in conjunction with a pasta supper and magic show.

Lenten symposium
The Path to Sanctity 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, March 10, at St. Anastasia Catholic Church, 4571 John R, Troy. Cost is \$40 per person, \$20 student. For more information, call (313) 277-8905 or (248) 625-2461, or visit the Web site at www.holytrinity-postolate.com. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m., Holy Mass at 9 a.m. Featuring direct from Rome Rev. Msgr. Robert Sarno, Official of the Congregation for the Causes of Saint in Vatican City speaking on Holiness: The Way of Life.

Cathedral Cultural Series
Presents a concert by the award winning ensemble amarcord 4 p.m. Sunday, March 11, at Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament, 9844 Woodward at Trowbridge, Detroit. Tickets \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door and available online at http://CathedralConcerts.tix.com, by calling 1-800-595-4TIX (4849), by mailing a self-addressed stamped envelope and check or money order payable to Cathedral Cultural Series, to 9844 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, MI

48202. Allow one week for delivery. Founded in 1992 by former members of St. Thomas Boys Choir, ensemble amarcord from Leipzig, focuses on music from the Middle Ages and the Renaissance to contemporary composers. Their repertoire covers all facets of vocal music from madrigals to romantic compositions and a capella arrangements of well-known songs. For more information, call (313) 865-6300 Ext. 227, or send e-mail to CathedralConcerts@yahoo.com. Doors open at 3 p.m. on the day of the concert.

Tiny Tots Preschool
Open registration begins March 14, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0211.

ONGOING

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.

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 1 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 fee includes interdenominational materials and free childcare for ages through 5, and a study of the Patriarchs by Beth Moor from 6:45-8:15 p.m. (\$20 fee and no childcare).

Personal ministry
Due Season Christian Church is a non-denominational, 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, 313 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. Weight-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.betchaverim.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.

The Gap
A new youth Sunday School (God Always Present) at Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt, south of Ford Road. Lessons are taught using various media, computers, storytelling, games, cooking, music and art, and a small theater complete with popcorn-making machine. Adult Bible study at 8:30 a.m. with a traditional service and The Gap at 10 a.m. Child care available. Mustard Seed contemporary service

PLEASE SEE CALENDAR, NEXT PAGE

Passages

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

1-800-579-7355 ♦ fax: 734-953-2232

e-mail: oeobits@hometownlife.com

HANNA JOSEPHINE "JO" ZACK

Age 79, February 5, 2007, of Beverly Hills. Beloved wife of Tom for 56 years. Loving mother of Tom, Jr. (Cyndi), Bill, Mike (Kathy), Patty Ghesquiere (C.J.) and Kathy Kupelian (Peter) and the late Mary Anne. Dear grandmother of Katie, Kristen, Andrew, Jay, Colin, Kyle and Lauren. Funeral services have been held. Memorial tributes to Seasons Hospice, 2735 John R., Ste 100, Madison Heights, MI 48071. A.J. Desmond & Sons 248-549-0500

View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

JOSEPH D. GITRE

January 26, 2007, Age 79 Resident of Birmingham for many years. Brother of James R. Gitre and the late Rosemary Moynihan, Jerry L. and John F. Also survived by many loving nieces, nephews and cousins. Memorial service Friday, Feb. 9th 11am at Holy Name Church, 630 Harmon at Woodland, Birmingham. Memorial tributes to U of D Jesuit High School and Academy, 8400 S. Cambridge, Detroit, MI 48221 A.J. Desmond & Sons (248) 549-0500. View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

LESLIE J. ALLEN

Age 37, died January 31, 2007 at her residence in Holly. Ms. Allen was a graduate of Livonia Churchill High School. She is survived by her parents, Kenneth & Ruth Allen and four siblings: Kevin Allen, Thomas (Sheryl) Allen, Susan (Scott) Sather and Margaret (James) Neve. The family will receive friends 10 a.m. Saturday, February 10, 2007 at Rosedale Garden Presbyterian Church until time of memorial services at 11 a.m. A luncheon at the church will follow the services. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions to Genesis Hospice, The Michigan Humane Society or the church would be appreciated.

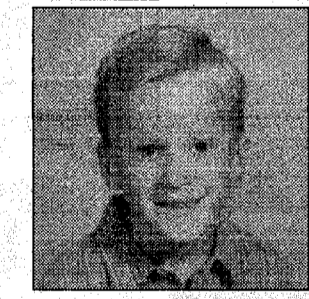
STEPHEN JAMES LABUHN

Age 32, of West Palm Beach, FL passed away Friday, Feb. 2, 2007 in West Palm Beach, FL. A native of Detroit, MI, he moved to West Palm Beach in 1999 from Rochester Hills, MI. He was a nurse at Columbia Hospital in West Palm Beach, FL and he also worked at the Port St. Lucie Medical Center in Port St. Lucie, FL. Survivors include his mother and father, Gerald and Marion Labuhn of Hope Sound, FL, a brother, Craig Labuhn of Naperville, IL and his grandfather, Kenneth Labuhn of Warren, MI. Visitation will be Wednesday, Feb. 7th from 6-8 p.m. and Thurs., February 8th from 1-3 p.m. at Young & Prill Funeral Home in Stuart, FL. Funeral services will be held Thursday, February 8th at 3:00 p.m. at Young & Prill Funeral Home, Stuart, FL. Contributions can be made to Palm Beach County Humane Society, 3200 N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach, FL 33409 in Stephen's memory. Arrangements are under the direction of Young & Prill funeral Home in Stuart, FL.



LORRAINE KAY PHILLIPS

Age 47, formerly of Livonia. Beloved wife, mother, grandmother passed away peacefully at her home in Minnesota on January 30, 2007. Survived by her husband of 26 years, Rusty, daughters Melissa, Jennifer and Rebecca, grandsons Taylor and Dylon, parents Betty Lou and Merle Neidigh, brother, David, and sister Lynn Aittama. Memorials to Multiple Sclerosis Society.



TIMMY VACHON

February 5, 2007, age 7. Beloved son of Marc "Rogie" and Anne. Cherished brother of Charlotte and his twin, Mary Claire. Grandson of Ed and Lois Girardot and Maurice and Irene Vachon. Nephew of Ed and Lisa Girardot, Julie and Brian Fitzpatrick, the late Tim Girardot, Jane Munson, Claire and Pete Baenen, John Girardot, Guy and Dianne Vachon, Paul and Sheryl Vachon, Maureen Vachon, Philip Vachon, Laura Vachon, and Francie and Scott Smith. Also survived by 19 first cousins, many, many friends including his first grade class at St. Hugo of the Hills, and his dog, Hoover. The family had asked everyone to join them in the celebration of their dear boy Timmy's life on Thursday, February 8, at 10 AM for Mass at St. Hugo of the Hills Church, 2215 Opydke Road, Bloomfield Hills. In lieu of flowers, memorial tributes may be made to the Timmy Vachon Scholarship and Charitable Fund, c/o 30700 Telegraph Road, Suite 3475, Bingham Farms, MI 48025. A. J. Desmond & Sons, 248-362-2500. View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

IVAN S. DOCTOR

Age 82, February 5, 2007. Beloved husband of Katherine for 59 years. Loving father of Kurt (Kate) and grandfather of Caroline. Loving father of Gregory (Bernadine) and grandfather to Michael, Rachel, Jeremy and Stefanie. Memorial service Saturday, February 10th at 11:00 a.m., Northbrook Presbyterian Church, 22055 West Fourteen Mile Road at Lahser, Beverly Hills.

MICHAEL H. McNALLY

Age 51, of Flushing, formerly of Livonia, died Thursday, February 1, 2007 at his home. Michael loved literature, writing and listening to his eclectic music collection. One of his proudest achievements was hitchhiking 10,000 miles throughout the U.S. and the seven Canadian provinces. He attended the University of Michigan and was a loyal Wolverine. He was a member of U.A.W. Local 598. After a long career at Willow Run, he retired from Flint Truck and Bus in 2000. Left to cherish his memory: wife Mary (Dutkowski); mother Ann McNally; sisters Kathleen (David) Summer, Colleen (Bill) Cruger; brother Frank McNally (Kartika); Friends may visit the family 4-8 p.m. on Friday, February 9 at Reigle Funeral Home Sunset Chapel, 5501 W. Pierson Rd., Flushing, MI. The funeral service will be Saturday, February 10 at noon at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the University of Michigan, National Audubon Society, or a charity of one's choice.

OBITUARY POLICY

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

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

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

e-mail your obit to
oeobits@hometownlife.com
or fax to:
Attn: Obits c/o Charolette Wilson
734-953-2232

For more information call:
Charolette Wilson
734-953-2070
or Liz Keiser
734-953-2067
or toll free
866-818-7653
ask for Char or Liz

CALENDAR

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

at 6 p.m. with refreshments served afterward. Call (734) 421-7620.

Qigong

The ancient form of Chinese energetic medicine. A safe and effective way to rid the body of toxic pathogens and years of painful emotions. Learn the art of natural movement and breath to cultivate vital life energy. Classes at Livonia Unity, 28660 Five Mile. Monday - movement Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.; Thursday - Qigong meditation, 10-11:15 a.m., and Friday - Therapeutic Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m. Call (810) 813-4073 for more information or send e-mail to gary@energeticarts.org.

Worship services

At 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays with an education hour from 9:30-10:40 a.m. at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, Westland. Social hour follows each service. Call (734) 722-1735.

Community Bible study

Studying the Book of Corinthians, breakfast at 7 a.m. for Bible study from 8-9 a.m. at the Kerby Coney Island, Haggerty Road just north

of Eight Mile. Come when you can, leave when you must. For more information, call (248) 924-2779.

Contemporary service

New informal service in a casual environment 6 p.m. Sunday at Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt, south of Ford. Fellowship hour after services including 10 a.m. traditional. Call (734) 421-7620.

Trinity Episcopal Church

Sunday worship 8 a.m. and 10 a.m., Bible studies Sundays at 8:50 a.m. and Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m., at the church 11575 Belleville Road, four miles south of Michigan Avenue, Belleville. Call (734) 699-3361.

New contemporary service

9 a.m. on the last Sunday of the month, at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard, Livonia. A group of church members present a short drama on a theme relevant to the season, a church event, or current newsworthy situation. For more information, call (734) 422-0494.

Prayer group

Join in 7 p.m. Thursdays for music, singing, prayer and friendship at St. Edith Church,

15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Come to the back of the church, enter entrance No. 2. For more information, call Grace at (734) 464-1896, Shirley at (734) 464-3656, or Geri at (734) 464-8906.

Women of the Word

Tuesday Ladies Bible Study from 9:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesdays, at Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, north of Eight Mile. \$15 registration fee includes interdenominational study materials. Child care available for children through age 5. For more information, call (248) 348-7600.

New modern-style worship

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia, just north of I-96, presents a modern-style worship service. The multimedia service is informal, using modern and praise music, led by vocalists and various instruments. Dramas, led by the members, are often a part of this service. The service is held at 9:45 a.m. each Sunday, between the traditional services at 8:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday School, youth and adult Bible classes at 9:45 a.m. and 11 a.m. each Sunday. For information, call Linda Hollman, Outreach director, at (734) 522-6830.

Adat Shalom

Synagogue services at 6 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Saturday; 7:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. weekdays; and 8:30 a.m. Sunday at Adat Shalom Synagogue, 29901 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills. For more information, call (248) 851-5100.

Welcome to the church

Would you like to know more about the Catholic Church? Are you already baptized Catholic and have been away from the church? Now is the time to inquire about coming into the church or returning to the community of believers. Call Our Lady of Sorrows at (248) 615-5574 for more information.

Self-help groups

Local church provides space for self-help groups. Overeaters Anonymous, a 12-step program for eating disorders, meets at 7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Alcoholics Anonymous, a 12-step program for alcohol-related problems, meets at 8 p.m. Wednesdays and at 7 p.m. Saturdays. Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, a 12-step program for co-dependency and destructive relationship problems, meets at 7:30 p.m. Mondays at

First Baptist Church, 300 Willits, one block north of Maple, one block west of Old Woodward. Parking adjacent to church's north entrance.

Addiction No More

Do you have any addictive behavior problems - drugs, alcohol, overeating, gambling, etc.? Come to the meeting 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday in Room 202 at Detroit World Outreach, 23800 W. Chicago, Redford. For more information, call (313) 255-2222, Ext. 244.

Wednesday Evening Prayer

At 7 p.m. Wednesday. This is not a structured service but an open time of praying silently and aloud together as well as responding to personal requests, at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Call (248) 476-8860.

Single Point Walking Club

Meets at 6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday in the Single Point office at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. All fitness levels welcome. Single Point Ministries (ages 30 and up) offers 45 ministries for singles including Men's Fellowship, Women's Fellowship and PACS (People Active in Christian Study) Bible study group. Call (248) 374-5920.

Your Invitation To Worship

BAPTIST

UNITED METHODIST

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

33640 Michigan Ave. • Wayne, MI (Between Wayne Rd. & Merriman Rd.) (734) 728-2180
Virgil Humes, Pastor



Saturday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Sunday Worship 7:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. • Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday Praise Service 6:00 p.m. • Wednesday Children, Youth and Adult Bible Study 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Clarenceville United Methodist

20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia
248-474-3444
Pastor Beth Librande
Worship Service 9:30 AM
Sunday School 11:00 AM
Nursery Provided

Redford Aldersgate

2 blocks South of Plymouth
10000 Beech Daly 313-937-3170
9:30 - Trad. Worship & Sun. Sch.
11:00 - Contemp. Family Worship
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
9:45 - Modern
Staffed Nursery Available



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

Canton Christian Fellowship

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

"Where the Word is Relevant, People are Loved and Christ is the Key"

Join us for Worship Service at 10:30am
Sunday School and/or New Members Orientation: 9:00am

Located at 8775 Ronda Drive, Canton, MI, 48187
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Metro Airport posts strong December passenger count

A strong December helped Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport (DTW) finish 2006 with nearly 36 million total passengers.

December's 2,918,978 passengers topped December 2005 by more than 112,000, pushing DTW's year-end count to 35,985,867 total passengers – the second best year in the history of the airport.

"It is truly remarkable that Detroit Metro Airport finished 2006 with only a 1.1 percent decrease in total passengers from 2005, when the number of aircraft operations (landings and take-offs) decreased by 7.7 percent," said Lester Robinson, CEO Wayne County Airport Authority. "This indicates that the airlines are scheduling their aircraft equipment more efficiently and are improving their load factors."

Two major airlines, Northwest and Delta, filed Chapter 11 Sept. 14, 2005 and operated through 2006 with reduced schedules as part of their comprehensive reorgani-

zation plans to return to profitability. More passengers per available seats on those airlines and additional service on other carriers brought passenger numbers up to within 1.1 percent of DTW's record year. According to preliminary data from Airports Council International-North America (ACI-NA), total passenger traffic across North America remained stable in 2006.

July turned out to be the busiest month in 2006 at DTW with nearly 3.3 million total passengers closely followed by August.

"Last year, Detroit Metropolitan Airport handled the equivalent number of passengers to every man, woman and child living in Michigan, Ohio, Utah, Wisconsin and Indiana," said Robinson. "The smooth and efficient operation of the airport with these numbers is a tribute to the dedicated employees of the airlines, TSA, FAA, the Airport Authority and all of our contractors and vendors."

Girls get chance to explore careers in math, science

BY JULIE BROWN
STAFF WRITER

Girls will learn about math- and science-related careers at an upcoming conference, EXPLORATHON.

The daylong event will be Wednesday, April 4, under the auspices of the Birmingham branch, American Association of University Women. It is for girls in the tri-county area, grades 8-12, and is also open to boys.

"We believe in education and lifelong learning for women and girls," said Jean Walker of Bloomfield Township, EXPLORATHON chair and a member of the Birmingham branch. Efforts such as scholarships promote such opportunities for local women.

"In addition, we're interested in equity for women," Walker said. Organizers know a background in science and math will serve girls well in the future.

Registration for the April

event has begun and will continue until March 5, or until capacity is reached.

Walker cited the problem of girls dropping out of math and science courses around middle school age, in part because of the perception that such courses are unfeminine. "We're trying to portray the sciences as something exciting," said Walker, a retired teacher. The hope is that women will stay with math and science, even if they pursue other careers.

Some of the reasons organizers cite are:

- Girls aren't expected to do well in math and science
- Girls like to learn in groups where they can talk and work together rather than work alone
- Girls don't see many female role models in science and math careers
- Girls may experience pressure from friends not to do well

AAUW-Birmingham branch working with the

Cranbrook Institute of Science offers a day of guest speakers and hands-on workshops focusing on careers in math and science.

Formerly titled "Yes You Can," EXPLORATHON takes place from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, April 4, at Detroit Country Day School on 13 Mile in Beverly Hills. Participants choose three workshops led by women with careers in math and science. Dr. Robyn Burnham, a research scientist at the University of Michigan, is the keynote speaker.

"She's going to have a great, dynamic presentation," Walker said.

Parents and teachers are welcome to attend and take concurrent sessions. Registration for all is \$15 and includes lunch.

Registration brochures are available in schools or you may download them the AAUW Web site at www.aauw-birmmi.org. Call (248) 865-7257 for more

information.

The event will feature some 45-50 presenters, to show girls that women can succeed. "We want to show them women can work in the field of science, be creative, be mothers, be grandmothers," Walker said.

AAUW has offered the event for about 25 years, starting with an association grant. About 700 students attend, and many parents are interested in helping their kids succeed.

"I think they should encourage their daughters to reach out to science, technology, because this is the wave of the future," Walker said. Girls can take apart a computer "under the direction of women who are doing this," something girls haven't traditionally been encouraged in.

Walker would like to see more men in kindergarten teaching and nursing. "I think we just want to broaden everybody's opportunities," she said.



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Oakland CC selected for leadership consortium

Oakland Community College is one of 18 institutions of higher education across the nation selected by the Association of American Colleges and Universities to participate in a new Core Leadership Consortium.

Designed to educate students in personal and social responsibility by integrating such learning into school curricula, the new consortium emphasizes five key elements: Striving for excellence; cultivating personal and academic integrity; contributing to the larger community; taking the perspective of others seriously; and developing competence in moral reasoning.

"Oakland Community College is proud to have been selected to participate in this innovative effort" said OCC Vice Chancellor of Academic & Student Affairs Steve Reif.

"In today's world it becomes increasingly crucial for college students to develop their talents to the maximum, stand behind the quality of their work, and meet their responsibilities, not only as Americans, but as global citizens. The consortium will do much to advance these goals," said Reif.

One hundred and twenty-

eight applications nation-wide were submitted to the AAC&U. OCC is one of two community colleges selected, along with such major educational institutions as Michigan State, Tulane, the United States Air Force Academy and the University of Alabama.

The 18 schools making the cut were chosen on the basis of work they have already accomplished in the field of social responsibility, and on plans to deepen and extend that work.

Each institution will receive a \$25,000 award from the AAC&U, and is expected to commit an equal amount in matching funds over the next two years.

Founded in 1915, the Association of American Colleges and Universities is comprised of more than 1,100 accredited public and private colleges and universities. It is the leading national association concerned with the quality, vitality and public standing of undergraduate education.

With five campuses located throughout Oakland County, OCC is the largest community college in Michigan and one of the largest in the nation. Approximately 70,000 undergraduates attend OCC each year.

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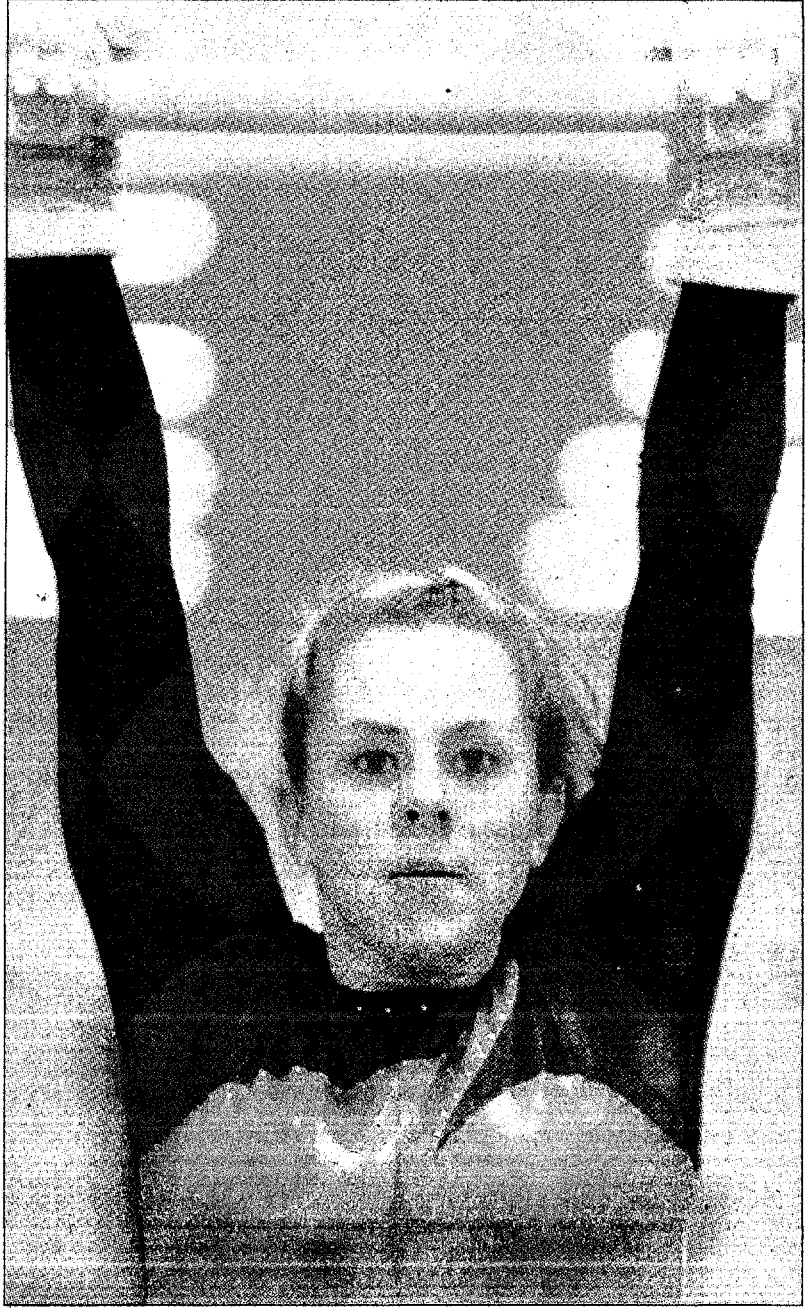
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Thursday, February 8, 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

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TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Kaitlyn Burns runs through her routine on the bars during Monday's meet against Livonia.

Hanging tough

Canton gymnasts outlast Livonia rivals in down-to-the-wire WLAA showdown

 BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

There's only one girls gymnastics team that remains undefeated in the Western Lakes Activities Association - Canton - but everybody else came away feeling like a winner Monday night at Churchill High School.

The Lady Chiefs had the biggest reason to celebrate afterwards, scoring a season-high 145.50 points to pull off a double-dual meet win Monday night over previously unbeaten Livonia Blue (144.525) and Livonia Red (144.40).

In Saturday's Canton Invitational, Livonia Red took third out of 20 schools with 143.85, while Blue settled for sixth with 142.675. The Chiefs were one place behind in seventh with 142.350.

"This was a difficult meet," Canton coach John Cunningham said. "When we met at Troy Athens (Invitational), we tied Blue and lost to Red by 0.25.

"All the coaches knew we'd be at a high ability level and we're pretty much all equal."

Cunningham was particularly pleased with the way his team finished the meet, which was highlighted by Jessie Murray's 9.65 score on the balance beam, which tied her own school record.

"This was pressure-packed," Cunningham said. "When you have to finish on beam . . . that's the toughest thing to do. There were a couple of routines where they failed and the girls were upset,

but it was a solid performance, especially the way we finished on beam, which was very tough."

Canton's top scores as a team occurred on vault (36.9), led by first-place finisher Alyssa Kelly's 9.7; and the floor exercise (36.55).

Livonia Blue captured the uneven bars (36.05). Freshman Emily Quint, who was runner-up in the all-around, won the floor exercise with a 9.65 and tied Livonia Red's Paula Guzik for first on the uneven bars (9.4 each).

It was Livonia Blue's high team score of the year.

"I attribute it to hard work and determination," said Blue coach Lisa Fierk, whose team is 7-1 overall. "We had a good floor and good bars, which was a good score for us.

"We got a 144. The win doesn't matter because we put our heart and soul into it. I couldn't ask for anything more. Emily (Quint), Meghan Powers, Laura Nomura and Kelly Tapella all pulled their weight for us today. I'm so proud of them."

Livonia Red captured the beam (37.45) led by Guzik's 9.7. She was also the all-around winner with a 38.1.

The loss dropped Livonia Red to 6-2 overall in dual meets, but coach Kelly Grodzicki was also elated.

"I'm very pleased, especially coming off a big invitational," Grodzicki said. "We did our best. We gave it our best effort even

PLEASE SEE GYMNASTS, B2

Sidelines

Chiefs sign

At least four members of the 2006 Canton football team will be taking their considerable talents to the next level in the fall.

Running back Nick Moores has signed with Saginaw Valley State University while defensive lineman Donnie Laramie and offensive lineman William Khoury are headed to Wayne State University, according to Canton head coach Tim Baechler.

The fourth Chief headed to the college gridiron is defensive lineman Jay Bailey, who has committed to Northwood University.

GCVBSA sign-ups

The Greater Canton Youth Baseball & Softball Association will be holding a mass registration on Sunday from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Summit on the Park in Canton.

The GCVBSA offers baseball and softball programs - T-ball through 18U - for residents of Plymouth and Canton, or any child who attends school in Plymouth or Canton.

Visit www.gcvbsa.com or call (734) 394-5489.

Rec offerings

The MRPA Hoop Shoot basketball skills competition will be held Feb. 24 at the Summit on the Park in Canton Township. The event, which will be sponsored by Canton Leisure Services, is free and open to all boys and girls between the ages of 8 and 15. The "hot shot" format give players 60 seconds to score points from various locations on the court. Certificates and ribbons will be given to all participants.

Winners will advance to the area competition for a chance to compete at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

Check-in begins at 8:30 a.m. and the contest will start promptly at 9 a.m. Call (734) 483-5600.

A 3-on-3 youth basketball tournament will be sponsored by Canton Leisure Services on Feb. 24 at the Summit on the Park in Canton Township.

Boys and girls divisions will be set up for grades 3-4, 5-6 and 7-8. Awards will be presented for division winners and runners-up.

All games will be officiated and teams are guaranteed two games. Only one representative from each team is needed to register.

Registration ends at 9:30 a.m. Call (734) 483-5600.

St. Edith football

The Livonia St. Edith Catholic Youth Organization football program is seeking players for the 2007 fall season with registration from 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18 at the gym entrance.

The program is open to players entering grades 3-8 in the fall and are members of St. Edith and St. Fabian school or parish. Players are also eligible by attending the following parishes: St. Kenneth, St. Colette, St. Aidan, St. Gerald and St. Maurice.

E-mail football coordinator Jerry Tomasi at jtomasi@twmi.rc.com.

New lacrosse store has it all

 BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Less than a month ago, the ever-rising number of area residents who participate in the fastest-growing sport in the United States had to make a three-hour round-trip drive just to purchase top-of-the-line equipment.

Not anymore. Since Plymouth Township-based Michigan Lacrosse opened its doors Jan. 8, local lacrosse aficionados have a wide variety of equipment at their fingertips - and it's just around the corner.

The lacrosse equipment store and indoor training center is located at 6102 Gotfredson in Plymouth Township, a quarter-mile north of M-14.

"We had to drive an-hour-and-a-half to the closest store in Clinton Township to find middle-of-the-road to high-end

equipment for our sons," said Michigan Lacrosse and More co-owner Lisa Birney, explaining how the seed for the idea to open a lacrosse store was planted. "With the way lacrosse is growing and with more and more people playing, we thought Plymouth Township would be a great place to open a business like this.

"The bigger sporting goods stores around here only offer the lower-end equipment. We have everything - from the lower-end stuff to the top-of-the-line equipment. We have sticks that range from \$30 to over \$200."

Birney owns the business with her husband, Mike, and friends Gene and Sandy Pulice. The two husband-and-wife teams got involved in the sport when their sons started playing at Our

PLEASE SEE LACROSSE, B2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Michigan Lacrosse owners Lisa Birney, Gene Pulice and Sandy Pulice are pictured in front of some of the merchandise they offer at their new store in Plymouth Township. Not pictured is the fourth owner, Mike Birney.

PCA cagers nip Lancers

 BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Plymouth Christian Academy's basketball team may not get nominated for an ESPY Award for "Best Dramatic Comeback," but it should after Tuesday night's incredible 54-52 victory over visiting Oakland Christian.

The Eagles trailed the Lancers, 51-48, with seven seconds left when senior guard Dave Koscielny swished a long three-point shot to knot the game at 51-all with 4.2 seconds left.

Following an Oakland timeout, PCA's Matt Saagman deflected the in-bounds pass to teammate Devyn Govan, who squared up and buried his first three-point shot of the season to give the Eagles a 54-51 edge with 2.8 showing on the clock.

Following another timeout, PCA quickly fouled Derek Zwier, who made one of two free throws to close out the game's scoring.

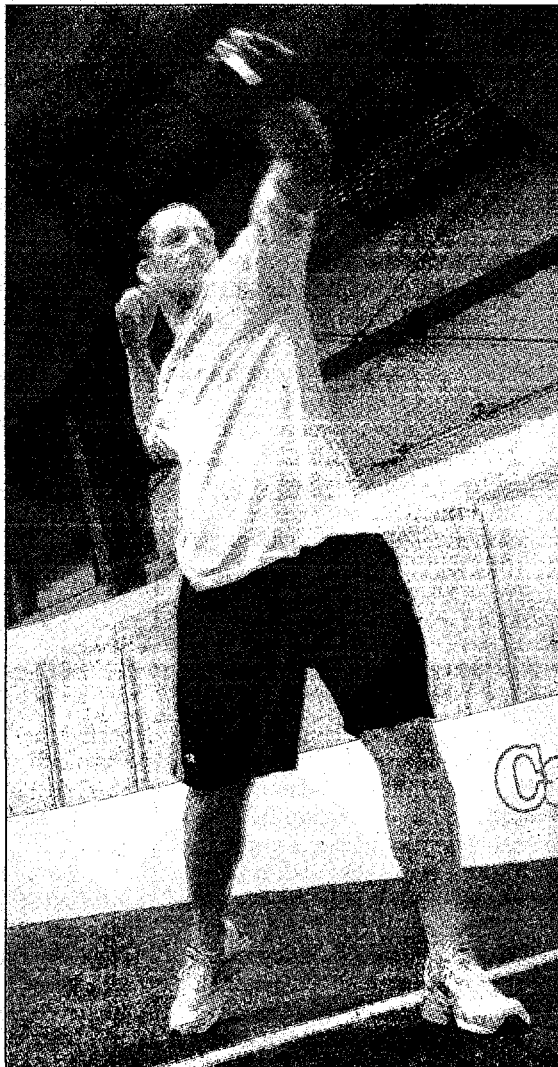
The victory boosted the winners' record to 6-9 overall and 1-5 in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference's Blue Division. Oakland slipped to 5-7 and 2-4, respectively.

"We played our best team basketball of the season tonight," said PCA coach Dave Yost. "The boys were very unselfish. We played well defensively, too."

Junior guard Trevor Zinn and Govan paced the Eagles with 16 points a piece. Saagman added 10.

Govan and Zinn combined to go 14-for-14 from the free-throw line. The Eagles made 18-of-25 from the line as a team. Kurt Schneider led the Lancers with 22 points while Zwier added 18.

PCA led 10-9 after one quarter, 27-22 at the half and 41-38 with eight minutes to play.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Charlie Haeger is pictured warming up his arm during an off-season workout Feb. 1 at High Velocity Sports in Canton Township. The 23-year-old Plymouth Township resident will be battling for a spot in the Chicago White Sox rotation when Spring Training commences later this month.

Haeger traveled amazing road to reach the Majors

 BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

If you're a 22-year-old pitcher making your Major League debut, the last person you want to see stepping into the batter's box in the bottom of the first inning with the bases loaded is Anaheim Angels slugger Vladimir Guerrero.

Heck, if you're a 35-year-old seasoned veteran, the last person you want to face is Guerrero, one of the most feared sluggers to ever swing a Louisville Slugger.

But that's exactly who approached the plate on the evening of May 10 last year as Plymouth Township resident and former Detroit Catholic Central star Charlie Haeger tried to extinguish an opening-inning fire in his first game with the Chicago White Sox.

"I couldn't even look at him when he stepped into the box," a smiling Haeger recalled last week, looking back on his memorable showdown with the future Hall of Famer. "I remember hearing his name over the loudspeaker, but I kept telling myself, 'Don't look

PLEASE SEE HAEGER, B2

THE BOOK ON HAEGER

Name: Charlie Haeger,

Age: 23,

Local ties:

Lives in

Plymouth

Township,

graduated

from

Detroit

Catholic

Central in 2001;

Occupation: Starting pitcher

in the Chicago White Sox

organization;

2006 accomplishments:

Went 14-6 with a 3.07 E.R.A.

in 26 games for Triple-A

Charlotte; went 1-1 with

3.44 E.R.A. in seven games

with White Sox.

Signature pitch: Haeger is

one of just two Major

League pitchers who

throws a knuckleball as his

primary pitch.



CHICAGO WHITE SOX PHOTO

HAEGER

FROM PAGE B1

at him. Don't look at him. The bases are loaded. Don't look at him."

"Well, I ended up getting him to hit into a double play, which was key because if he gets any kind of hit, I'm in big trouble."

UNFORGETTABLE NIGHT

Even though Haeger went on to suffer a tough loss against the Angels that night, he'll never forget his first encounter with Guerrero or his first taste of stepping onto the ultimate stage in baseball.

"It went very fast, that's for sure," Haeger said of his initial one-day stint with the White Sox. "I flew in to Chicago the day I threw. The next thing I knew, I was at the ballpark, it was gametime and I was on the mound. As soon as the game was over, I flew back home."

"The hardest part was getting used to the atmosphere and surroundings because, obviously, I had never stepped on that mound before the first inning. I had to get used to the backdrop and the way the stadium sounded, everything. The biggest difference was that in the minors I was pitching in front of 8,000 people where in the Chicago it was more like 38,000."

"There were a lot of emotions going through my body. It was a good opportunity; I just didn't take advantage of it like I should have."

INSPIRING JOURNEY

Haeger's path to the Majors

would make for an entertaining Disney movie. Drafted out of high school by the White Sox in the 25th round of the 2001 Major League Draft, the former Shamrock shelved baseball and pursued a career in golf after struggling to a 1-7 record in two seasons of Rookie League action.

During his two-plus years away from baseball, Haeger developed a top-of-the-line knuckleball, a weapon he shares in the Majors with Boston's Tim Wakefield. Haeger eventually rejoined Chicago's farm system in 2005 and shined, compiling a 14-5 record in stops at Class A Winston-Salem and Double-A Birmingham.

Last year in Triple-A Charlotte, Haeger baffled hitters to the tune of a 14-6 record, 3.07 earned-run average and 130 strikeouts in 170 innings pitched.

IF AT FIRST...

Haeger's stellar minor-league performance was rewarded with a second call-up to the White Sox when Major League rosters were expanded on Sept. 1.

"The second time I was up last year went really well," Haeger said. "I had a great September. I felt more comfortable with the guys and more comfortable out on the field. My knees weren't shaking like they were back in May."

The highlight of the season for Haeger came on Sept. 23 when he earned his first Major League victory after entering a game against Seattle with the White Sox in a deep hole.

"We were down five runs

when I came in," remembered Haeger. "I threw three or four scoreless innings and we ended up winning."

"Paul Konerko (the White Sox' All-Star first baseman) came up to me while I was sitting on the bench after we had tied the score and he told me, 'Go put a zero up next inning and we'll get you a win.' I did and he hit a two-run home run to win the game."

"The guys on the team are awesome and Ozzie Guillen is a great manager to play for. He's very straight forward and he's never going to lie to you, which is all you can ask for."

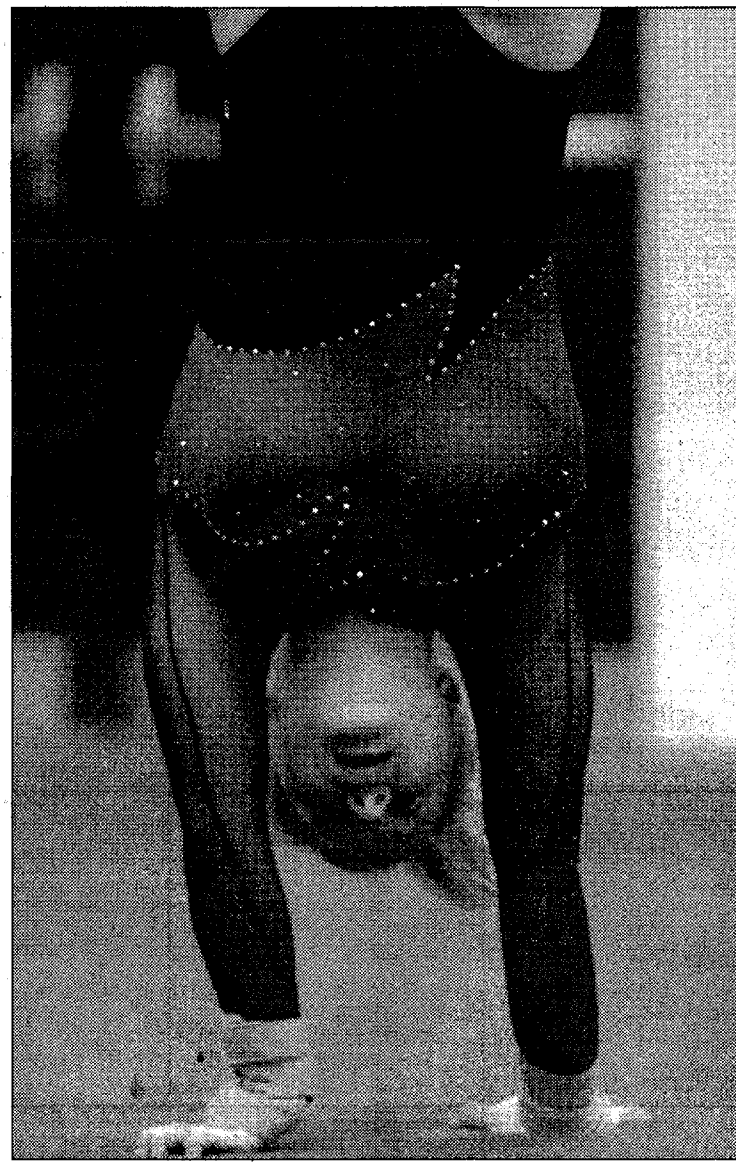
GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY

When the White Sox pitchers and catchers gather in Tucson, AZ, Feb. 17 for the first day of spring training, Haeger will be in the running for a starting rotation spot, especially after they traded Freddy Garcia and Brandon McCarthy, two top-notch hurlers on last year's roster.

"To be honest with you, I couldn't believe it when they traded (McCarthy)," Haeger said. "They got three arms in return, so I guess they did what they thought was good for the organization. Hopefully, the trades will open up a spot for me."

"I've talked to our pitching coach, Don Cooper, about three or four times during the off-season and he told me the opportunity is there for me and the ball is in my court. All I can ask for is a chance to go out there and compete for a spot."

ewright@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2108



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Jessie Murray works through her floor routine during Monday night's meet against Livonia Red and Blue.

GYMNASTS

FROM PAGE B1

though had a few slips in certain events.

"It was surprising in that the whole beam was phenomenal today for the Red team - Margarita Lazarevska, Alicia DiMauro, Alyssa Gonzales, Pisani and Guzik. It was great."

Grodzicki also came away impressed with Canton's showing.

"I'm happy for Canton, it's well-deserved," the Red coach said. "They have a great team. They were well-composed. They showed great spirit and great energy. It was healthy competition."

In addition to Kelly's 37.1 in the all-around, the Chiefs also received solid outings from Murray (36.55), Staley (36.45) and Kaitlyn Burns (35.4).

"It was a team effort," Cunningham said. "Staley had her first 36 in the all-around. Jessie, Alyssa and Staley were all in the 36s, and Burns had her high all-around for the year."

"I think we'll continue to do this as we move to the end of the season meets. You have to have that kind of performance for the girls to have confidence in themselves."

bemons@oe.homecomm.net (734) 953-2123

GYMNASTICS RESULTS

GIRLS GYMNASTICS RESULTS

DOUBLE-DUAL MEET

Feb. 5 at Livonia Churchill

TEAM SCORES: Canton 145.50 points, Livonia-Blue, 144.525; Canton 145.50, Livonia-Red, 144.525.

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

Vault: 1. Alyssa Kelley (Canton), 9.7; 2. Emily Quint (Blue), 9.6; 3. Paula Guzik (Red), 9.5; 4. (tie) Kate Staley (Canton) and Jessie Murray (Canton), 9.2 each.

Uneven bars: 1. (tie) Guzik (Red) and Quint (Blue), 9.4 each; 3. Staley (Canton), 9.2; 4. Kelley (Canton), 9.05; 5. (tie) Powers (Blue), Andrea Pisani (Red) and Kelly Tapella (Blue), 8.95 each.

Balance beam: 1. Guzik (Red), 9.7; 2. (tie) Murray (Canton) and Pisani (Red), 9.65 each; 4. Staley (Canton), 9.35; 5. Margarita Lazarevska (Red), 9.2.

Floor exercise: 1. Quint (Blue), 9.65; 2. Kelley (Canton) and Pisani (Red), 9.6; 4. Guzik (Red), 9.5; 5. Powers (Blue), 9.3.

All-around: 1. Guzik (Red), 38.1; 2. Quint (Blue), 37.25; 3. Pisani (Red), 37.2; 4. Kelley (Canton), 37.1; 5. Murray (Canton), 36.55; 6. Staley (Canton), 36.45; 7. Powers (Blue), 36.25; 8. Laura Nomura (Blue), 35.8; 9. Kaitlyn Burns (Canton), 35.4; 10. Alyssa Gonzales (Red), 33.35.

Dual meet records: Canton, 12-1 overall; Livonia-Blue, 7-1 overall; Livonia-Red, 6-2 overall.

FARMINGTON UNIFIED 137.10

PLYMOUTH 118.450
Monday at Maxfield Training Center

Vault: 1. (tie) Elana Cocke (F) and Kelsey Twigg (F), 8.7; 3. Amy Ancona (F), 8.35; 4. Erica Kosmalski (P), 8.15.

Uneven bars: 1. Elana Cocke (F), 9.0; 2. Amy Ancona (F), 8.5; 3. (tie) Nicole Daihl (F) and Kelsey Twigg (F), 8.35.

Balance beam: 1. Elana Cocke (F), 9.050; 2. Amy Ancona (F), 9.0; 3. Jordan Brodehl (P), 8.65; 4. Erica Kosmalski (P), 8.050.

Floor exercise: 1. Nicole Daihl (F), 9.150; 2. Elana Cocke (F), 9.1; 3. Kelsey Twigg (F), 8.6; 4. Jordan Brodehl (P), 8.55.

All-around: 1. Elana Cocke (F), 35.85; 2. Amy Ancona (F), 34.20; 3. Kelsey Twigg (F), 33.55; 4. Jordan Brodehl (P), 33.40.

CANTON INVITATIONAL

Feb. 3 at Canton H.S.

TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Holt, 145.55 points; 2. Rochester Adams, 144.00; 3. Livonia-Red, 143.85; 4. Grand Rapids Forest Hills, 143.225; 5. Troy Athens, 143.05; 6. Livonia-Blue, 142.775; 7. Canton, 142.35; 8. Salem, 140.575; 9. Farmington Unified, 140.50; 10. Northville, 139.50; 11. Brighton, 136.225; 12. Portage, 136.075; 13. Freeland, 136.05; 14. Howell, 135.825; 15. Trenton, 130.125; 16. Fraser, 125.025; 17. Plymouth, 117.95; 18. Milford-Lakeland, 82.30; 19. Novi, 65.50; 20. East Grand Rapids, 35.225.

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

DIVISION 1

Vault: 1. Alyssa Kelly (Canton), 9.75; 2. Paula Guzik (Red), 9.55; 3. Karen Verbrugge (Forest Hills), 9.5; 4. Andrea Pisani (Red), 9.25; 12. Meghan Powers (Blue), 9.225; 13. Emily Quint (Blue), 9.05.

Uneven bars: 1. Maryrose Hillstrom (Holt), 9.4;

2. Verbrugge (Forest Hills), 9.35; 3. Kelly (Canton), 9.3; 6. Guzik (Red), 9.25; 8. Quint (Blue), 9.225; 14. Pisani (Red), 8.95.

Balance beam: 1. Guzik (Red), 9.6; 2. Kallie Strazdas (Portage), 9.55; 3. Verbrugge (Forest Hills), 9.525; 4. Pisani (Red), 9.45; 11. Quint (Blue), 9.125; 14. (tie) Powers (Blue), 9.1.

Floor exercise: 1. Pisani (Red), 9.7; 2. Jessica Nieman (Freeland), 9.65; 3. Guzik (Red), 9.6; 12. (tie) Quint (Blue) and Powers (Blue), 9.3 each.

All-around: 1. Guzik (Red), 38.00; 2. Verbrugge (Forest Hills), 37.925; 3. Kelly (Canton), 37.55; 5. Pisani (Red), 37.35; 8. Quint (Blue), 36.70; 10. Powers (Blue), 36.35.

DIVISION 2

Vault: 1. Cristial Klein (Adams), 9.35; 2. Brandi Hagan (Forest Hills), 9.275; 3. Jacqueline Gazette (Novi), 9.25; 7. (tie) Laura Nomura (Blue), 9.1.

Uneven bars: 1. Brittany Young (Salem), 9.1; 2. Nicole Wood (Holt), 8.9; 3. Sara Moore (Adams), 8.8; 6. Kelly Tapella (Blue), 8.75; 14. (tie) Nomura (Blue), 8.5.

Balance beam: 1. Klein (Adams), 9.475; 2. Alyssa Burke (EGR), 9.425; 3. Lauren Zarebski (Adams), 9.325; 12. (tie) Margarita Lazarevska (Red), 8.75.

Floor exercise: 1. Zarebski (Adams), 9.425; 2. Klein (Adams), 9.35; 3. Monica Cauley (Howell), 9.325; 7. Nomura (Blue), 9.05.

All-around: 1. Klein (Adams), 36.675; 2. Zarebski (Adams), 36.25; 3. Hagan (Forest Hills), 35.75; 7. (tie) Nomura (Blue), 35.225. (Blue), 9.05.

Plymouth, Canton pom squads seek state title

Award-winning teams from Plymouth and Canton high schools have qualified to participate in the Mid-American Pompon 28th Annual State Championship at Eastern Michigan University on Sunday, Feb. 11.

Each team will compete and

perform in the traditional Mid-American style, a method that involves sharp, precise arm, leg and head movements; unique transitions and formations; creative ripples and pompon switches; and outstanding showmanship.

Teams will be judged in 10

categories with winners presented with championship trophies for first, second and third places.

The competition will begin at 9 a.m. in EMU's Convocation Center. For more information, visit www.pompon.com.

LACROSSE

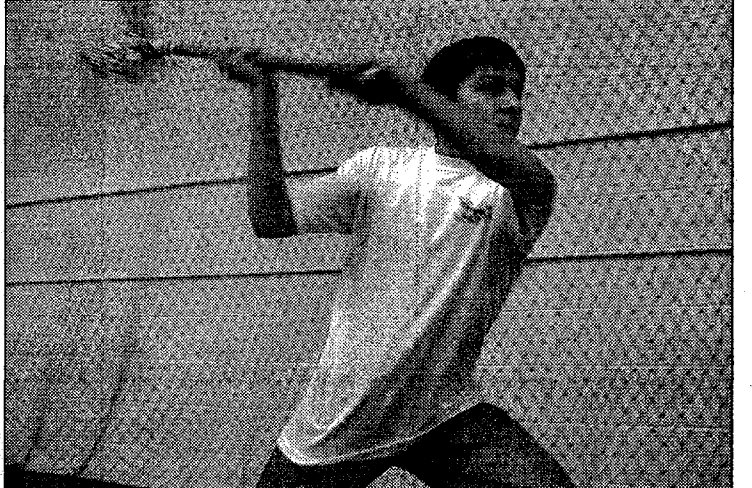
FROM PAGE B1

Lady of Good Counsel school a few years ago.

"We've had a great response from the community so far," said Lisa Birney. "We offer exclusive deals to teams that are looking to utilize the training center and we can provide all the required gear and uniforms, too."

"This is a unique opportunity for area lacrosse teams to make a one-stop shop. They can come in here and be completely outfitted from head to toe with the highest quality equipment and have the opportunity to fine tune their game in our training facility, all under one roof."

The 2,500-square-foot training center is stocked with goals, shooting screens and speed guns. Individuals interested in using the facility are encouraged to call first - (734) 459-1833 - to reserve a time slot.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Thirteen-year-old Gino Pulice practices in the Michigan Lacrosse training facility, which is equipped with a radar device that measures the speed of the shot.

The store carries a full line of equipment, including brand names Warrior, Brine, STX, Cascade, Gait/deBeer, Harrow and Shock Doctor.

A "Grand Opening" celebration is set for March 3. Among the highlights on that day will be coaching clinics and a 10-percent discount on equipment for the first 300 visitors.

On Feb. 12 between 6:30-8:30 p.m., the store will host an equipment purchase night for new and returning lacrosse players who will be participating on the Plymouth-Canton-Salem boys lacrosse team.

For more information, visit www.michigan-lax.com.

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

Plymouth Library's 'Hot Stove' series ends Feb. 11

The popular "Hot Stove League" series of the Plymouth District Library has many fans during the off-season this winter. The final program of the three-event series will take place Sunday, Feb. 11, at 2 p.m.

Baseball and softball coaches and players of all ages are invited to attend "Baseball Isn't Just Baseball: It's a Metaphor For Life" presentation. Speakers will be Detroiters Dr. Robert Samaras, a member of the Windsor (Ont.) Sports Hall of Fame, and Raymond Rolak, who has enjoyed a career as a

sports broadcaster, professional baseball scout and published author of numerous baseball and ice hockey articles.

Dr. Samaras, who has authored several books, will share his experiences with "The One-run Game: Pathway to Pennant," as well as humanistic psychology in baseball coaching.

As the former director of the City of Detroit's 4,000-member PaR Baseball school, Rolak will provide "a comparative look at competitive and recreational baseball."

The February program brought former Orioles broadcaster Michael Reghi to the Plymouth Library. As a thank you to the community, Reghi has shared his personal score sheet of Cal Ripken's last game in Baltimore on Oct. 6, 2001.

All program attendees for the Feb. 11 segment of the series will receive a copy of this historic keepsake.

Registration is required for this series finale by calling the library's reader's advisory desk at (734) 453-0750, ext. 4; or register online at www.plymouthlibrary.org.

Please recycle this newspaper

Canton spikers outhit Plymouth

Canton's volleyball team overcame a mid-match rough stretch to bump Plymouth-Canton Educational Park rival Plymouth, 25-15, 25-21, 15-25 and 25-16, in a Monday night showdown in the Chiefs' Phase III gymnasium.

The victory improved Canton to 6-10-6 overall and 3-3 in the Western Lakes Activities Association's Western Division. The Wildcats slipped to 13-14-3 and 1-5, respectively.

"We started out aggressive and confident and stayed that way for most of the match," said Canton coach Jen Barnes, praising her young and improving squad. "However, we missed way to many serves at the end of game two and in game three.

"Our blocking was great, but we had a hard time shutting down Brittany Hengesh in game three. We still need to focus on consistency and eliminate our errors in order to keep getting the wins."

The Chiefs' triumph was propelled by strong performances from junior middle hitter Marie Martin (six kills, five blocks and three aces), Lauren McPartlin (six kills, two blocks and five digs), Kacy Moran (six kills, 20 assists and seven digs) and Ellie Kenny (five kills).

"Kacy, Marie and Jordan Kielty are really starting to mesh and become more comfortable with one another. They really stepped it up and took control out on the court and made some great choices on their own.

"Overall, Marie is our most consistent and aggressive player. She always comes ready to play every day."

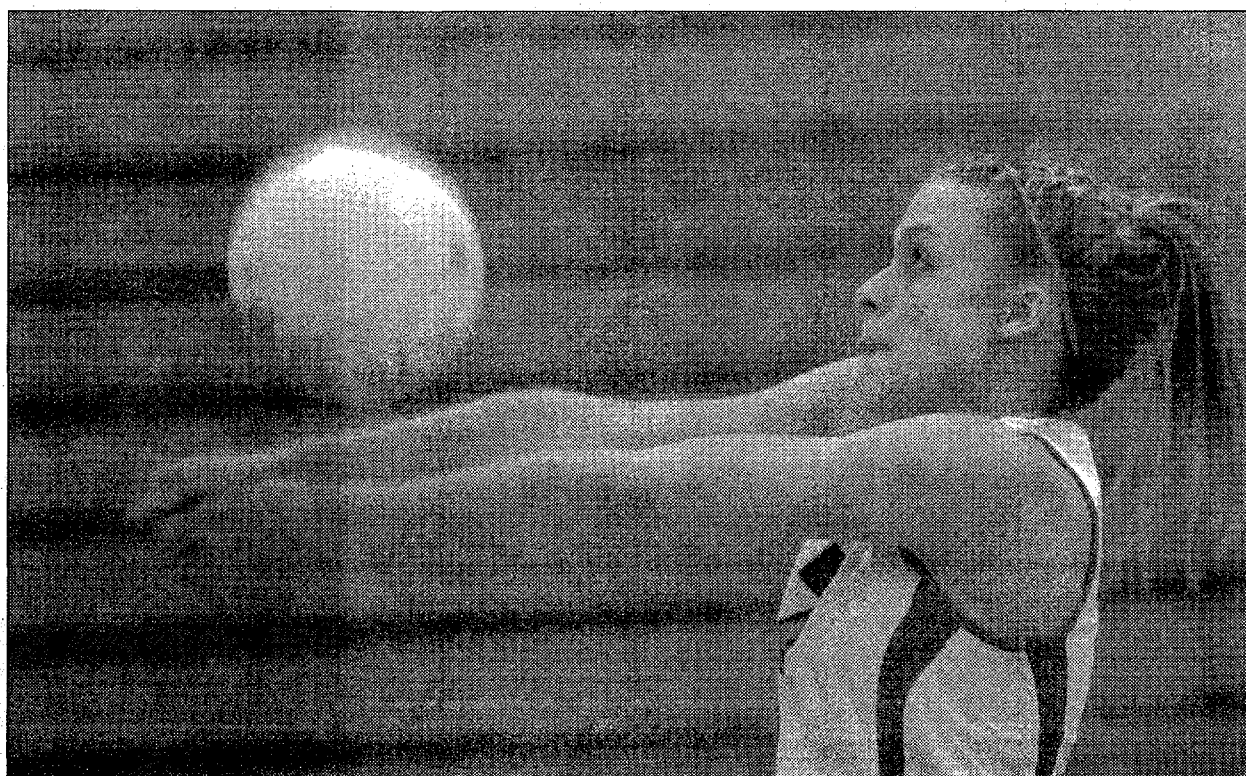
SALEM SWEEPS SPARTANS

Salem's one-two punch of Lauren Kurtz (19 kills) and Teresa Coppiellie (15 kills) catapulted the Rocks to a 25-16, 25-19, 25-20 WLAA-Lakes Division victory at Livonia Stevenson.

Salem is now 29-4-1 overall and 5-1 in the division, while Stevenson falls to 12-6-1 and 2-4.

The Rocks played without the services of sophomore setter Jansan Falcusan, who was ill.

"The team played very well tonight," said Salem coach Amanda Suder. "Courtney Seiler did an outstanding job of filling in for Jansan tonight. We had a lot of high balls tonight instead



Canton's Jordan Kielty displays her defensive skills during Monday night's match against Plymouth. Kielty and the Chiefs ousted the Wildcats in four games.

The Chiefs' triumph was propelled by strong performances from junior middle hitter Marie Martin (six kills, five blocks and three aces), Lauren McPartlin (six kills, two blocks and five digs), Kacy Moran (six kills, 20 assists and seven digs) and Ellie Kenny (five kills).

of our quicker attack, but Stevenson has a smaller team, so we were successful with what we were doing."

Seiler finished with 42 assists and 15 digs.

Coppiellie had an all-around outstanding match. She added two service aces, 22 digs and four blocks to go along with her 15 kills. Kurtz also shined, contributing 14 digs and two blocks in addition to her team-leading 19 kills.

Other stars for the Rocks were Alecia Goodes (19 digs) and Alyssa Matchette (eight digs).

Setter Jill Flaughter led the Spartans with 20 assists, 15 digs and three kills. Laura Khalil and Jamie Pounders added eight and six kills, respectively.

The defense was led by Jordan Pilut (19 digs), Stephanie Labby (17 digs) and Amber Sharp (14 digs).

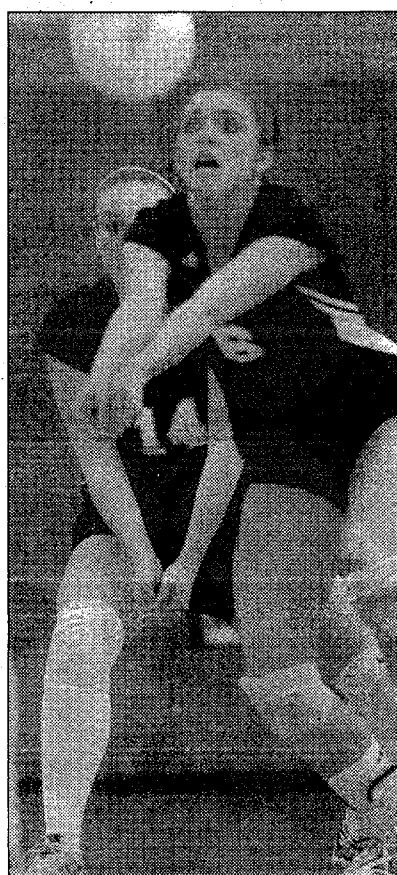
ROCKS TO SEMIS

Salem advanced to the semi-final round of Saturday's Novi Invitational before it was sidelined by Birmingham Marian, a team it had upended in two games earlier in the day.

"Overall, it was a great day for us," said Salem coach Amanda Suder. "We beat everybody in the gym at least once, but we just came up a little short in the semis."

Salem recorded victories over Milford, Marian, Farmington and Farmington Harrison in the preliminary rounds before ousting Novi in the quarterfinals.

Teresa Coppiellie paced the Rocks with 52 kills and 31 digs. Also excelling were Jansan Falcusan (132 assists) Nikki Mersch (20 kills and 25 digs) and Lauren Kurtz (53 kills, eight aces and 2 digs).



Plymouth's Rachel Heaton returns a serve during Monday night's match against Canton as teammate Ashley Shaffer looks on.

SPORTS BRIEFS

CANTON LEISURE SERVICES EVENTS

■ Canton Leisure Services will be hosting a cross country ski day on Feb. 17 from noon to 4 p.m. Participants will be able to enjoy the beauty of winter by trailing through picturesque Pheasant Run Golf Course.

Skiers can either bring their own skis or rent them on site. Afterwards, light refreshments and hot cocoa will be offered in the clubhouse. Pre-registration is required. For more information, call (734) 483-5600.

■ The Canton Amateur Hockey Association will be hosting the 2nd Annual Fire and Ice game Feb. 10 at the Arctic Edge Ice Arena, which is located on Michigan Ave. in Canton. The showdown between the Canton hockey coaches and the Canton Fire Department kicks off at 6:45 p.m.

TENNIS CAMP

Pre-season tennis camp for prospective members of the 2007 Salem, Canton and Plymouth boys tennis teams will be held during winter break at the Huron Valley Tennis Club in Ann Arbor.

The dates and times of the camp are: Monday, Feb. 19, from 1:30-3:30 p.m.; Wednesday, Feb. 21, from 1-3 p.m.; and Thursday, Feb. 22, from 1-3 p.m.

The cost is \$82 for all three sessions or \$29 per day.

To register, call (734) 662-5514. The classes are limited to 10 players from each school.

PLYMOUTH REC

The City of Plymouth Recreation Department is currently offering the following youth sports programs:

■ Lacrosse for boys and girls in grades 3rd through 8th is available for the spring of 2007. The season will run from mid-April through mid-June with all practices and games played mostly on mid-week nights. Registration will run through January on a first-come, first-served basis.

■ Spring youth soccer registration will run throughout January at the recreation office, which is located at 525 Farmer in downtown Plymouth. The office is open weekdays from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. All first-time registrants need to supply a birth certificate.

For more information, call (734) 455-6620 or visit www.ci.plymouth.mi.us.

RUNNING CLUB

Runners are invited to join the Northville (Redford) Road Runners running organization. All levels are welcome.

The club meets at 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday at Northville's Hillside Recreation Center, located off Center Street just south of Eight Mile, and at 6:30 p.m. Thursdays and 9 a.m. Saturdays at the Eight Mile Road entrance to Maybury State Park.

Varying distances are run, ranging from 4-6 miles.

For more information, send an e-mail to Bo@sprauer.com or call Gary Haf at (248) 231-6114.

STORAGE USA

Notice is hereby given that on (Monday, February 19th, 2007), Tate & Co. Auctioneers, Executive Administrator for Storage USA an Extra Space Company, will be offering for sale under the judicial lien process, by public auction, the following storage units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be cash only. Storage USA reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: Extra Space Storage, 6729 CANTON CENTER RD., CANTON, MI 48187 AT 12:30 PM.

Alan Ray Brown #D153 10x20 Racket & Sports Equip, 14 plastic tubs, Metal Tool Box, Space Heater, Fire Extinguisher, Grinder, Bicycle, Fishing Rod, Gun Safe, Quiver with Arrows, Shop Vac

Publish: February 1 & 8, 2007

069502374

CATCH THE WAVE



O. S. ATTACK
Friday Feb. 9th
7:05 P.M.

Special Olympics

Family Value Night: 4 Executive Reserved Tickets, 4 Hot Dogs, 4 Pepsi Products, 4 Game Night Lineups all for only \$44. Salute to the Special Olympics.



WINDSOR SPITFIRES
Saturday Feb. 10th
7:05 P.M.

Sweetheart Saturday

Bring your sweetheart and purchase Two Executive Reserved Tickets (together) for only \$14!
Nothing says love quite like Whalers Hockey.

Center Ice Seating \$14 • Executive Reserved \$10
Groups of 20 or more tickets only \$8

SEASON or GROUP TICKETS
Call 734-453-8400

www.plymouthwhalers.com

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS

www.ticketmaster.com

Call 248-645-6666

COMPUWARE SPORTS ARENA
14900 BECK ROAD PLYMOUTH TWP, MI 48170



The Cancer AnswerLine is for anyone with questions about cancer. Amy needed information on treatment options when her niece, Suzie, was diagnosed with leukemia. When Amy called, a cancer nurse, Jean, personally answered all of her questions, helping her realize they were not alone in the fight. It's another reason, what you remember about U-M are the people who are there for you along the way. That's the Michigan Difference.

M
University of Michigan
Comprehensive Cancer Center

1-800-865-1125 mcancer.org

Whalers heat up Compuware by rolling Knights

PCS stays unbeaten

On a brutally cold night outside, the Plymouth Whalers remained hot at the Compuware Sports Arena as they defeated the London Knights, 7-3, in an Ontario Hockey League game played Saturday night before 2,772.

In a game that featured the two of the top teams in the OHL, Plymouth (35-13-1-2, 73 points and first place in OHL West) defeated London (36-12-1-3, 76 points and first place in the OHL Midwest) for the third time in four games this season. The Whalers are 11 points ahead of second-place Saginaw (29-20-0-2, 62 points).

The Whalers never trailed in the game, leading 2-0 after one period and 5-1 after forty minutes.

Plymouth got two goals and an assist from first star Tom Sestito, who leads Plymouth with 31 goals; two goals and an assist from second star Sean O'Connor (Brownstown) and single goals from Evan Brophrey, Chris Terry and Wes

Plymouth's league-leading penalty killing unit shut down London's league-leading power play, allowing one goal in 10 tries. Whalers goaltender Michal Neuvirth stopped 32-of-35 shots for his third win over London this season.

Cunningham (+5 on the game).

Rob Drummond, Patrick Kane and Sam Gagner scored for London.

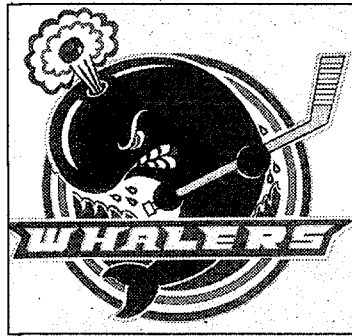
Plymouth's league-leading penalty killing unit shut down London's league-leading power play, allowing one goal in 10 tries. Whalers goaltender Michal Neuvirth stopped 32-of-35 shots for his third win over London this season while running his overall record to 20-7-1-1.

O'Connor started the scor-

ing for Plymouth on the Whalers' first shot at 2:53 when his drive from the left faceoff dot pinballed out in front of London goaltender Steve Mason and into the net. Sestito scored at 16:52 of the first period when he deflected Dan Collins' low shot from the left circle past Mason at the right side of the London net.

Terry scored his 12th goal of the season at 1:56 of the second period to give Plymouth a 3-0 lead when he rifled a shot from the left circle over the shoulder of Mason. After Rob Drummond cut the Plymouth lead to 3-1 at 7:10, O'Connor scored what proved to be the game-winning goal at 13:22 of the second period when he took Jared Boll's pass from behind the London net and beat Mason with a quick shot from the slot. Brophrey made it 5-1 when he batted home a rebound past Mason at 18:54.

The teams traded two goals aside in the third peri-



od - Kane (45th of the season at 4:50), Cunningham (3rd at 5:15), Gagner (28th at 7:55) and Sestito (31st at 9:36).

Plymouth outshot London, 49-33. The Whalers continue to lead the OHL in team defense, allowing 130 goals over 51 games.

Plymouth plays twice at home next weekend, hosting Owen Sound next Friday at 7:05 p.m. and Windsor next Saturday at 7:05 p.m. Tickets are available for both games by calling the Compuware Sports Arena at (734) 453-8400 or by going to Ticketmaster at www.ticketmaster.com.

The Plymouth-Canton-Salem girls hockey team maintained its unbeaten record Saturday by battling Grosse Pointe North to a scoreless tie.

The victory improved the Penguins to 12-0-2.

The No. 1 star for the Penguins was junior goalie Kristie Kowalski, who notched her Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League-leading seventh shutout of the season. It was also Kowalski's third-straight goose egg.

"It was a pretty good game and there weren't a lot of shots," said PCS coach Eric Mink. "Both teams played well defensively. Kristie made a couple of huge stops, including a breakaway in the first period. I don't know how she even saw the puck on a couple of screen-shot saves she made."

PCS 6, WALLED LAKE UNIFIED 0: On Friday, Feb. 2, the Penguins soared thanks to Katie Zimmerman's hat trick and a two-goal effort from Nikki Songer. Sarah Manner scored the other goal for the winners.

Registering assists were Keely Kowalski (two), Edra

Burris and Zimmerman.

"We came out with a lot of energy," said PCS coach Eric Mink. "We were able to score a short-handed goal in the first minute of the game to set the tone early. The girls did a nice job of defending Molly Baker, one of the top scorers in the league."

Kristie Kowalski earned her sixth shutout of the season in goal for the winners.

PCS 6, MERCY/MARIAN 0: On Tuesday, Jan. 30, five different Penguins scored in the one-sided victory over Mercy/Marian. Katie Zimmerman scored twice while Nicole Sensoli, Amy Coleman, Kelsey Nikkila and Nikki Songer lit the lamp once each.

Nikkila (two), Edra Burris, Kristin Callahan (two), Songer, Keely Kowalski and Chelsea Osburn (two) were credited with assists.

"The senior made a huge contribution on 'Senior Night,'" said PCS coach Eric Mink. "Nicole Sensoli got things rolling, Kristin Callahan had a playmaker and Nikki Songer added a goal and an assist."

CANTON



SPRING REGISTRATION

**SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 17th**
ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL
1309 Penniman Ave. • Plymouth
(¼ mile East of Sheldon Rd.)
1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Leagues Available:
Minor League 7-10
Major League 11-12
Junior League 13-14

League is open to all Plymouth Canton residents
Proof of residency and birth certificate to register
www.cantonlittleleague.net or info@cantonlittleleague.net

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 Orangeo, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 41889 Joy Rd Canton MI 48187 (734)254-0243 on 2/28/07 at 11:00 am. 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:
9210 - Martin Caruana - Computer, Microwave, Mattress
9209 - Martin Caruana - 10 boxes, tool box, beach chair
5023 - Daniel Gorys - Big Screen TV, DVD player, 30 totes
1072 - Jorell Glasper - 10 boxes, sofa, end table

Publish: February 8 and 15, 2007

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 Orangeo, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 2500 S Industrial Hwy Ann Arbor, MI 48104-6130 (734)973-5584 on 2/28/07 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:
2041 - Shirley Black-Wells - 3 TVs, microwave, sofa
3059 - Yvette Woodruff - 30 boxes, big screen TV, misc itmes

Publish: February 8 & 15, 2007

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

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

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

Publish: February 8, 2007

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 Orangeo, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 45229 Michigan Ave Canton MI 48188 (734)397-0082 on 2/28/07 at 1:00 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:
2024 - Morgan Holliday - Stereo, Exercise equipment, beach chair
3045 - Brook Swinea - Dresser, desk, toys
4013 - John Boehret - Golf Clubs, 20 boxes, table saw
4108 - Celeste Hubbard - microwave, 5 folding tables, 12 folding chairs
4148 - David, Fuller - mattress, power tools, misc items
4211 - Debra Tansey - couch, misc items, 10 boxes
4216 - Steven Leach - portable TV, 10 boxes, toys
4247 - Leslie Lester - toys, 10 totes, misc items
4275 - John Pope - mini fridge, speakers, misc items
5106 - Kwaun Reese - 10 boxes, entertainment center, misc items
5253 - Katie Lambert - mattress, couch, box spring

Publish: February 8 & 15, 2007

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 Orangeo, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at 2101 Haggerty Rd Canton MI 48187 (734)981-0303 on 2/28/07 at 12:00 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:
2026 - Joshua Kreger - microwave, couch, 20 boxes
3008 - Georgina Buba - stove, chair, 50 boxes
3034 - Park Avenue Cleaners - 40 boxes, 2 totes, toys
3046 - Edna Smith-Gordon - chair, desk, dresser
3048 - Daniel Smith II - couch, loveseat, bike
4004 - Kenneth Marshall - chair, dresser, 10 totes
4008 - Christopher Rice - desk, TV, bed frame
4028 - Kenneth Marshall - Bicycle, 5 boxes, clothing
4034 - Leah Rogers - stool, 1 tote, misc items
4036 - Jeff Malek - clothing, entertainment center, misc items
4294 - Diane Jacobs - 20 totes, clothing, misc items
5002 - Anthony Peters - Dresser, TV, Couch
5029 - Cleopatra Peck - Loveseat, 4 bikes, refrigerator
5216 - Miranda King - Sofa, Misc Items, Table
6005 - Mark Hughes - Weights, exercise equipment, bike
6012 - Gaylyne Wall - dryer, dresser, bed
6203 - Rachel Knighton - 10 boxes, dresser, mirror
6208 - Jennifer Jendrusik - Mattress, desk, dresser
6212 - Bharti Washington - computer, bike, 20 boxes

Publish: February 8 and 15, 2007

NOTICE PLYMOUTH CHARTER TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS

If you experience an overflow or backup of a sewage disposal system or storm water system, you must file a written claim with the Plymouth Charter Township Department of Public Works within 45 days after the overflow or backup was discovered. Notice should be mailed to Plymouth Charter Township, Department of Public Works, 9955 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth, Michigan 48170. Failure to provide the written notice will prevent recovery of damages. Contact the Department of Public Works, 734-354-3270, Extension 3, for assistance immediately upon discovery of an overflow or backup.

Thank You
PLYMOUTH CHARTER TOWNSHIP
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

MARILYN MASSENGILL, CMC
Clerk, Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish: February 4 & 8, 2007

STOW & GO SELF STORAGE AUCTION NOTICE

Pursuant to state law, Notice is hereby given that a public auction will be held at **STOW & GO SELF STORAGE, 41999 ANN ARBOR ROAD, PLYMOUTH, MI on MARCH 9, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.**, on past due tenants listed below. The entire contents of the following units will be auctioned and sold to the highest bidder on each individual unit. **CASH ONLY! DESCRIPTION IS BRIEF SUMMARY OF ITEMS, MAY OR MAY NOT CONTAIN MORE OR LESS ITEMS.**

UNIT #013-COLIN TROMBETTA OF 12075 N. TERRITORIAL, DEXTER, MI 48130

Dressers, tables, TV cart, TV, desk, tool box, clothes, nightstand, and misc items.

UNIT #251-SCOTT MORRISON OF 9549 CEDAR ISLAND POND, WHITE LAKE TWP, MI 48386

Skateboard, skis, boxes, books, and misc. items.

UNIT #339-JAMES ALTER OF N.W.C. INC., P.O. BOX 512, DEARBORN HTS., MI 48127

Briefcase, Fax, Bags of clothes, approx. 28 boxes, and misc. items.

UNIT #350-MEGAN BOYLE OF 37530 FOUNTAIN PKWY #287, WESTLAND, MI 48185

Washer, Dryer, Patio Table w/chairs, cart, dresser, chair, ottoman, air conditioner, wicker cart and misc. items.

UNIT #606-LINDA BROWN-SHURGE OF P.O. BOX 545, WAYNE, MI 48184

Refrigerator, chairs, Christmas items, shovel/tools, and misc.

UNIT #619/668-CLAUD STOPCHINSKI (MY CPR SERVICE) OF 42173 E. ANN ARBOR RD, PLYMOUTH, MI 48170

Pallets of computer printers/approx. 100, copier, other misc. items.

UNIT #214-PAUL AUTH OF P.O. BOX 65, HAZEL PARK, MI 48030

Furniture, amiores, desk, lamps, stereo, bookcase, hutch, table, chairs, dolly, speakers, rocking chair, other household items, and misc. items.

SALE DATE IS MARCH 9, 2007 AT 10:00 A.M.

Publish: February 8 & 15, 2007

CITY OF PLYMOUTH ACCURACY TESTING OF VOTING EQUIPMENT

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2007 - 1:00 p.m.



PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Clerk's Office will conduct a Public Accuracy Test of the Optical Scan tabulating equipment to be used for the General Election on Tuesday, February 27, 2007. The test will take place on Friday, February 16, 2007 at 1:00 p.m., in the Commission Chambers, City Hall, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170.

This test is open to all interested parties. City Hall is in compliance with the American Disabilities Act and is handicapped accessible. For further information contact the Clerk's Office at 734-453-1234, ext. 234.

Linda Langmesser
City Clerk

Publish: February 8, 2007

Charter Township of Canton Board Proceedings -January 30, 2007

A regular study meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton held Tuesday, January 30, 2007 at 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance. **Roll Call** Members Present: Bennett, Kirchgatter, LaJoy, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo Members Absent: Caccamo (on Military leave) Staff Present: Director Conklin, Brad Sharpe, Bill Serchak, Bob Belair, Leigh Thurston, Tom Casari **Adoption of Agenda** Motion by Bennett, seconded by Zarbo to approve the amended agenda adding closed session to discuss pending litigation at the close of the open meeting. Motion carried by all members present.

STUDY SESSION TOPIC Item 1. WETLAND BANKING ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMMING EFFORTS The following topics were discussed: **Community Wetland Development, Wetlands in Canton. State Statute & Regulations, Michigan Law Defines a Wetland, Regulated Wetlands in Canton, Local Regulation & Canton Ordinance, Threats & Wetland Destruction, Development Pressures & Regulation, Benefits of Wetlands, Wetland Development Options, Wetland Development Possible Sites, Community Environmental Action, Municipal Services and Leisure Services** discussed the activities they have become involved in support of environmental protection, and Potential Partnerships Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to move from open session to closed session at 8:12 p.m. Motion carried by all members present. A closed session of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton was held Tuesday, January 30, 2007, at 1150 Canton Center S. Canton, Michigan, 48188. Supervisor Yack called the closed meeting to order at 8:12 p.m. to discuss pending litigation. **Roll Call:** Members Present: Bennett, Kirchgatter, LaJoy, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo Members Absent: Caccamo (on Military leave) Staff Present: None Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to move from closed session and adjourn at 8:25 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 www.canton-mi.org after Board Approval.

Publish: February 8, 2007

Metro Detroit USBC Masters able to cash in on tournament

There are lots of bowling tournaments around with a majority going on this year in our little corner of the world. Jan. 28 marked the finish of the Metro Detroit U.S. Bowling Congress Masters Tournament held at Thunderbowl Lanes in Allen Park.



Ten Pin Alley

Capturing the championship was 36-year-old Jeff Austreng of Clarkston, who defeated Chuck Morris of Redford in the match play finals.

The two biggest checks went to Austreng (\$3,000) and Morris (\$1,500).

Of 160 entrants, the Observerland communities were well represented by many of the most dynamic bowlers in our cities.

The top 32 bowlers qualified for match play eliminations with Morris qualifying second, followed

by John Nolen, Waterford, fourth (\$650); Ryan Wilson, Garden City, seventh (\$350); Keith Kingston, Farmington Hills, eighth (\$350); Richard Wayne, Westland, 11th (\$275); Eric Tulley, Southfield, 19th (\$225); and Carl Harden, Redford, 25th (\$200).

Other Wayne County area participants: Larry Franz, Jeffrey Mattis and Joseph Chambers, all of Redford; Larry Walker and Joshua Daniels, Garden City; Rick Capaldi, Roy Biggs, Doug Spicer, Chris Soutar and Leon Walsh, Canton; Matt Miscavage and Pat Brown, Westland; Dale Monteuffel, Livonia, and Kenneth Ulicney, Plymouth.

Among the Oakland County contingent: Lyle Schaefer, Southfield; Richard Dolph, Christopher Reid, John Robertson, Angelo Newby and Ken Dinsmore, Jr., Waterford; Jim Fee and Dennis Yaros, Farmington Hills; Thomas Fauls and J. Harold Holle, Troy; Guy Rau, Birmingham; Harold Hughes, Clarkston; Larry Quince, Keith Chase and Jeff Edwards, Rochester Hills.

The games were all bowled on PBA oil pattern conditions, approved as a sport bowling lane condition by the USBC.

This makes it a more difficult shot to get solid pocket hits and to have enough juice on the ball to carry all 10 on the good hits.

Austreng simply out-bowled everybody with a high-game of 300 along with high-series of 803.

■ This is the right time to remind bowlers once again not to leave their gear in the car trunk overnight in this bitter cold weather.

Bowling balls are made of several different compositions and the cold weather will have a shrink or stretch effect on plastics, causing possible de-lamination inside the ball.

Remember not to forget, bring it inside.

■ Westland's Gary Nagle became the sixth member of the Mayflower Senior Men's Classic to score a 300 game this season.

For Nagle, who averages 215 in the league, it was his sixth career perfect game.

Nagle joins seniors Don Doherty, Bruno DiMambro, Ron Bartoszek, Jesse Macciocco and Hank DeCaluwe who have registered 300s so far this season.

■ The prep bowling season is in full swing right now with the Livonia Clarenceville girls squad still unbeaten at 10-0 with three matches left to go.

The Trojans remain atop the standings in the Wayne-Oakland Bowling Conference.

Current high-game leaders include: Danielle Fesco (Clarenceville), 244; Jennifer Maples (North Farmington), 243; Erica Charboneau (Clarenceville), 237; Kayla Barber (Clarenceville), 225; and Amanda Dailey (Clarenceville), 215

On the boys side, Dearborn Divine Child is in first place followed by Novi-Detroit Catholic Central Clarenceville, Northville, Farmington-Harrison, University of Detroit-Jesuit, North Farmington and Birmingham Brother Rice.

On Jan. 30, Clarenceville's Brandon Bentley fired a 299 game,

leaving a stubborn 10-pin in the last ball at Woodland Lanes in Livonia.

His team needed all of those pins as they barely beat a very good CC team. As the teams were boarding the bus to return home, there was a loud bang on the pavement, it was the 10-pin that Brandon left standing, and now it fell down, which he got to keep as a souvenir.

Any bowler would be upset when that one pin prevents a perfecto, but he was happier yet that his game made the difference in the victory. Other individual highs on the boys side: Mike Horton (CC), 299; Brian Carroll (Northville), 288; Mike Erlingis (CC) 288; Jon DeBellis (Farmington-Harrison), 277; Mike Jacobini (Northville), 277. The regional and state finals are coming up in just a few weeks and our area preps are coming along nicely.

Al Harrison is a resident of Livonia, a member of the Bowling Writers Association of America and Life member of USBC. He can be reached at (248) 77-1839 or email: tenpinalley@sbcglobal.net



High-flying Wings

The Canton Wings Squirrel hockey team went undefeated in the Rock 'N' Roll Cup Tournament Series 2006-07 held in Cleveland, Ohio last month. Pictured are (front row from left) goalie Carson Moutsatson, Jonathan Clark, Mitchell Langell, (second row from left) Sam Flesher, Ryan DesJardin, Geoffery Kelm, Kyle Elinski, Cameron Megazzini, Andrew Shattuck, (third row from left) Alexej Guberinich, Conor Browne, Tyler Hess, Colin McCausland, (fourth row from left) assistant coach Sasha Guberinich, head coach Cam McCausland, assistant coach Tony DesJardin and assistant coach Kevin Moutsatson.

Canton's Schmitt excels in Hawaii

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

As far as Allison Schmitt was concerned, the best part about traveling to Hawaii last month to compete in the Junior Pan Pacific Championships swimming meet wasn't necessarily the 60-degree upgrade in weather.

The highlight of the four-day, mid-January trip for the outstanding Canton junior was the opportunity to compete for her country for the first time in her life.

"It was great being able to put on the red, white and blue cap with my name on it," she said. "It's the first time I've had an opportunity to swim for the United States, so that was exciting."

"The weather was nice, too," she added. "It was in the eighties the entire time we were out there. When we stepped off the plane in Detroit, it was in the 20s."

Schmitt was one of the USA National Junior team's shining stars at the meet, which attracted teams from Australia, New Zealand, Japan, China, Guam and Canada. Altogether, 170 swimmers competed.

Schmitt earned two individual bronze medals along with one silver and two bronze in the relay events.

Her 2:01.15 clocking in the 200-meter freestyle beat her



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton junior swimmer Allison Schmitt captured five medals at the Junior Pan Pacific Championships in Maui last month. Schmitt was competing for the USA National Junior team.

previous best in the event by .8 seconds and was the fastest time by a USA Junior team swimmer since the program was started in 1989.

Schmitt qualified for the 2008 Olympic Trials in the 100-meter freestyle with a time of 56.80 seconds. She had already qualified for the trials

in the 200-meter freestyle. "The entire team met in San Francisco and then we flew to Maui together," Schmitt said. "It was nice getting to meet the other swimmers."

The competition was held at the Kihei Aquatic Center.

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

THE WEEK AHEAD

- BOYS BASKETBALL**
Friday, Feb. 9
Salem at W.L. Central, 7 p.m.
W.L. Western at Plymouth, 7 p.m.
Wayne at Canton, 7 p.m.
PCA at Parkway, 7:30 p.m.
Canton Agape at Franklin Rd., 7:30 p.m.
- PREP VOLLEYBALL**
Thursday, Feb. 8
Rooper at PCA, 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Feb. 10**
Salem at Bedford Invite, 8:30 a.m.
Plymouth and PCA at U-M Dearborn Invite, 9 a.m.
- PREP HOCKEY**
Friday, Feb. 9
Canton at Livonia Franklin at Eddie Edgar, 6 p.m.
- Saturday, Feb. 10**
Salem at W.L. Northern at Lakeland Arena, 8 p.m.
PCS Penguins at G.P. South at City Sports Arena, 11:30 a.m.
- PREP WRESTLING**
Thursday, Feb. 8
WLA cross-overs
- Saturday, Feb. 10**
WLA Conference Meet at Canton, 9 a.m.
- BOYS SWIMMING**
Thursday, Feb. 8
Salem at W.L. Central, 7 p.m.
Northville at Plymouth at Canton H.S., 7 p.m.
Canton at Wayne, 7 p.m.
- Friday, Feb. 9**
MISCA Diving at EMU, 5:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Feb. 10**
MISCA Swim Meet at EMU, 10 a.m.
- GIRLS GYMNASTICS**
Thursday, Feb. 8
Canton at Farmington, 6 p.m.
- MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL**
Wednesday, Feb. 7
Schoolcraft at Wayne County, 7:30 p.m.
Madonna at UM-Dearborn, 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Feb. 10**
Delta CC at Schoolcraft, 3 p.m.
Madonna at Cornerstone, 3 p.m.
- WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL**
Saturday, Feb. 10
Delta CC at Schoolcraft, 1 p.m.
Cornerstone at Madonna, 1 p.m.
- ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE**
Friday, Feb. 9
Whalers vs. Owen Sound at Compuware Arena, 7:05 p.m.
- Saturday, Feb. 10**
Whalers vs. Windsor Spitfires at Compuware Arena, 7:05 p.m.
- Sunday, Feb. 11**
Whalers at Windsor Spitfires, 2 p.m.
TBA - time to be announced.

Lady Ocelots hammer Henry Ford, 71-40

Brutally cold weather outside didn't cool off red-hot Schoolcraft College inside on Saturday afternoon as the Lady Ocelots routed Henry Ford 71-40 in a women's basketball matchup.

Schoolcraft clinched a berth in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association tournament with the win, which improved the Lady Ocelots to 20-2 overall and 13-0 in the conference. The start of the game was at least competitive, with the Falcons (1-21, 1-13) managing a 14-14 tie with 8:30 to go in the first half.

But Schoolcraft, ranked No. 4 in the latest National Junior College Athletic Association poll, went on a 21-6 tear to finish the opening 20 minutes.

Henry Ford, which hit just 15-of-79 field-goal tries (19 percent), never threatened in the second half, as the Lady Ocelots successfully finished off the 200th victory of head coach Karen Lafata's Schoolcraft career.

She is 200-61 (.766) in her nine years at the helm. Sparking Schoolcraft with 17 points and 13 rebounds was sophomore forward Maricka Seay. But she had plenty of offensive assistance.

Sophomore forward Ashley Sibby contributed 10 points while freshman guards Brittney Ivey and LaDwan Jones (Wayne Memorial) each tallied nine.

Chipping in with eight points, along with 15 rebounds and six blocks, was freshman forward Antoinette Brown.

Also strong in the post were freshman forward Janelle Harris

(eight points, 10 rebounds) as well as sophomore forward and Garden City alum Alisha June (five points, seven rebounds).

For the Falcons, Lauren Trosell (Livonia Stevenson) and Jourdane Tanap each scored nine points.

Ocelot men cruise

Balanced scoring lifted Schoolcraft College to a 78-51 men's basketball victory Saturday over visiting Henry Ford Community College.

Leading six players in double digits for the Ocelots (14-8, 9-4) was freshman guard Jerome Hutchins, who tallied 13 points in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association - Eastern Conference matchup.

Registering 12 points each were sophomore guard Jon Yeazel, freshman guard Josh Samarco (Belleville) and sophomore forward Nate Minnow.

Both sophomore guard Corey Spates and sophomore center Gabriel Garcia chipped in with 10 each. Sophomore guard Anthony Lacey scored 16 for Henry Ford (7-14, 5-9).

MU games postponed

Blizzard conditions and record cold forced postponement of Madonna-Aquinas men's and women's basketball games both Saturday and Monday.

After the originally scheduled Saturday games were postponed - the men's game at Madonna University and the women's at Aquinas in Grand Rapids - Madonna's makeup games also were postponed.

Got Game? Yep, got scores, too.

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The UP's western terrain is the most scenic

Snomad Writer Ray Williams recently finished a four-day saddlebag ride in the Western part of the Upper Peninsula. Following is part one of his story.

My annual Keweenaw/Western U.P. ride began with a long day of trailering the 500-plus miles to Baraga. It's a long way to trailer and many Michigan snowmobilers never get that far west, but for me the Western U.P. is the most scenic and exciting area to ride.

Baraga, at the base of the Keweenaw Peninsula, is the gateway to the peninsula and Copper Country. Both the Village and County is named after Father Frederic Baraga, the "snowshoe priest" who came to the area from Austria in 1831 and was made bishop of northern Michigan. The first visitors were French missionaries and traders who found shelter from Lake Superior on the shores of the Keweenaw Bay in the 1600's. Father Baraga built a Catholic Mission at Assinins and

devoted 10 years to educating the native Indians. There were four of us on the ride, Tom Chaplin from Pinckney, Russ Demers from Dearborn, Vince Cytacki from West Bloomfield and myself.

The four day saddlebag ride was planned to take us up and down the length of the Keweenaw Peninsula, west to Silver City and Lake of the Clouds, south to Lake Gogebic and back to Baraga.

I like to begin the ride at the Ojibwa Casino & Resort, just a little west of the downtown area. It has immediate trail access, outside of town, without having to ride through either Baraga or adjacent L'Anse. Often the trails through these two villages are marginal at best. The rooms are also reasonably priced with two

\$45 gambling packages thrown in.

We saddled up and left the Ojibwa, the next morning, at 7:45. No fresh snow had fallen overnight, but the temperature was perfect, in the low 20's. We headed south and in less than an hour we had traveled the 30 miles to Sidnaw for breakfast at Mom's Cafe. After breakfast we backtracked north 10 miles and rode the scenic Sturgeon River Gorge trail northwest than west toward Mass City. At Mass City we headed north on the Bill Nichols trail, headed for Hancock, 40 miles away.

The Bill Nichols trail (Trail #3) is an abandoned railroad grade that runs from Mass City, at the base of the Keweenaw Peninsula, to Houghton. Michigan's snowmobile trail program began as a small, loop trail system, and grew with the goal of tying these loops together into an interconnected system of trails. At the heart of this system, in the U.P., are more than 425 miles of abandoned rail-

road lines that first began to be acquired by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources in 1970s.

Within the first few miles we crossed the three Firesteel Bridges. These bridges are perhaps the most impressive snowmobile bridges in the state. Originally constructed as railroad trestles, the railroad bridges have been converted to recreational use. New railings and decks were placed on top of the railroad ties with much of the construction work being done by local snowmobile clubs under the DNR's snowmobile grant program.

Funds for these projects come from several sources with a majority coming from snowmobilers themselves paying for a snowmobile trail permit required to use the designated trail system. The Firesteel Bridges move more than 46,000 snowmobiles and 4,000 ORV's per year, high on two branches of the Firesteel River.



RIDING WITH THE SNOMADS

Ray Williams

FEBRUARY IS SAVINGS MONTH AT NORTH BROTHERS FORD!

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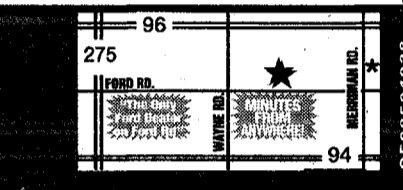
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c and exciting to ride

Continuing north, we gassed up in Twin Lakes then rode through Toivola, Painesdale, South Range and on to Houghton/Hancock. It's an incredible view riding into Houghton from the south, you ride in high on a ridge following and looking down at the Portage Waterway and the city of Hancock across the water. You descend into Houghton next to the Waterway and ride through a marina, a park and over the famous Portage Lake Lift Bridge. The Portage Lake Lift Bridge opened in June 1960 with four lanes of traffic on the top level and a railroad crossing on the lower level. It became the world's heaviest aerial lift bridge. Snowmobiles cross over on the lower level with snow being dumped and groomed on the trail portion.

We checked into the Hancock Ramada Inn, unloaded our saddlebags, and rode to Gino's Italian Restaurant for lunch. After lunch we rode east to Dollar Bay then crossed Portage Lake to

Dreamland. I wanted to (A) see if the ice crossing was safe (it was) and (B) see if the trail I planned to take in the morning was good (it wasn't). We continued north to Lake Linden then back south to Hancock via Trail 3. It was 5:30 p.m., we had ridden 160 miles of trails for the day and it was time for the pool and sauna.

Ray Williams is a trustee of The Snomads Snofari Club - a Michigan Snowmobile Association affiliated club. The Snomads mission includes the promotion and advancement of the sport of snowmobiling by providing a medium for the exchange of snowmobiling information and to serve the public by encouraging the safe and responsible operation of snowmobiles through education, safety training programs and example. The club's mission also includes the encouragement of better snowmobiling citizenship through civic projects and charitable activities. Visit the web site, www.snomads.org, for more information about the Snomads.

Baseball

The GVP American Baseball Camp will be held Feb. 19-23 at Birmingham Covington School for boys and girls in grades one through six. The indoor camp, offered by Greg Porter, assistant varsity coach at Groves High School, will provide daily instruction in the areas of defense, pitching, catching, sliding and hitting.

All campers will receive a camp shirt and prizes. Cost is \$124 per person for Birmingham residents and \$129 for non-residents. Space is limited.

For more information, contact Birmingham Community Education at (248) 203-3800.

CAMPS/CLINICS

Birmingham Seaholm head baseball coach Don Watchowski will direct a six-week Spring Training 2007 academy from Feb. 25 to April 1 for players in grades one through 12.

In conjunction with the Midwest Baseball Academy, the training clinic includes advanced hitting and pitching for a \$98 fee. Space is limited and registration is underway.

For more information, visit www.baseballacademy.net or call toll free at 866-MBA-HITS.

The annual Birmingham Brother Rice baseball camp for players grades 3-8 is scheduled from 1-5 p.m. March 3-4 at Brother Rice High School.

Coaches will focus on the basic fundamentals and techniques for hitting, bunting, infield, outfield, pitching and base running. Campers are grouped by age and ability. The coach-to-player ratio is 1:8.

Camp instructors will be Brother Rice head baseball coach Bob Riker, who has been with the Warriors' baseball program for 17 years, the last nine as head coach, and Brian Kalczynski, a former Riker assistant and Big-10 star at the University of Michigan.

The camp fee is \$125 per player (or bring a friend for \$100 each).

For more information, call Coach Riker at (248) 647-2526, et. 238.



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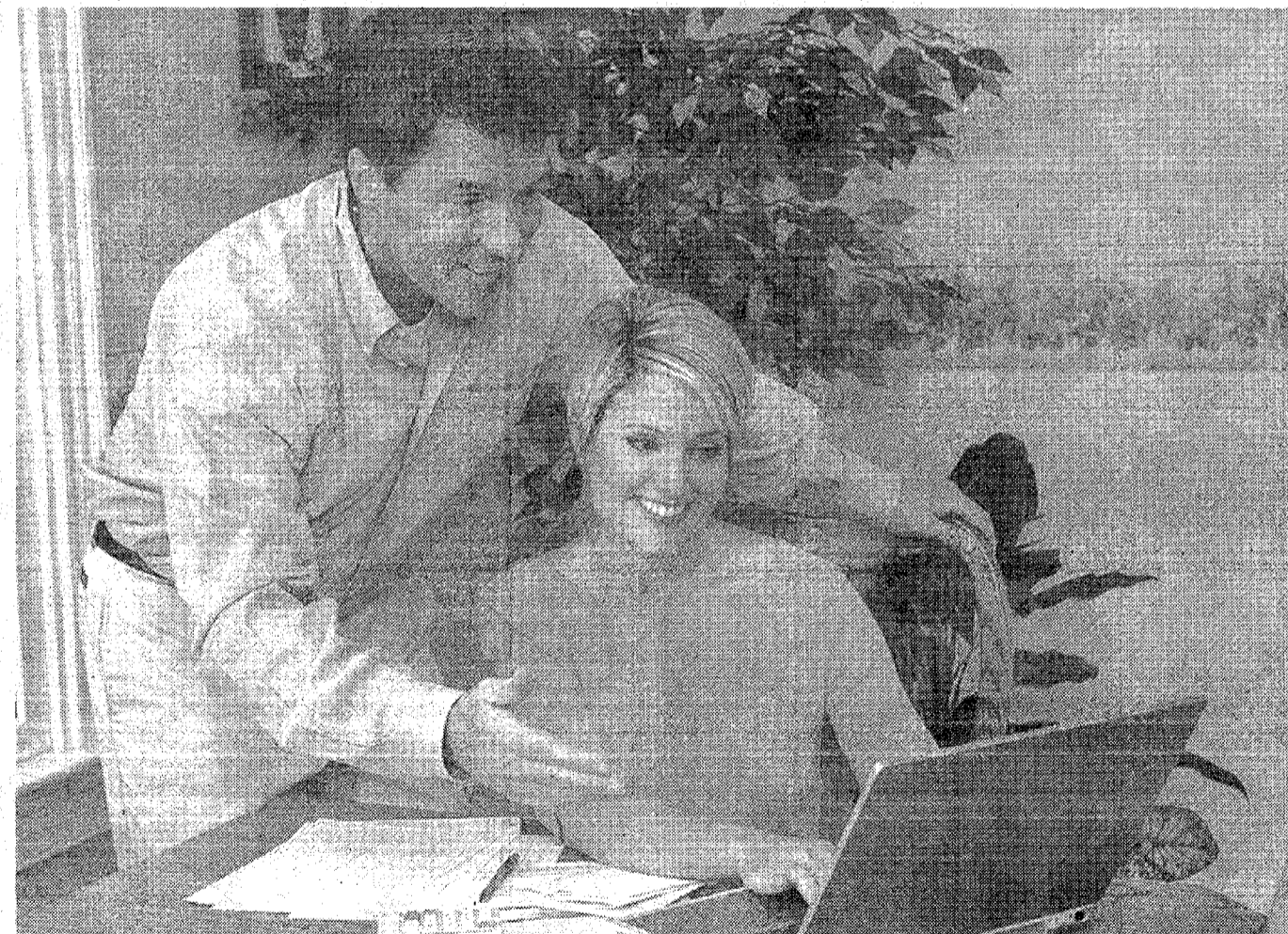
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SLUGGISH CO-WORKER MAY BE VULNERABLE

WORKWISE
by **Mildred L. Culp**



You may be working on a highly motivated team to get results and all of you discover that one team member isn't pulling his weight. You ask each other, "What's the problem?" At first glance, you might think that he feels above his job description.

An attitude of superiority may well be a smokescreen, advises Mike Cook, author of "Thrive: Standing On Your Own Two Feet in a Borderless World" (St. Lynn's Press, \$18.95). "The team member may sense that he can't do what he's supposed to do on the team. He is resistant to needing other people. This may be a vulnerability issue. Avoiding vulnerability costs the team and the organization money and time. We hide our limitations and create clever stories to deflect the focus of attention away from us onto the situation and other co-workers." Through Vitalwork Inc., of Rochester, N.Y., Cook consults with individuals and organizations to increase self-management rather than fall back upon management structures when interpersonal problems arise.

John Mautner, CEO of Chicago's Cycle of Success Institute, agrees that failure to contribute exacts a price, often causing a "ripple throughout the company that drags others down," especially when they realize

that poor productivity is acceptable for one individual. "It becomes meaningless (to them) to work harder," he says. The Institute offers a one-year educational program to increase profitability and empower employees to improve their organizations.

"RUTHLESS COMPASSION"
How can you determine before a behavior is ingrained that your team member is lagging behind? Pay attention immediately when you see that the person isn't contributing. Watch to see whether this is the beginning of a pattern, or an exception.

Cook says to observe how the person responds to requests. "How does he prioritize them?" he asks. "Does he favor some people/tasks over others? Does he operate more from a platform of compliance with certain aspects of the job and other things just can't wait? You've got to take action" if a pattern of non-participation emerges.

Then what? "Talk straight with ruthless compassion," Cook explains. He offers a script with a:

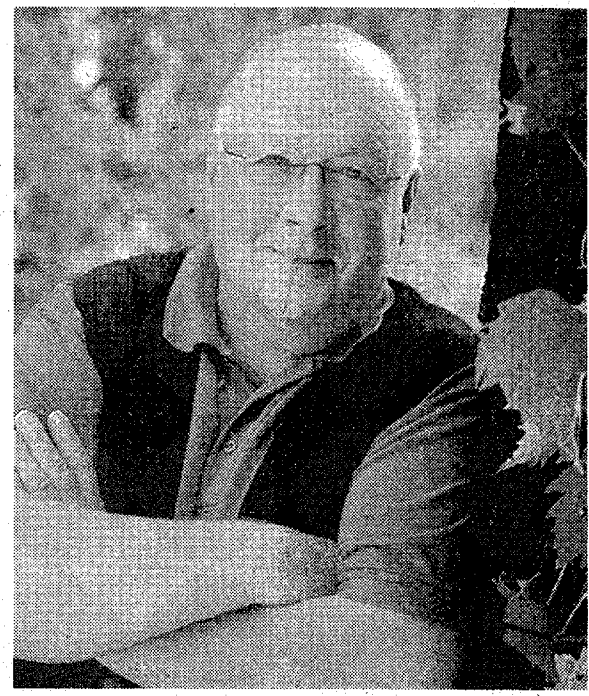
- positive statement about the person;
- reference for "accepting the position in good faith," for whatever reason;
- description of what you as a team member can expect, such as work of good quality delivered on time; and
- commitment statement, such as "I'd like your commitment that I can count on you and that your personal unhappiness won't interfere with your performance."

Jim Bolton, CEO of Ridge Associates in Cazenovia, N.Y., advocates approaching the

situation in the spirit of "mutual influence" so that your teamwork is more effective. He agrees that you have to "convey that you're vested in the person's success."

If the team member refuses to make a commitment, Cook says to state that you are committed to productivity for the organization and aren't "willing to have you damage your reputation - or mine." The next step is to take action.

Mautner is less optimistic about the process, noting that many companies lack weekly, measurable performance standards. He further maintains that co-workers have limited power. He recommends pulling together as a team if you do have performance standards and arranging an intervention. Meet and exert peer pressure by "explaining . . . that he's dragging down the team, affecting your bonus or the success of the company." Then explain specifically what the person needs to do to. If nothing changes, open communication with your manager.



Mike Cook is the author of "Thrive: Standing On Your Own Two Feet in a Borderless World," where he discusses the importance of developing high-level interpersonal skills to complete with the global marketplace, and persuade a co-worker not to be underproductive.

The first method truly requires risk-taking. It requires you to "get related to co-workers in an extraordinary manner . . . through relationships, but not accidental relationships," Cook states. He adds that we're all competing with other workers worldwide, that this new workplace is filled with rising expectations while the employee base shrinks. "You have to figure out how to make yourself attractive to the employer and co-workers, more so than the other guy," he states. "Make yourself easy to work with." (Dr. Mildred L. Culp is an award-winning journalist. Copyright 2007 Passage Media.)



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Thursday, February 8, 2007

fitlife



A tribute to
PAGE 6
Ray Charles

Valentine's Day events PAGE 3

This show is 'dirty' PAGE 4

John Waters' latest PAGE 5

Tour Europe at
Pi Restaurant PAGE 8

John Waters sends out a sonic valentine

John Waters has a crush on you. To prove it, he made you a mix tape of all his favorite love songs.

On *A Date With John Waters*, the irreverent filmmaker seduces listeners to fall in love with — or at least like — him and his oddball collection of music.



Noise Patrol

Stephanie Angelyn Casola

films would expect.

Cleverly timed for Valentine's Day, *A Date with John Waters* sounds candy-heart-sweet and nearly unclassifiable. Songs lean toward folk, punk, pop, big band and beyond.

Swoon to classics like (*Night Time Is The Right Time* by Ray Charles, and *All I Can Do is Cry* by Ike and Tina Turner.

Easily recognizable by his rail-like frame and pencil-thin mustache, Waters is perhaps best-known for shocking-but-sweet movies like the gross-out cult classic *Pink Flamingoes*, crossover hit *Hairspray* or more recently *Pecker* and *A Dirty Shame*. Turns out Waters' taste in music is just as playful and peculiar as fans of those



John Waters asks "Will you be my Valentine?" with the release of a compilation CD.

Sing along to *Hit the Road to Dreamland* by Dean Martin or the raspy hit *Ain't Got No Home* by Clarence "Frogman" Henry. But don't miss raucous moments like Elton Motello's *Jet Boy Jet Girl*, or *Johnny Are You Queer?* by Josie Cotton.

Waters couldn't resist including stars from his own films. Check out Mink Stole's rendition of *Sometimes I Wish I Had a Gun* or original "Egg Lady" Edith Massey's crackly take on *Big Girls Don't Cry*.

PLEASE SEE WATERS, E15

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We can't stop loving Ray Charles

Musican's songs
highlighted at Fisher

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

Ray Charles' music has influenced styles ranging from rock 'n' roll to jazz, from blues to big band, and even gospel and country.

Groups ranging from Humble Pie to Creedence Clearwater Revival, Louis Armstrong to Coldplay, recorded songs he wrote or performed.

For native Detroit Terrence D. Forsythe, the music inspires him spiritually.

"Ray Charles' music is very exciting, entertaining and soothing. It's a wonderful opportunity to feel the energy, the synergy of his music," Forsythe said.

"Everyone has a sense of his spirit, the musicians who play his music, the dancers who

dance to it, and the singers who sing his songs. They are grateful to Ray Charles and his spirit."

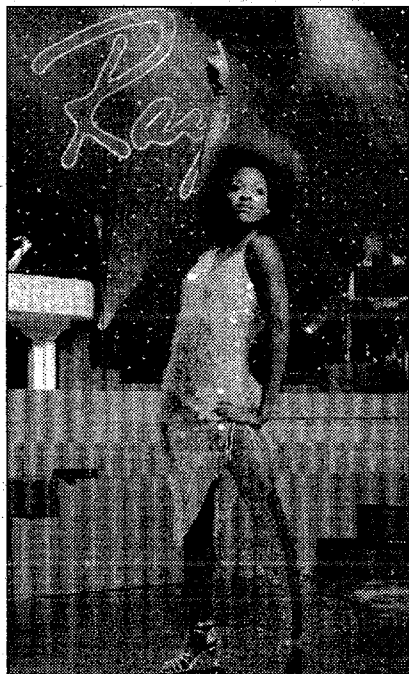
Forsythe will be returning home to perform as a vocalist and narrator for *I Can't Stop Loving You - The Music of Ray Charles*, a musical tribute to Charles, at the Fisher Theatre

Feb. 13
through
March 4.

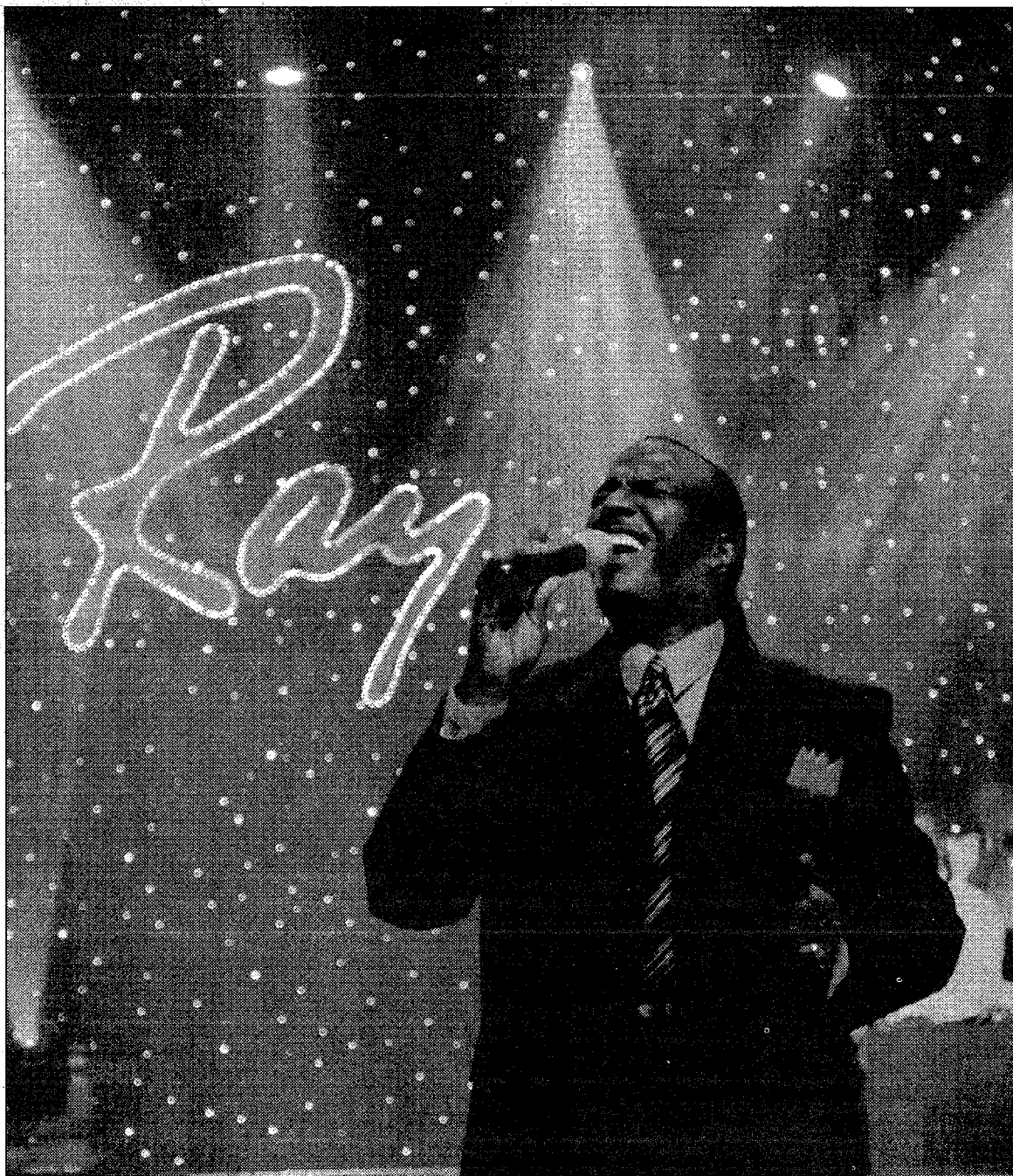
Since Charles' death in 2004, his life has been chronicled in the movie *Ray*, starring Jamie Foxx, and an international best seller, *Brother Ray*. Charles' best selling album to date, *Genius Loves Company*, was released in 2005.

Forsythe believes Charles remains affixed in pop culture because "he went through

his own trials and tribulations." "He lost his sight at the age of 7, lost his family at a young age, but he held onto his passion for



I Can't Stop Loving You - The Music of Ray Charles features six singers, 12 dancers and an orchestra.



PHOTOS BY SEBASTIAN DEVILLE

Terrence D. Forsythe sings at *I Can't Stop Loving You - The Music of Ray Charles*.

music. That was one gift that God gave to him," Forsythe said.

"His messages of the truth he delivers when he performs. I feel the passion, the pain and the joy in his songs. It's stimulating and helps those who are not in touch with their spirit. It's a place of peace and a safe haven."

Forsythe is one of six singers, along with 12 dancers and an orchestra, performing the show's 33-35 songs running about two hours. He was a theme arranger and performer with Boyz II Men, was lead vocalist for ABC's *The Ditch Digger's Daughter* and *Royal Family* with Della Reese and Redd Foxx. Forsythe expects to release a gospel CD, *God Is All There Is*, within the next few months.

I Can't Stop Loving You delivers hit after hit of the music that

Charles made famous including *Georgia On My Mind*, *Hit The Road, Jack*, *You Don't Know Me*, *Shake A Tail Feather*, *What'd I Say*, *Bye Bye Love* and many other classics.

Known as "Brother Ray" or simply "The Genius," Charles was born in 1930 in Albany, Ga., and blind by the age of 7. Charles started his recording career in the late 1940s. He soon began his mixture and experimentation within musical genres winning him 17 Grammy® Awards over his lifetime.

Gary Lloyd, director and choreographer, has worked with many artists including Dame Shirley Bassey, Pink, G4, Robbie Williams and Kelly Clarkson. He has directed and choreographed arena tours including

PLEASE SEE RAY, E15

I CAN'T STOP LOVING YOU -

THE MUSIC OF RAY CHARLES

Where: Fisher Theatre, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit

When: Feb. 13-March 4

Times: 8 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 2 p.m. Saturday, 2 and 7:30 p.m. Sunday.

Tickets: \$32.50-\$67.50, through Ticketmaster outlets and Fisher Theatre box office. Tickets may also be purchased by calling (248) 645-6666 or online at www.BroadwayInDetroit.com or at www.ticketmaster.com. Groups of 20 or more can receive a discount by calling (313) 871-1132.

For additional information, visit www.BroadwayInDetroit.com or call (313) 872-1000 or visit the official *I Can't Stop Loving You - The Music of Ray Charles* Web site at www.geniusofray.com. The Detroit engagement is part of the LaSalle Bank Subscription Series.

DIRTY

FROM PAGE E4

spreading)."

This year's show will feature original prints and lithographs by H.R. Giger, a Swiss surrealist at the forefront of the erotic art movement who is perhaps best known for his elaborate design work in the film *Alien*.

His agent, Les Barany, has been involved with the organization of similar shows in New York City and Switzerland. He placed more than 20 artists in this year's Dirty Show.

Among them is legendary tattoo artist Vincent Castiglia, known for using his own blood and water in his art. His paintings tend to be explicit but not intentionally sexually provocative - though, he admitted, many viewers have that perception.

"My work tends to illustrate - in many instances - various sympathies and antipathies between the sexes, the sex organs, and explores the meta-structure of human matter that attracts, the ceaseless drama of the male and female," Castiglia said. "So I believe my subject matter fits in with the erotic art genre quite well, and I hope it will be a success at The Dirty Show."

Castiglia will exhibit four paintings this year: *Feeding II*, *Anatomical Polarity*, *Reflection* and *Ray II*.

Visitors can keep an eye out for Sculptor Colin Christian, who works in fiberglass and silicone to create 3D art inspired by pin-up girls and anime. Local favorite BT Charles

THE DIRTY SHOW

What: The 8th annual international art exhibition, sponsored by Sveden Vodka and Cocaine Energy Drink (that's the name of the drink, it doesn't contain cocaine).

When: Shows for 21 and over only: 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. Friday, Feb. 9; Gala from 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 10. Shows for 18 and over: 1-6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 11, noon to midnight, Wednesday, Feb. 14.

Where: Bert's Warehouse Theatre, 2739 Russell Street, Eastern Market, Detroit.

Tickets: \$15 in advance. Purchase online or find more information at www.dirtydetroit.com.

has also submitted work. He'll be included in Tashen Publishing's upcoming book, *The New Erotic Photography*. And Pablo Davis, the 90-year-old artist who assisted Diego Rivera on the famed Detroit Industry murals, contributed to this year's show.

"Erotic art is really fun," Vile said. "We tried to keep it fun. It brings people out of the woodwork."

Organizers expect at least 2,000 people to attend per night, for the four-day event. Timed near Valentine's Day, Vile said it's a popular place to take a date.

"You don't have to shop at Noir Leather to fit in at The Dirty Show," said Vile. "We cannot begin to describe our demographic. It's too much of everybody." While the crowd is as diverse as the art, it's not the sort of show that will appeal to everyone. It's an adults-only affair, limited to those 18 and older - and on busier nights, to 21 and over.

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Pi Restaurant

New eatery offers European menu

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

Growing up in a household involving restaurants, Tony Gioutsos knew the hard work that was involved in it.

As a youth, Gioutsos helped out at his father's restaurant, but eventually pursued another calling. After he received bachelor's and master's degrees in electrical engineering from the University of Michigan, he moved quickly into the automotive field, working on air bags, designing numerous patents.

After 20 years in the auto industry, Gioutsos finds himself going full circle — he is a co-owner of Pi Restaurant and Banquet Hall in Southfield, along with nearby Il Posto Restaurant.

About eight months ago Gioutsos and two other business partners bought the former Caffe Milano where Excalibur once sat, and Il Posto, with two partners.

Gioutsos enjoyed his success in the

automotive field, but wanted a change, so he decided in a return to the business that his father did for 45 years. ("Call it a mid-life crisis," he jokes.) (His father's last restaurant was the Village Inn in Madison Heights.)

"I call it 'Pulp Fiction,' when you come back to where you started," said Gioutsos, who lives in Farmington Hills.

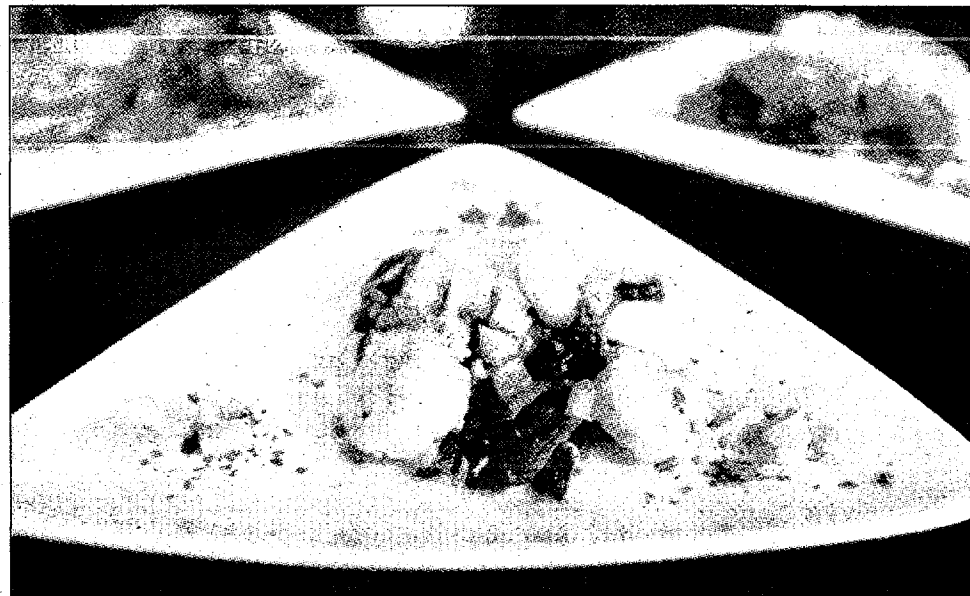
The three owners (the two others are silent partners) have retained Matteo

Giuffrida as executive chef, in charge of all three kitchens (Pi, Il Posto and Pi's Banquet Hall). The Il Posto menu remains unchanged, Gioutsos said.

Gioutsos and his partners named the restaurant Pi for several reasons, as he outlined them. "I'm Greek and it's a Greek letter, and it is the (ratio of) circumference of a circle (to its diameter). We have a European restaurant and we needed something from Europe, the pizza is really good here and so it can represent 'pizza pie,' and it's just a cool symbol."

Gioutsos and his partners wanted to

Table
Hopping



PHOTOS BY LAWRENCE MCKEE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Shrimp with Sauteed Spinach and Feta Cheese Au Gratin graces the menu at Pi Restaurant in Southfield.

drop the prices at the banquet hall, and change the menu from its previously Italian focus, and do the same at the site of the former Caffe Milano. When Gioutsos discussed European food with Giuffrida, they decided that they wanted a more diverse menu.

"Let's pretend you go to Europe, but you can come to our place," Gioutsos said. From Germany, you might order Schwein Kotolette, or grilled pork chop over cabbage with German bacon; from Ireland, you can partake in lamb stew, and from Greece, take a bite of the lamb chops. Italian dishes feature veal scaloppini

sauteed with artichoke hearts and fresh mint, and Pollo Cacciatore, chicken breast with tomato, capers, olives, peppers and garlic, among others.

Thin-crust pizzas, a specialty from Caffe Milano, remain on the menu and are served out of a brick oven.

Son Matthew is a chef at Pi. He's worked as a kitchen manager at Bacco and is a graduate of the culinary program at Schoolcraft College. Two other sons, Anthony and Alan, also work at the restaurant.

The owners remodeled the bar area. The 40-foot bar was finished in copper.

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Food fare: European-inspired dishes from 10 different countries, including Italy, Greece, Ireland, Portugal, France and others. Features bar, cigar bar/lounge, banquet facility at rear of parking lot of restaurant.

Cost: Lunch menu features appetizers, salads, pizza, sandwiches, pasta and entrees, \$6-\$16; dinner menu features appetizers, \$4-\$14; salads, \$4-\$7; pizza, \$7-\$13; pasta, \$11-\$18; entrees, \$13-\$29.

Bar stools were changed to add to the comfort level. They added a cigar/martini lounge.

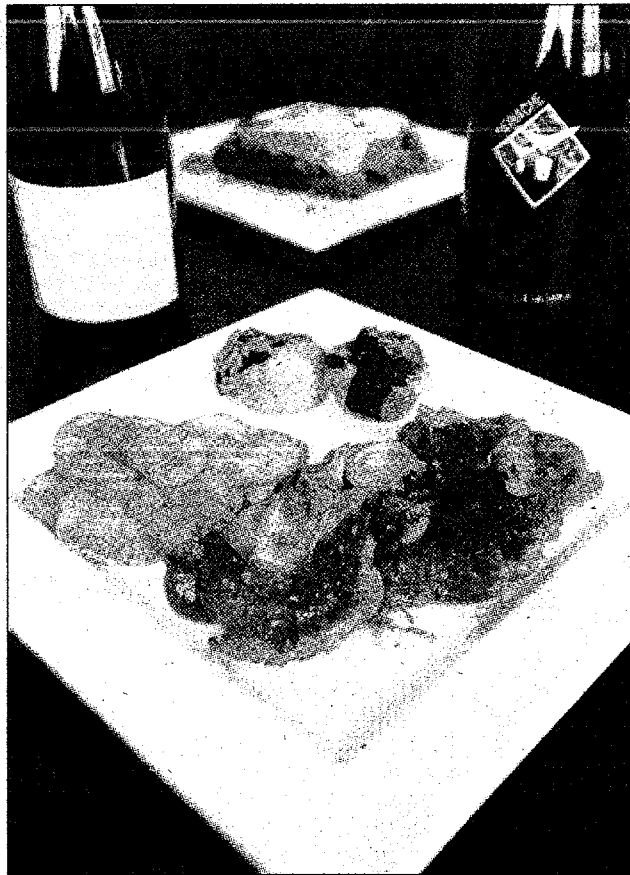
Four high-definition televisions were added, and the lighting was changed. A drop ceiling was removed and new lighting installed in a new industrial-style ceiling.

Florida ceiling sheers were used as room dividers.

"You get a feel you were in Southern Europe someplace - Greece, Italy, south of France," Gioutsos said.

Two dining areas seat 95, the bar holds about 50 people and the banquet hall seats about 350.

Gioutsos wants to fill the need in a price range below the expensive, high-



Veal Scaloppini sauteed with artichoke hearts and fresh mint is one of the entrees at Pi Restaurant in Southfield.

end restaurants. There's a "big drop off" between the expensive and lower end restaurants, Gioutsos said.

"What is missing is the mid-range restaurant that's done well," Gioutsos said. "We wanted to take a mid-level price range and make it as good as you

can. You can get four-star food at prices people can afford."

Lunch prices are \$8-\$16, entrees priced at \$15-\$25. Lamb chops are the most expensive item at \$29.

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Heat up Valentine's Day 2007 with dinner at one of these romantic retreats (it may be too late for a reservation, but why not schedule that romantic meal for another date at one of these places?):



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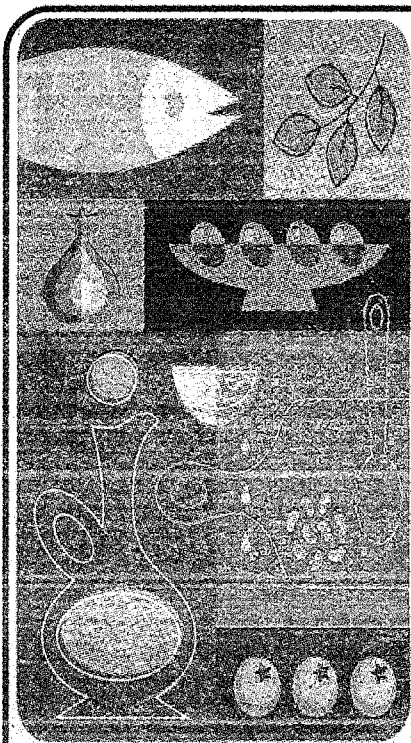
Lelli's, 885 N. Opdyke, Auburn Hills, (248) 373-4440

Tribute, 31425 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills, (248) 848-9393

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Compiled by Ken Abramczyk and Stephanie Casola



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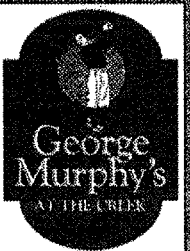
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MOVIE guide

Where available by deadline, features and times are listed.

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NEWSPAPERS

Call your local theatre for showings for this week. Please check listings below for phone numbers and websites.

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RAY

FROM PAGE E6

the first three U.S. tours of *American Idols Live*.

The other vocalists are Nedra Culp, who has performed with Wayne Newton and Tony Orlando; Mike Davis, who released an album *When Only a Friend Will Do*; Regi Brown, lead singer with Rose Royce who has appeared with Gladys Knight; Truth Hurts, a protégé of Dr. Dre and appeared on Busta Rhymes' *Break Ya Neck*, and Chris Murrell, gospel singer and former vocalist with the Count Basie Orchestra.

Forsythe's homecoming will be special for him.

He once sang at the Nazarene Baptist Church in Detroit, and sang in a group called the Citations while attending Highland Park High School. He worked at the Detroit Postal Service, then left for Los Angeles in 1985 to pursue his singing career.

Forsythe believes the Ray Charles musical is uplifting to anyone involved with it.

"Everyone has a sense of his spirit, the musicians who play his music, the dancers who dance to it, and the singers who sing his songs," Forsythe said.

"They are grateful to Ray Charles and his spirit."

Visit the Filter entertainment section at www.hometownlife.com for additional information on events scheduled in Detroit and the suburbs this weekend.

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WATERS

FROM PAGE E5


Released Feb. 6, this 14-song collection is bound to serve as the perfect soundtrack for a lonely hearts' bash on Feb. 14. Just make sure guests come dressed appropriately — think suits and skinny ties, or fringe and go-go boots.

Described by New Line Records as "heartfelt and touchingly bizarre," every moment on the compilation was hand-picked by Waters. It serves as a follow up to his quirky holiday romp, *A John Waters Christmas*.

Stephanie Angelyn Casola writes for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. She prefers white roses to red, blushes over heart-shaped boxes of chocolate, and can be reached at scasola@hometownlife.com or (248) 901-2567.

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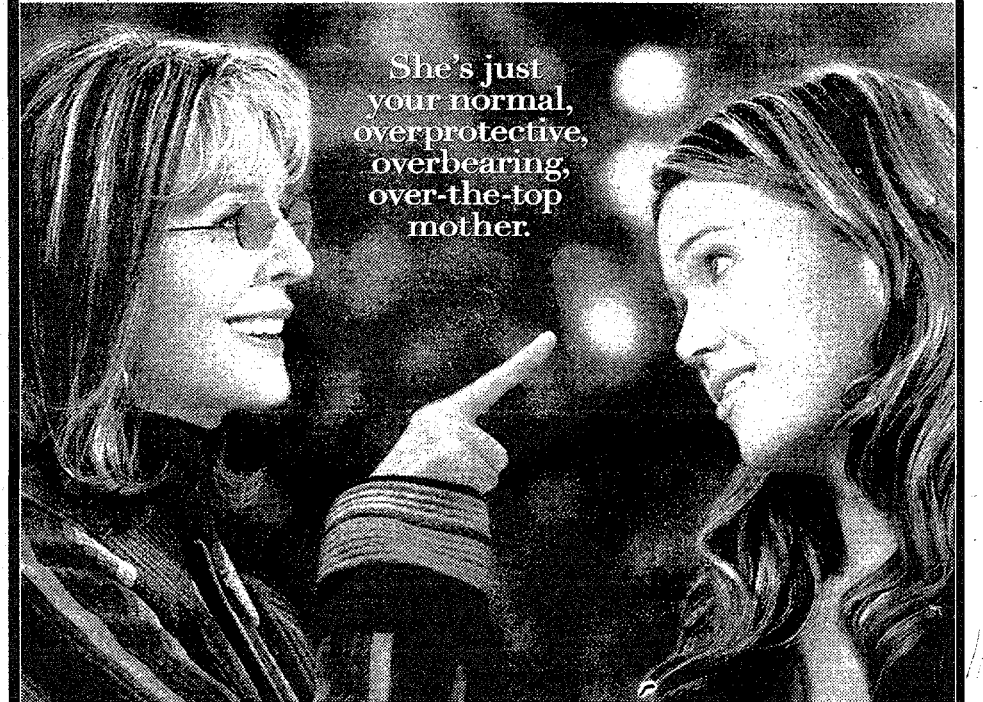
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After Lewis & Clark

The Forces of Change, 1806-1871

February 10 - April 29, 2007

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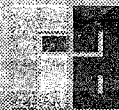
Alfred Jacob Miller American, 1810-1874 • *Buffalo Hunt* (detail) oil on canvas, 1840 30 x 44 inches
Image courtesy of the Gilcrease Museum, Tulsa, Oklahoma

This exhibition features 115 paintings, drawings and prints by artists who accompanied explorers, including Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, as they encountered the unexpected and unique subjects of the American West. The works, done between 1806 and 1871, by artists such as George Catlin, Karl Bodmer, Albert Bierstadt, and Thomas Moran, help to deepen our understanding of the West and its history.

After Lewis and Clark: The Forces of Change, 1806-1871 is organized by the Gilcrease Museum, Tulsa, Oklahoma. This exhibition is made possible by the following major sponsors: The Ralph and Frances McGill Foundation, The Trust Company of Oklahoma, and The Harold C. Stuart Foundation.

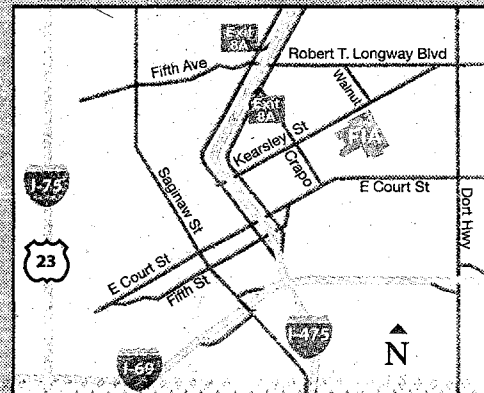
Gallery Hours
Tue - Sat, 10am - 5pm
Sun, 1-5pm

TARGET FREE SATURDAY

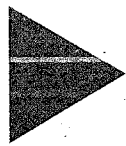


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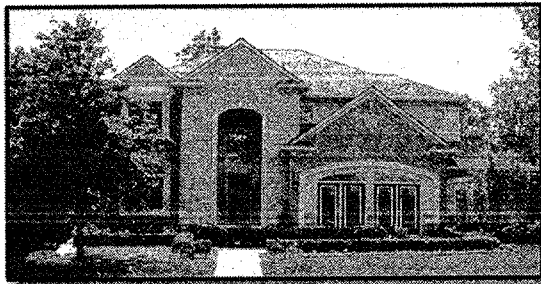


Homes sold ... **5**

Robert Meisner's column ... **9**



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FARMINGTON HILLS \$925,000
Home Theatre In Fin LL, granite & Corian Counters, dual Staircases, Wine Cellar, fin W/O Incl: FR, BR, Jack & Jill Bth, HW In 2-story Foyer, DR, & kit.
MLS# 27013767 248-347-3050



NOVI \$815,000
Great Lake Views! 2 Story Foyer w/marble Fl, Maple Cabs w/granite Cnters, Dual Staircases, Fr W/Stone Fp, Jack & Jill Bth, Beach, clubhouse & Pool in sub
MLS# 27009870 248-347-3050



BAY HARBOR \$575,000
Kit w/granite, Viking stove & HW flrs. 150 bottle wine cooler; 42" flat screen; steam shower in mstr bth; minutes from golf club, beach, & yacht club
MLS# 26218713 248-347-3050



NORTHVILLE \$550,000
2.5 Car Gar, HW In 2 Story Foyer, 1/2 Bth, DR, Study, Hallways & Kit., Dual Staircases, Kit W/Cherry Cabs Patio, Clubhouse & Pool In Golf Course.
MLS# 27008617 248-347-3050



WEST BLOOMFIELD \$550,000
Marble Foyer, 12' ceiling, Granite Kitchen w/42" cabinets, Hrdwd Flr, Fam Rm w/coffered ceiling, frpl & Wet Bar, Vaulted Mstr w/Glam bth & 3+ Garage.
MLS# 27005446 248-347-3050



PLYMOUTH \$499,900
Phenomenal Home! 4 BR, 3-1/2 bath Colonial. Gourmet kitchen (all appls incl). Luxurious Master. Dramatic 2-story FR w/gas FP. All BR's have bathrooms.
MLS# 27010226 734-453-6800



COMMERCE \$475,000
1st Fir Mstr Ste. Updated Eat-in kit w/granite, Updated Bth w/granite. Cathedral Ceilings, Part Fin Bsmt & 3.5 Gar. All Sports Lake & Beach Access.
MLS# 27014777 248-347-3050



NOVI \$475,000
Dim Roof-tear off '06, New Granite In Kit, New Carpet T/O, Fin Bsmt W/BR, Bth, Rec Rm & GR. 3.5 Gar, FR W/ Fp, New Cabs In Study, Extr Freshly Painted.
MLS# 27004876 248-347-3050



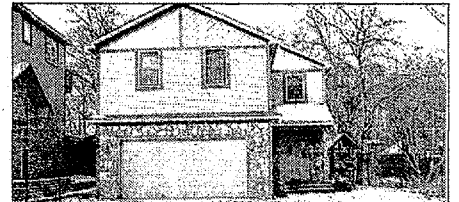
NOVI \$460,000
New Dim Roof Shingles-tear off, HW Fir In Foyer, 1/2 Bth & Kit, Fin Bsmt W/wet Bar, Rec Rm & 1/2 Bth. Paver Patio, 1st Fir Lndry, Fr W/cathedral Ceiling
MLS# 27009596 248-347-3050



NORTHVILLE \$400,000
Custom Home w/Gourmet granite kitchen, 9' ceilings, Hrdwd Flrs, Frml Living & Dining Rm, Mstr w/2 walk-in closets, Glamour bath & finished LL.
MLS# 27012899 248-347-3050



YPSILANTI \$399,000
Country Estate W/5 Acres. 5 BR, Mstr Ste. Sliders Leading To Balcony Fin LL. New Sliding Glass Drs, New Stove, Oven, Dishwasher. Horses Are Allowed.
MLS# 27014818 248-347-3050



WEST BLOOMFIELD \$388,900
4 BR, 3 Bth Home Right On Canal To Cass Lake. 3000+ sq ft. Living Space. Pella Windows, Maple HW Flrs, All New Bths, Paver Patio Overlooks Water. Fin LL
MLS# 27008008 248-347-3050



LIVONIA \$375,000
Maple Kitchen, 1/2 Bth, New Carpeting, Furnace, Hwh, Circular Drive. Fin Bsmt W/full Bth. 1st Fir Den w/closet & Can Be Used As BR. Large Eat-in Kit.
MLS# 27011356 248-347-3050



CANTON \$374,900
Stunning 4 BR, 2.1 BA with all the upgrades! Cherry cab t/o, berber t/o & ceramic baths. Paver patio w/built in BBQ & hot tub. Finished basement too!
MLS# 27010868 734-453-6800



WEST BLOOMFIELD \$369,900
HW Flrs, Cstm Strcse, New Ceramic Flrs T/o Kit & 1st Fir Lndry, 2 Stry Foyer, Gourmet Kit, Butlers Pntry, Mst Ba W/jet Tub. Crown Mldg & 9' Ceilings
MLS# 27011946 248-347-3050



COMMERCE \$365,000
Open Flr Plan, Vaulted Great Rm, frpl, Gourmet Kitchen w/hrdwd flr, 4 Season sunroom, 1st flr Mstr, Daylight Lower Level w/wet bar, Media rm & Bedroom
MLS# 27008040 248-347-3050



PLYMOUTH \$347,500
Highly desired "Mallards Pond". Gourmet kitchen. Dramatic GR w/soaring clg & gas FP. Lux 1st flr master w/pan clg. 1st flr study. 2nd BR is a suite.
MLS# 27009591 734-453-6800



VAN BUREN \$299,900
Unique mid-level master w/mid-level laundry. Eat-in kit w/walk-in pantry open to GR w/FP. Swing rm can be LR, DR or study. 3 car gar. W/O bsmt.
MLS# 26205965 734-453-6800



NOVI \$280,000
Vaulted Ceiling In Mstr & Study, GR W/Fp, 42" Cabs In Kit W/corlan Counter & Hw Fl, 2 Story Foyer W/loft, Jack & Jill Bth, Deck, 2 Car Rear Entry Gar
MLS# 27011072 248-347-3050



NOVI \$265,000
End Unit! 2 Story Foyer, 9' Ceilings On 1st Fir, 1st Fir Lndry, HW Flrs, Kit W/Maple Cabs & SS Appl's, Offering \$5,000 Toward Buyers closing Costs.
MLS# 27006017 248-347-3050



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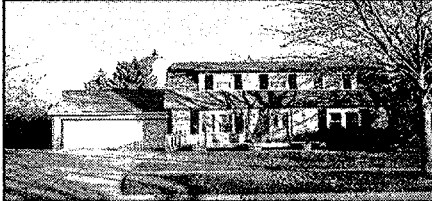


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WESTLAND \$265,000
 4 BR 2.5 Bth Colonial W/2nd Flr Lndry, Newer Appls, Hot Tub & Deck In Back. Gas FP In FamRm. Updates Incl, Carpet, Granite Cnter Tops, Paint, HW Flrs.
 MLS# 27010728 248-347-3050



LIVONIA \$259,900
 Pool For Family & Friends To Enjoy. Extended Fr, Overlooking Pool. Updates Incl; Windows & Furnace, HW Flrs In BRs. Deck & Brick Paver Patio Off Pool.
 MLS# 27008149 248-347-3050



CANTON \$229,900
 3 BR 2.5 Bth. Rms Neutral T/o, Crown Molding, Walk To Subs 2 Pools. Updates: Vinyl Siding, Insulation, Carpet, Paint, Shed, Cabs In Laun Rm & Wet Bar
 MLS# 27014060 248-347-3050



NORTHVILLE \$225,000
 Walking Distance To Downtown. 3 BR Home Has 1st Flr Lndry & Most Appls Stay. Home Has Lovely backyard W/ Lrg Deck. Award Winning Northville Schools.
 MLS# 27012903 248-347-3050



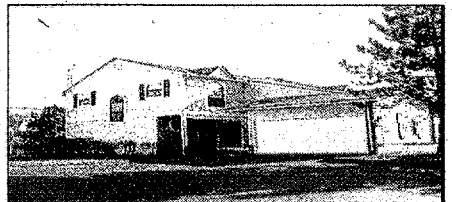
CANTON \$217,500
 Priced to sell fast! Light-bright kitchen. Open FR w/gas FP. Formal DR. 1st flr laundry. Hdwd flrs in LR. New roof 05. Updated wndws. Court setting.
 MLS# 27009503 734-453-6800



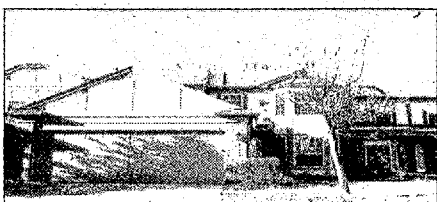
LIVONIA \$210,000
 Custom brick Ranch w/updates galore! Master Ste w/ skylight, custom closets & priv glamour bath w/double sinks & 2 person shower w/ceramic.
 MLS# 27007679 734-453-6800



NOVI \$199,500
 3BR, 1-1/2BA updated ranch. Light-bright updated kitchen. Furn/AC & roof all newer. Replacement wndws t/o. Spac BR,s w/California closet organizers.
 MLS# 27010931 734-453-6800



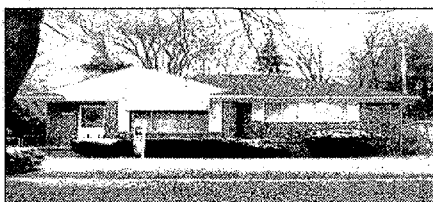
WEST BLOOMFIELD \$194,900
 Sharp. Big as a house, window wrapped end unit features 3 bedrooms, finished basement & 1st floor laundry w/washer and dryer. New kitchen appliances.
 MLS# 26208614 248-646-1800



CANTON \$189,900
 Located on quiet cul-de-sac. 2BR 2.1BA Condo, prof painted. BR,s have priv BA & lg closets. GR w/vaulted cigs, skylite, FP. Fin LL. Condo has it all!
 MLS# 27009613 734-453-6800



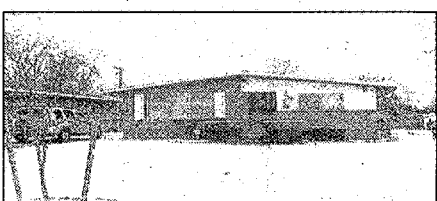
COMMERCE \$180,000
 Updated Ranch on oversized wooded lot w/open flr plan, Kitchen w/new appls, Dual mstr suites w/private baths, full basement & fin 2+ attached garage!
 MLS# 27014041 248-347-3050



PLYMOUTH \$174,900
 Brick ranch in Plymouth Twp. Enormous kit-nook. 20x12 sun rm. Full fin bsmt w/BR, dry bar & shower. Newer furn 03; newer roofs, maint free exterior.
 MLS# 27008631 734-453-6800



LIVONIA \$172,500
 3 BR 1.5 Bth Ranch Incl's All Appls, Lrg Fam Rm, Carpeted Fin Bsmnt W/ 1/2 Bth, HW Flrs T/o, Enclosed Back Patio, 2 Car Gar & An Above Ground Pool.
 MLS# 26209577 248-347-3050



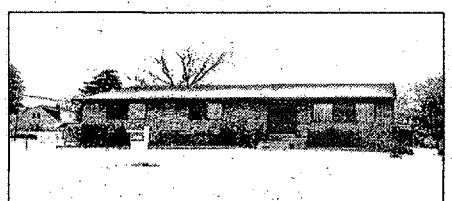
LIVONIA \$169,900
 Open Flr Plan W/Updated Eat In Kit W/all Appls. Cathedral Ceilings. Lrg Deck Connecting LR & Mstr BR. P. Fin Bsmt W/bar, 1/2 Bth, Storage & 1.5 Gar.
 MLS# 27014480 248-347-3050



LIVONIA \$158,900
 BR W/1300 SqFt. Sep DR, Lndry Rm W/addtl Storage. 2 Car Gar W/Workshop Addt. Updates: Tearoff roof, Kit & Bth, Windows, Trim, Siding, & Flooring.
 MLS# 27003235 248-347-3050



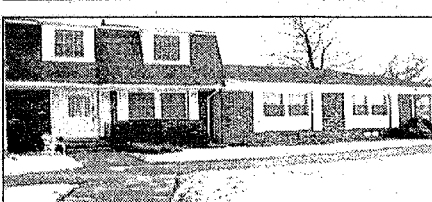
CANTON \$157,000
 Mint condition Condo has upgraded kitchen w/custom appliances & beautiful hdwd floors. Huge master suite, private balcony. Great location near pool!
 MLS# 27004271 734-453-6800



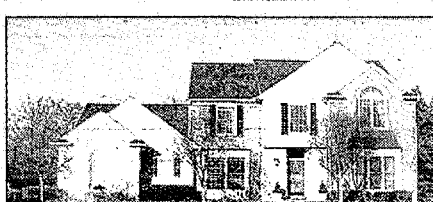
WESTLAND \$152,500
 3 BR, 2 Bth, P. Fin Bsmnt had Full Bath & Lots Of Storage. Eat In Kit W/Lots Of Cabs & Closet Space. Large Lot With Fenced Backyard. See And Buy!
 MLS# 27013476 248-347-3050



LIVONIA \$139,900
 3 BR, 2.5 Bth. 2 Car Garage W/opener. Kit Counters, HW flrs, C/A. Basement W/Bar, 2nd Kit & Tons Of Storage Space! Large Fenced Yard. Livonia Schools.
 MLS# 27013552 248-347-3050



NORTHVILLE \$120,000
 Large bedrooms w/walk-in closet, private patio, full basement. Enjoy the lake, pool, tennis courts & club house.
 MLS# 27011932 734-453-6800



NOVI \$525,000
 Spectacular acre lot backing to woods! Large open floor plan with beautiful sunroom, outstanding updates - roof, windows, siding. All baths. Awesome fin bsmt.
 MLS# 26217085 248-347-3050



NOVI \$225,000
 Island kit w/42" maple cabs, all appliances. Cathedral ceilings in GR, hdwd floors in GR, foyer, hall & kitchen. 1st floor master ste w/glam bath & sep shower.
 MLS# 27017916 248-347-3050

Some hot ideas to enjoy winter's cold weather

(NAPSI) — A hot idea that homeowners across the nation are warming to is outdoor entertaining during the winter. Not only is the crisp winter air refreshing, but bug activity is also low. Outdoor entertaining also extends the living space of your home. Here are four tips that will help get your home ready for winter entertaining:

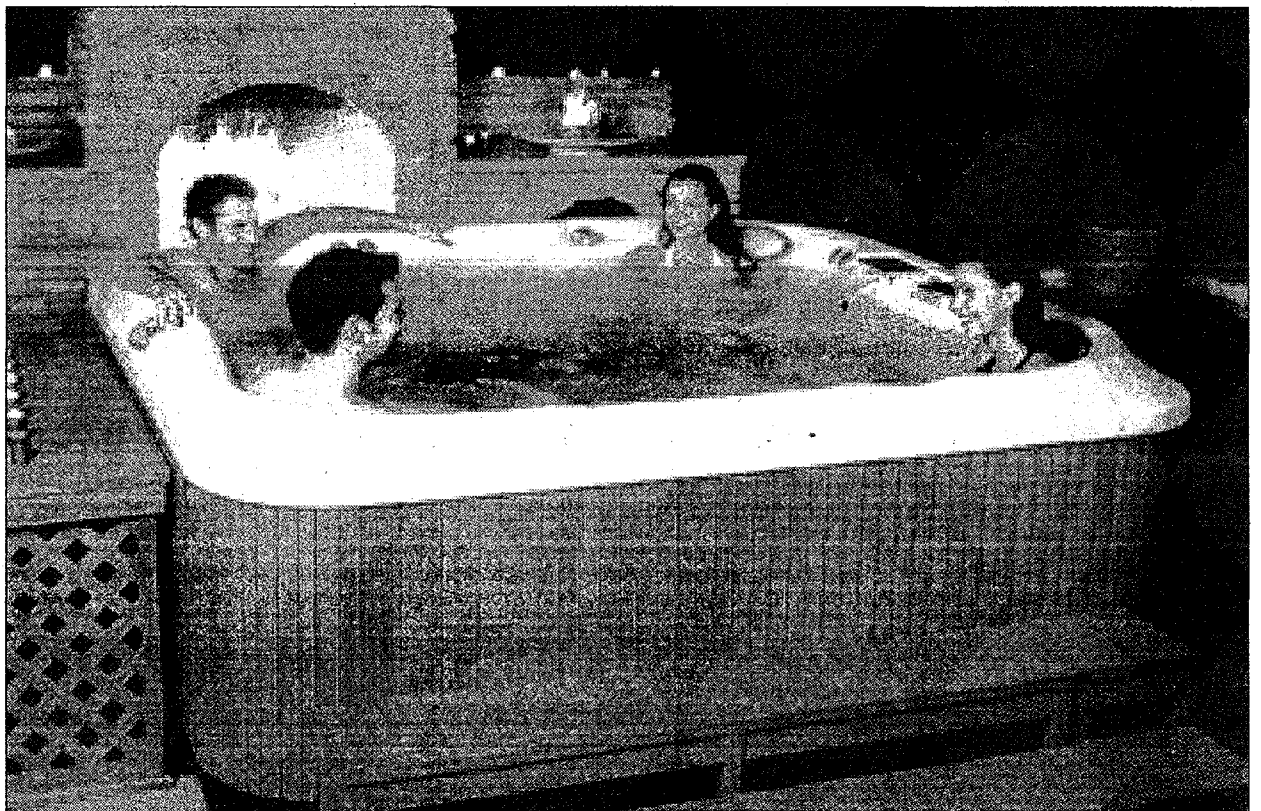
- Have a hot-tub party
- Add a simple outdoor fireplace or fire pit
- Buy an enclosed gazebo
- Set the mood at night with candles or outdoor lighting.

Outdoor hot tubs continue to gain popularity with families. The main reason is that there's nothing quite like relaxing in a bubbling spa with warm, steamy water on a cold day. In fact, hot tubs are more than just warm water and a few jets. Many include CD stereo systems with MP3 plugs and docking stations made for iPods, and four-season water features that operate when you want.

"Hot tubs and wintertime have a long history together — it's the perfect pairing after skiing or anytime people want to socialize," said Erica Moir, vice president of Sundance Spas, the largest acrylic spa manufacturer in the United States.

In addition to hot tubs, a few smart and simple accessories make cold-weather entertaining a hot idea. Look for privacy gazebos, fire pits and illumination features to make the transformation complete.

For more ideas, visit www.sundancespas.com or www.jacuzzi.com.



Jacuzzi is one of several top manufacturers with steamy hot tubs that double as entertainment centers.



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Homes change for the better with Energy Star features

(NewsUSA) — More home buyers are discovering they can save money when they choose the efficiency, comfort and indoor air quality of an Energy Star-qualified new home. Through the use of energy-efficient construction and features, Energy Star homes can trim homeowners' monthly utility bills up to 30 percent.

And with the high value associated with manufactured housing, Energy Star-certified manufactured homes will save the owner even more.

In fact, Energy Star-qualified new homes from national builders like Clayton Homes can offer lower operating costs than typical homes. All of Clayton Homes' manufacturing facilities, as well as its retail locations (including Clayton Homes, LUV Homes, Oakwood Homes, Crossland Homes, Country Squire Homes, Freedom Homes and International Homes), are Energy Star partners.

Energy Star-qualified homes feature tighter construction to eliminate drafts; block the entry of airborne pollutants, pests and moisture; and reduce

Energy Star, a joint program of the EPA and the U.S. Department of Energy, has a goal of preventing about 9 million metric tons of carbon emissions by the year 2012 through the qualification of homes for the Energy Star label.

outside noise while maintaining the desired temperature throughout the house.

"We're proud to be associated with a new generation of homes that are great values for homeowners and positively affect the environment," said Rick Strachan, president of Clayton Homes Manufacturing, a six-time Manufacturer of the Year award winner through the Manufactured Housing Institute.

Many homeowners are surprised to learn that, according to the Environmental Protection Agency, a

house can be a greater source of pollution than a car.

Home energy use accounts for 15 percent of energy consumption nationwide and nearly 17 percent of the total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions. Energy Star, a joint program of the EPA and the U.S. Department of Energy, has a goal of preventing about 9 million metric tons of carbon emissions by the year 2012 through the qualification of homes for the Energy Star label.

With the help of the program, Americans saved enough energy in 2005 alone to avoid greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to those from 23 million cars — while saving \$12 billion on their utility bills.

In addition, owners of Energy Star-qualified new homes can qualify for other financial benefits, including preferred utility rebates, according to Clayton Homes, which became the first-ever home manufacturer to certify all of its plants with Energy Star compliancy. To explore how to stretch your housing dollar during your home-buying decision, visit www.clayton.net.

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MULTI FAMILY 2 bd brick home in quiet neighborhood. Side drive w/garage, updated roof, 3 additional lots avail. Call for more details.

\$85,000 (P-982EW) \$1,500



LAKE FRONT LIVING Newer condo located in Walled Lake w/private beach/boat access. Open floor plan, 3 bds, 2 baths, & clubhouse/area pool. 13th month lease w/1st month free.

(P-160SA) \$134,999



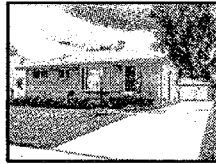
WALLED LAKE RANCH Beautiful ranch condo offering fresh paint, new carpet, attached Garage, private bsmt, & more. Great location & price!

(P-488DO) \$439,000



SALEM CAPE COD A must see! 4 bd, 2 full & 2 half baths, pond, pool, 2 tier Deck, 1st floor laundry, Maple Kitchen, finished walkout bsmt, built in 1999 & situated on 3 wooded acres. You won't be disappointed.

(P-043GL) \$157,900



ABSOLUTELY STUNNING Move right in & enjoy. 3 bd, 2 baths, remodeled Kitchen, all new mechanicals, pool, gazebo w/hot tub, & mechanics dream Garage.

(P-687BA) \$293,000



ENJOY THE VIEW Immaculate 4 bd, 2.5 bath colonial on a peaceful lot. Formal living & dining room, huge family room w/gas frpl, great Kitchen w/island & all appliances. Master suite, 2.5 car Garage, C/A, sprinklers, & Deck.

(P-440EM) \$121,900



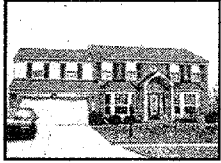
GREAT STARTER HOME Bright & clean on an extra deep lot. Brick ranch w/updated Kitchen, bath, windows, roof, deck, garage, & a beautiful yard. All appliances stay!

(P-936GA) \$205,000



A DREAM COME TRUE! Exquisite 3 bd brick colonial w/an updated Kitchen, built in appliances, newer roof, windows, Florida Room w/8 person hot tub, & seller will help with closing costs. Hurry, won't last long.

(P-550GR) \$205,000



MOVE RIGHT IN 4 bd, 2.5 bath colonial built in 2002. Family Room w/frpl, wood floors t/o, walkout bsmt, & Deck, huge front yard, & close view of a pond. Great location close to everything. A great rental or starter home. Must see!

\$299,900 (P-466GR) \$93,000



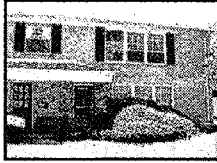
INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY 2 bd, 1 bath home in popular Royal Oak area. 1 car Garage, floors t/o, walkout bsmt, & Deck, open area upstairs could be library or study, Great Room wired for surround sound, & Patio area planted w/beautiful perennials.

(P-719HA) \$169,900



MOVE-IN CONDITION Decorated w/designer colors t/o. Hwd floors, attached Garage, open area upstairs could be library or study, Great Room wired for surround sound, & Patio area planted w/beautiful perennials.

(P-110NE) \$75,000



IT'S ALL HERE! Completely remodeled condo! New Kitchen cab's, new bath w/pedestal sink, vinyl windows, hwd floors, & awesome location close to everything.

(P-525TH) \$168,899



LOTS OF SPACE! Great 3 bd tri level w/loads of space. New roof, furnace, A/C, beautiful oak trim, updated oak Kitchen, updated bath, & huge Garage w/workshop.

(C-477BA) \$229,900



CAREFREE LIVING Unpack & relax, all the work is done. Canton colonial w/open floor plan, formal LR & DR, spacious maple Kitchen, Master w/bath, & bsmt.

(P-096CO) \$205,000



TURN KEY HOME Beautiful colonial in Old Orchard Sub. Totally remodeled t/o, 3 bd, 1.5 baths. 2 car Garage, updated windows, furnace, C/A, garage door, steel doors, fresh paint, & new Patio. Hurry, this will not last long!

(P-127EC) \$225,000



SIX MONTHS NEW! 2 bd, 2 bath condo in only building in complex w/bsmts. Honey maple Kitchen w/granite, LR w/frpl, Master w/jetted tub & 2 way frpl, 24 hour health club, close to town, & low taxes.

(P-328EN) \$225,000



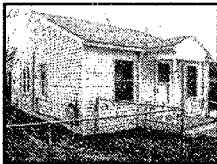
CUL DE SAC SETTING Canton ranch featuring lovely landscaping, great yard w/room for boat or Rv, 3 bd, 2.5 baths, dual frpl, formal LR & DR, newer Kitchen, neutral carpet t/o, & more.

\$242,900 (P-038EP) \$175,000



DUPLEX OR SINGLE FAMILY HOME Whitmore Lake 1800 sq. foot, 4 bedroom, 2 bath room for boat or Rv, 3 bd, 2.5 baths, dual frpl, formal LR & DR, newer Kitchen, neutral carpet t/o, & more.

(C-315FA) \$120,000



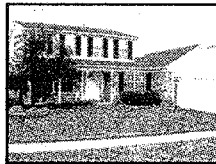
RANCH W/LAKE ACCESS Nicely updated ranch w/private access to Whitmore Lake. Updates include furnace, A/C, well, bathroom, plumbing, Kitchen counters, water softener, & neutral beds, 1bath, living room & kitchen.

(C-142FO) \$998,000



DOWNTOWN FARMINGTON Great location for this totally updated professional office building. 1st floor offers 5 offices, kitchen, elevated conference room, 4 more large skylit offices upstairs, & ample parking.

(C-604GR) \$264,900



ENTERTAIN FOR ALL SEASONS Open & airy colonial. Huge kitchen w/pantry, recessed lighting overlooks family room w/fireplace, 1st floor den & laundry, Backyard w/in-ground pool, Area tennis & clubhouse.

(C-274GU) \$126,900



CUTE RANCH 3 bd brick ranch on a pretty tree lined street. Freshly painted t/o, hwd, new furnace & C/A, part finished bsmt w/lav, & good location. Sellers are very motivated!

(C-944HE) \$149,800



A PERFECT GEM Great Canton condo features a cozy Living Room w/frpl, efficient Kitchen w/plenty of cab's & all appl, 1st floor laundry, private bsmt, & 1 car attached Garage.

(C-484HU) \$94,900



GREAT AREA! Cute 3 bd, 1.5 story home w/open floor plan, hwd floors, large Kitchen w/appl, updated bath, newer siding, windows, plumbing, large fenced yard w/barn style shed, & covered back porch.

(C-456JO) \$94,900



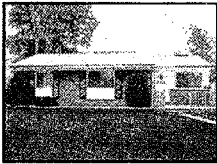
CANTON'S BEST CHOICE All your dreams at a great price! Experience the best of condo living w/vaulted ceilings, huge living w/vaulted ceilings, huge Theater area, 4 bd, 3 full & 3 half baths, extensive extended deck, & finished landscaping, 3 car Garage, & bsmt. Neutral t/o. Call today!

\$265,000 (C-491KI) \$469,900



WELCOME HOME Elegant home featuring a formal LR & DR, Family Room, Home Theater area, 4 bd, 3 full & 3 half baths, extensive extended deck, & finished landscaping, 3 car Garage, & much more.

(C-874LI) \$134,900



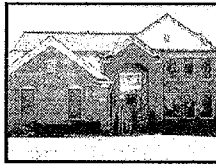
MOVE IN READY This very clean & well kept 3 bd ranch is waiting for you! Large Living Room, updated Kitchen & bath, private backyard w/pool, Deck, & garage.

(C-045LI) \$147,500



BRICK BUNGALOW Here is the one you've been waiting for! 4 bd, 2 bath home w/south Redford schools. Remodeled oak Kitchen, finished bsmt w/bar & sauna, heated Garage, fenced yard, & nicely decorated.

(P-402LU) \$368,000



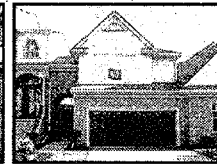
A SHINING STAR This Central Park estate home will get your attention! 2 story Foyer w/hwd, formal LR & DR, large Kitchen w/island & built-in appl, spacious Family Room w/frpl, & Master w/WIC & luxury bath.

(P-391MA) \$194,000



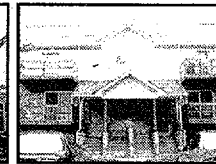
LARGE PRIVATE LOT Wonderful 4 bd home w/Livonia Schools. Hwd floors, vinyl windows, Living Room, Family Room, 2 car Garage, finished bsmt, & close to neighborhood park.

(P-520MI) \$324,900



CONVENIENTLY LOCATED This open 2 bd, 2 bath Livonia condo features a 2 story entry, formal Dining, large Kitchen w/nook, finished bsmt w/daylight windows, & good location.

(P-661NE) \$134,900



BRIGHT & AIRY This 2 bd Plymouth ranch condo is nicely updated t/o. Newer carpet, fixtures, skylights, Master w/WIC, good storage, & within walking distance to downtown.

(C-371PI) \$134,900



LOCATION! LOCATION! INCREDIBLE VALUE! Well maintained home featuring ranch on tree lined street in large open floor plan, nice area of well kept homes. numerous updates, oversized 2 car gar, fenced yard, new eat-in Kitchen, hwd floors, windows, furnace, & A/C, huge Florida Room w/hot tub, some new carpet, updated full bsmt, & so much more. bath, & full bsmt.

\$144,900 (C-216RU) \$159,900



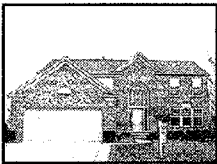
POPULAR LIVONIA SUB Lovely 4 bd, 2.5 bath colonial in highly sought after Kimberley Oaks Sub. Very quiet private backyard w/natural sound barrier, newer roof, windows, doorwall, driveway, patio, carpet, & updated Kitchen.

(C-036SC) \$239,390



OUT OF THE ORDINARY Nicely appointed colonial on a low traffic interior street. Nice Kitchen w/island, hwd floors, large Family Room w/gas frpl, prof finished lower level, & energy saving zoned heating.

(C-939SC) \$284,500



OUT OF THE ORDINARY Nicely appointed colonial on a low traffic interior street. Nice Kitchen w/island, hwd floors, large Family Room w/gas frpl, prof finished lower level, & energy saving zoned heating.

(C-585SH) \$284,500

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 1260 High Ridge South Of Ford West Of Sheldon LUSKY BUYERS ONLY! Immaculate & neutral 3 bd colonial featuring a private enclosed yard, 2 car side entry garage, multi level Deck, mmed occupancy, & all appliances stay. \$222,500 (P-260HI)	 341 Meadowlake Ct. South Of Cherry Hill East Of 275 WELL MAINTAINED COLONIAL Situated on a quiet court in Canton. Neutral t/o, new carpet t/o, 3 bd, 1.5 ba, LR w/ bay window, FR w/frpl, updated oak kit, Nook, & mstr w/WIC. Large private yard. \$174,900 (P-341ME)	 37903 Sunderland Ct. South Of 14 Mile West Of Halstead SPACIOUS COLONIAL Great home featuring 5 bd, 3.5 baths, formal LR & DR, Family Room w/frpl, beautiful Master Suite, Library, 1st floor laundry, finished walkout, & backs to wooded ravines. \$374,900 (P-903SU)	 41569 Ayrshire South Of Cherry Hill West Of Haggerty GREAT HOUSE Beautiful colonial shows like a model. 3 bd, 1.5 baths, updated Kitchen, newer carpet, vinyl windows, beautiful finished bsmt w/glass block, & fenced yard close to schools & parks. \$210,000 (P-569AY)	 24291 Homestead Ct. North Of 10 Mile West Of Novi Rd NOVI CAPE COD Gorgeous 4 bd, 2.5 BA home built in 2000. Bright, open floor plan, spacious island kit, FR w/frpl, 1st floor Master, 1st floor laundry, Study, finished bsmt, & stamped concrete Patio. \$339,900 (P-291HO)	 11682 Farmington Rd. North Of Plymouth Road East Of Farmington STYLISH LIVING Enjoy the comforts of maintenance free living in lovely Livonia condo. Upper ranch end unit, close to everything, 2 bd, 2 baths, Great Room w/frpl, attached gar, many upgrades, & more. \$173,000 (P-682FA)	 40463 Glen Eagle South Of Palmer West Of Lotz ELEGANT CONDO Enjoy convenience of condo living in beautiful Links of Fellows Creek. 2 bd, 2 bath, mstr w/ large WIC, upgraded kit cabs, carpet, custom valances & blinds, area pool & clubhouse. \$180,000 (P-463GL)	 1923 Woodbine South Of Palmer East Of Lilley STUNNING CAPE COD Numerous accents abound in open floor plan. 1st floor mstr, vaulted ceilings, gourmet kit, lib, brick paver patio, huge bsmt, good Canton location, & home warranty included! \$319,900 (P-923WO)
 799 Arthur North Of Penniman East Of Sheldon A BARGAIN IN THE CITY! Enjoy all the amenities that living in Plymouth has to offer. This super cute bungalow is loaded w/updates, too many to list. You have to see it to believe it! Don't wait to long. \$199,900 (P-799AR)	 48305 Manhattan Circle South Of Cherry Hill East Of Denton THE ONE YOU'VE WAITED FOR! Beautiful Belmont in Central Pk features premium elevation, hwd flrs, den, frml LR & DR, luxurious mstr, princess ste, 2nd fr Indry, freshly painted, & gorgeous landscaping. \$439,900 (P-305MA)	 1215 Crowndale South Of Cherry Hill East Of Beck PHEASANT VIEW CAPE MOVE RIGHT IN This immaculate Canton condo can't be duplicated at this price! GR w/frpl & vaulted ceiling, abundant closet space, huge kit, mstr w/luxury bath, & closets galore. \$219,900 (P-497CH)	 43497 Cherrywood South Of Cherry Hill East Of Sheldon WELCOME TO THE COUNTRY Well maintained colonial offering over 3000 sq ft, Living and Family Room with fireplace, walkout basement with daylight windows, and spacious Deck. \$244,999 (P-560AN)	 7560 Andover South Of Ann Arbor Rd West Of Beck STUNNING COLONIAL Gorgeous home w/2200 sq ft, 4 bd, 2.5 BAs, 2 story foyer, island kit w/raised oak cabs, hwd flrs, FR w/frpl, mstr w/ vaulted ceiling & full BA, 1st fr laundry, & awesome location. \$340,000 (P-448SP)	 448 Springfield South Of Cherry Hill East Of Denton GENEROUSLY UPDATED 4 bd, 2 full & 2 half BA home is ready to move into! Beautifully decorated, granite, cherry cabs, cath ceilings, brick pavers, Pella wndws, upgraded fixtures t/o, & neutral decor. \$375,000 (P-451SH)	 22451 Shadowglen North Of 9 Mile Road West Of Halstead TURN KEY BEAUTY Rare find, charming 3 bd, 1.5 bath, tastefully decorated home. Fresh neutral paint, hwd flrs, newly added FR & Deck, fin basement w/extra kitchen & egress window. A must see! \$214,900 (P-548MO)	 11548 Morgan South Of Ann Arbor Trail East Of Haggerty
 22206 Lujon Drive North Of 8 Mile West Of Halstead BETTER THAN NEW Built in 2004, this Farm Hills home offers a low traffic location backing to woods, huge 1st fr mstr w/bath, neutral decor, ceramic foyer, granite kit, 3 car Garage, & daylight bsmt. \$535,000 (P-206LU)	 9976 Lucerne South Of Plymouth West Of Beech Daly A MUST SEE! You'll fall in love with this one! Over 2200 sq ft on this 4 bd, 2 bath home featuring FR w/frpl, refinished hwd, newer carpet, updated furnace, windows, & bathrooms w/granite. \$156,500 (P-976LU)	 19337 Lexington North Of 7 Mile Road East Of Inkster BETTER THAN NEW Built in 2004, this home has it all! Front porch overlooks park, prof finished lower level, Master w/bath & vaulted ceiling, Living Room w/frpl, 3 bd, 2.5 baths, & appl stay. \$190,000 (P-337LE)	 32500 Parkwood South Of Cherry Hill East Of Venoy PRICED RIGHT Many updates in this 3 bedroom home. Updated bath, Kitchen, finished basement with separate storage room and laundry area. 2.5 car Garage, good location, & very clean. \$138,900 (C-500PA)	 6289 Sandalwood South Of Michigan Ave East Of Denton CHECK THIS OUT! Immaculate 6 year old home in great area. 3 bedroom, 1.5 baths, 2 car attached Garage, beautiful landscaping, finished basement, and much more. \$211,900 (C-289SA)	 47662 Bentley South Of Huron River Drive West Of Elwell A MUST SEE! Fantastic like new ranch, 3 bd, 2.5 bath, ceramic Foyer, berber carpet, hwd floors, LR w/frpl, large Master Suite w/bath, bsmt w/ glass block, 2 car Garage, & nice landscaping. \$259,900 (C-662BE)	 49488 Lansdowne South Of Cherry Hill West Of Denton NEW COLONIAL Transfer forces sale of recently built home w/over 65k in upgrds. Cherry kit w/gran, plasma tv, new sod & sprnkrs. You can't build new home for less than this price, lets make a deal! \$399,999 (C-488LA)	 7706 Princeton North Of Warren West Of Newburgh HERE IT IS! Ideal location for this 2 bd, 2.5 bath condo that backs to common area. Master w/bath & sitting area, full bsmt, new windows, appliances, flooring, attached Garage, & great Deck. \$139,900 (C-706PR)
 15308 Williams North Of 5 Mile East Of Newburgh DESIRABLE AREA 3 bd, 1.5 bath brick home in a great area. Family Room w/frpl, part finished bsmt, 2 car attached Garage, all appliances included, & immediate occupancy. \$184,900 (C-308WI)	 47614 Scenic Circle South Of Cherry Hill West Of Beck GOLF COMMUNITY CONDO Tons of upgrades in 2 bd, 2.5 BA condo w/gourmet kit, den, great room w/vaulted ceiling, 1st floor Master, berber carpet, 1st floor laundry, & view of commons area. \$304,900 (C-614SC)	 19468 Indian South Of 7 Mile Road East Of Inkster ENVIABLE FLOOR PLAN Extra large master on the upper level & 2 bds on the main floor. Hardwood floors, new windows, new roof, kitchen w/nook, fenced yard w/hot tub & 2 car garage. \$119,889 (P-468IN)	 32610 Ohio St. North Of Joy Road West Of Merriman WELCOME HOME Outstanding brick ranch offering 3 bd, 2 baths, phenomenal fin bsmt, updated kit w/maple cabs, & huge backyard. One year home warranty for Buyer. \$194,900 (P-610OH)	 17321 Wakenden North Of 6 Mile Road West Of Beech Daly GREAT CURB APPEAL Beautiful bungalow w/quality updates t/o. 3 bd, 2 BA, 2.5 car gar, part fin bsmt, mstr w/BA, updated furn, rf, C/A, cedar dck & fencing, drwvy, wndws, flring & lg pl w/deck. \$155,000 (P-321WA)	 42925 River Bend North Of Hines Drive West Of Northville BRAND NEW CONDO Fantastic location overlooking woods & park. Top quality construction, cath ceilings, walkout bsmt, 3.5 baths, 2 car attached garage, & more. Convenient Plymouth location. \$319,900 (P-925RI)	 7668 Carousel South Of Ann Arbor Trail East Of Merriman WESTLAND CAPE COD 4 bedroom, 2 bath home with Livonia Schools. Spacious kitchen, newer windows, huge basement, 2.5 car garage, hardwood floors, patio, and well kept yard. \$179,900 (P-668CA)	 7728 Alton South Of Joy Road East Of Haggerty BACKS TO THE WOODS On an extra deep lot with a sunny family room, formal LR, new roof, vinyl windows, finished bsmt, updated bath, 2 car garage & a big open kitchen. 3 bds & 2 full baths. Very Nice! \$188,900 (P-728AL)
 900 S. Carlson South Of Cherry Hill West Of Wayne Rd LARGE WESTLAND RANCH Move your family into this 3 bedroom home with a large newer garage, family room, completely remodeled in 2006, and more. Also for lease. \$134,900 (C-900CA)	 14949 Eckles South Of 5 Mile Road East Of Haggerty PLYMOUTH - 1.45 ACRES Country setting close to Plymouth & Livonia shopping. 4 bd, 2088 sq ft, clean & neutral t/o. Decks off Master & Dining Room, large Patio w/ hot tub, & tree house w/elec. \$256,500 (P-949EC)	 12851 Tecumseh South Of Schoolcraft East Of Inkster AWESOME REDFORD RANCH Great sub. Wonderful landscaping, updated roof, furnace, A/C, siding, gutters, hwd floors, partially finished bsmt, 2 car Garage, & updated Kitchen. A must see! table included! \$145,000 (P-851TE)	 36443 Upland South Of Glenwood East Of Newburgh COURT LOCATION 3 bd, 2 bath home in popular area near parks & schools. Tranquil setting, Family Room w/raised hearth frpl, updated t/o, finished bsmt w/slate pool table included! \$164,900 (C-443UP)	 45839 Wildrye South Of Tylor West Of Belleville Rd. READY FOR YOU NOW! Elegant 2 story home w/4 bd, fresh paint, new carpet, open floor plan, island Kitchen, 1st floor laundry, vaulted Master Suite w/2 WIC's, upgraded windows, & oversized garage. \$360,000 (C-305WO)	 32308 Allen South Of Lyndon East Of Farmington Rd. AWESOME OPPORTUNITY 2 Kimberly Oaks colonial BR condo w/over 1100 sq. ft. featuring 4 BR, 2.5 baths, hwd floors, family room w/ptic, deck w/hot tub & backyard leading to park. A must see. \$255,900 (P-308AL)		

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Buy a home, get a free home site

Neumann Homes is introducing a radical initiative — giving land away. Buy a home in Neumann's Village Park at Stonewood in Independence Township and you will receive an additional home site within the development for free.

According to Jerry Griffith, VP of operations, the giveaway endeavor is tied to the Feb. 10 grand opening of the Village Park community located in the Parks at Stonewood. "This is an absolutely breathtaking neighborhood. It is a place to drop your roots and stay forever. We are hoping that our generous free lot offer will encourage folks to come and see how special this area is," Griffith said. "From the Clarkston schools to the Clarkston community

and now to the extra free lot — how can you go wrong?"

Is this a new idea? Not really. Two-for-one has been around the retail establishment for a long time and its success can surely be judged by the use and reuse of the strategy. In the Oakland County housing market, however, this is a first. If house-hunters are looking in the Clarkston area anyway, a free lot is a definite perk. Neumann Homes is pitching the idea in earnest and its target is the metropolitan house hunter.

Visit Village Park at Stonewood from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday through Tuesday and noon to 6 p.m. Monday.

For more information, visit www.neumannhomes.com.

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12860 Tecumseh	\$147,000	
26350 W Chicago	\$290,000	
9101 Winston	\$133,000	
		Westland
33129 Armada Ct	\$88,000	
34023 Aztec Dr	\$160,000	

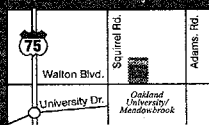
7436 Central St	\$92,000
37617 Garden Ct	\$129,000
31524 Hazelwood St	\$120,000
35860 Hazelwood St	\$148,000
6349 Hunter Pointe St	\$129,000
8513 Liberty Blvd	\$129,000
29258 Manchester St	\$85,000
34825 Melton St	\$139,000
34642 Norene St	\$125,000
7656 Rivergate Dr	\$145,000
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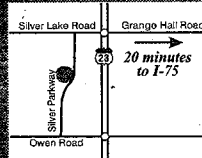
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- West Bloomfield Eccentric
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Consult lawyer on removal of board director

Q. We have an autocratic director who runs the show and all the other directors are abdicating to him on whatever issues come before the board. Several board members have resigned because of him and no one wants to run. What can we do?



Robert Meisner

A. I talk about this type of director in my book and the best way to deal with this director is to have him removed by the membership which usually requires 50 percent of the members. There should be political arguments as well as legal ones that can be made against the director and the members should ban together to get a petition to call a special meeting to remove the director. It is, of course, presumed that you have made efforts to talk reason to this type of individual but my experience has been that these people are so power-hungry and headstrong that they will not listen to reason, perhaps being in a position of power for the first time. You should also consult with a community association attorney to assist you in the removal process.

Q. I am a builder who has entered into a purchase agreement with a number of buyers and in my purchase agreement, I agree as a builder to sell an unapproved lot to the buyer and to build a home on the lot of the buyer. I am using a single contract and calling it a

purchase agreement. What are the ramifications for transfer tax purposes? That is, do I have to pay a transfer tax on the entire structure including the built home or merely the lot?

A. In a recent decision of the Michigan Court of Appeals, Lake Forest Partners 2, Inc. vs. Department of Treasury, the court rejected the argument that only the deed would be taxed under the statute but stated rather that the purchase agreement, even though not recorded, was nonetheless a contract for the sale or exchange of property and since the Transfer Tax Act imposes a transfer tax on all contracts for the sale of exchanged property, the Court of Appeals concluded that the appropriate time to determine the value for purposes of a transfer tax was at the execution of the purchase agreement. The court indicated that under the Transfer Tax Act, the taxes assessed at the time of transfer of any interest in the property and the execution of a purchase agreement transferred an equitable interest in the property to the

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<p>300,000 Canton - 2 Bdrm, 2.1 Baths, Brick Ranch Condo, 2 Car Att. Garage, Thousands in Upgrades, Gorgeous Golf Course View</p>	<p>299,900 Canton - 4 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath, 2.5 Car Garage, 1.19 Acres, Wooded lot w/ lots of privacy, Newer Roof, Furnace and A/C</p>	<p>219,900 Livonia - 4 Bdrm, 1.1 Baths, Brick Ranch, Sits on .5 acre, 2 Story Shed, Oak Kitchen, Lots of updates</p>	<p>176,900 Huron - 2 Bdrm, 2 Bath, Gorgeous Condo, Master Suite w/ Full Bath, 2 Car Att. Garage, Full Bsmt.</p>	<p>166,900 Flatrock - 2 Bdrm, 2 Bath, New Construction Condo, Prem Lot facing Pond, 1 Yr Builder Warranty.</p>
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| <p>999,900 Northville - 5 Bdrm, 4.2 Baths, Lake Frnt, Prof. Fin. Walk Out L/L w/ 5th Bdrm & Kit., Mstr St. w/ Balcony</p> <p>824,900 Northville - 4 Bdrms, 4.1 Baths, Lake Frnt, Prof. Fin Walk Out L/L w/ 5th Bdrm & Kit., and Lrg Gathering Area.</p> <p>674,900 Troy - 4 Bdrms, 2.5 Baths, Prof. Fin Bsmt w/Kit and full bath, Sunroom, extra lrg lot, pool table Exl. Also for lease at \$4,500</p> <p>519,900 Northville Twp - 4 Bdrms, 3.5 Baths, Colonial Condo, 9 Ft Ceilings on 1st Floor, 2 Story Foyer, Home Warranty, Many upgrades.</p> <p>409,900 Novi - 4 Bdrms, 3.5 Bath Colonial w/ Dream Bsmt – Home Theatre, Wet Bar, Sauna, Cedar Closet.</p> <p>379,900 Canton - 4 Bdrms, 3.5 Baths, Two way fireplace in Fam Rm and Study, Prof. finished Bsmt.</p> <p>355,000 Plymouth Twp - 4 Bdrms, 3.5 Baths, Many upgrades, Hdwd Flrs, Crown Mouldings in LR, FR, and DR. Mstr Suite w. Private Bath.</p> <p>334,900 Farmington Hills - 4 Bdrms, 3.5 Baths, Great lot w/ huge deck, Prof. Fin. Lower level, w/wet bar.</p> <p>303,000 Canton - 4 Bdrms, 2.5 Baths, Fin Bsmt w/pool table, Gazebo & hot tub. Also for lease at \$2100</p> <p>299,900 Van Buren - 5 Bdrms, 3 Baths, Custom built in 2004, open floor plan, Lrg kitchen, 3 car garage.</p> <p>299,900 Plymouth - 3 Bdrms, 3.5 Baths. Built in 2004 w/open floor plan. Finished Basement. Walk to Downtown.</p> | <p>295,999 Canton - 4 Bdrms, 2.5 Baths, 2 Story Foyer, Open Floor Plan, Large Deck, Southern Exposure, Master Suite w/ Private Bath.</p> <p>295,000 Canton - 3 Bdrms, 2.1 Baths, Charming Cherry Hill Village Colonial. Hdwd Floors, Breakfast Nook, and 2 car garage</p> <p>285,000 Plymouth Twp - 4 Bdrms, 2.5 Baths, Located on a wooded lot, wet bar in FR, Walk To Park, Oversized 2 Car Garage.</p> <p>280,000 Canton - 4 Bdrms, 2 Baths - Stately Colonial w/ Master Ste w/ cathedral ceilings, prof. landscaped and drwl to brick paver patio.</p> <p>264,900 Farmington Hills - Updated 4BR, 2.5 Bath Brick Colonial located deep in the sub. Newer roof, windows & more</p> <p>239,900 Flat Rock - 3 Bdrms, 2.5 Baths, New Construction, large backyard, spacious Bdrms, Maser suite w/ full bath and wic.</p> <p>224,000 Farmington Hills - 4 Bdrms, 2.5 Bath Colonial located on a quiet St. Library, newer cement driveway.</p> <p>219,999 Wayne - 4 Unit, 4 Bath Multi-Family, Separate Unit Entrances and private parking lot, close to shopping and restaurants.</p> <p>219,900 Livonia - 3 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath, Huge Deck, Lrg Great Rm w/cathedral Ceilings.</p> <p>218,999 West Bloomfield - 3 Bdrms, 2 Bath, Dimensional Roof, Jacuzzi Tub, Close to Schools, Seller is a Licensed Agent.</p> <p>209,900 Canton - 4 Bdrms, 2 Baths, Cape Cod near Summit and Heritage Park, 3 Level Deck w/ fenced Backyard, Fin Bsmt, All appliances stay.</p> <p>209,900 Dearborn - 3 Bdrm, 2 Bath - Brick Cape Cod, prof. english gar-</p> | <p>dens landscaping, walk to schools, parks, shopping, and restaurants.</p> <p>199,000 Plymouth - 3 bdrms, 2 Baths - New Kit in '02 w/Maple Cabs, New Furn, Humidifier and C/A in '03, Beautiful Hdwd in living room.</p> <p>189,900 Plymouth Twp - 3 Bdrms, 1.5 Baths, Charming Colonial, Corian Kitchen counters, Walk to Elementary and Downtown.</p> <p>189,500 Dearborn - 3 Bdrms, 2 Bath, Totally remodeled Interior, FR, CA, Fin Bsmt, Lrg Deck, 2 Car Garage, Immed. Occ.</p> <p>186,000 Westland - 3 Bdrm, 1.5 Bath. Basement, Lrg Fam Rm, Lrg fenced Backyard</p> <p>184,900 Canton - 4 Bdrms, 2 Baths, Charming Quad with Plymouth/Canton schools. Large Backyard backing to commons.</p> <p>172,500 Madison Heights - 3 Bdrm, 1.5 Baths, Brick Ranch, W/ Garage, Fin. Bsmt, Lrg. FR, CA, Updated Home</p> <p>154,900 Dearborn - 3 Bdrms, 1 Bath, Oakwood Hosp Area, Hdwd Floors, Fin Bsmt, New Cherry and Corian Kitchen. 1 Yr Home Warranty</p> <p>137,000 Dearborn Heights - 3 Bdrms, 2 Baths, Immed Occ. Hdwd Floors throughout, Full Fin Bsmt, 12 x 20 screened Rm on back of house.</p> <p>128,500 Center Line - 3 Bdrms, 2 Baths, 1940'S Charmer, Bathrooms Remodeled, newer windows and cement driveway. Finished Basement.</p> <p>128,500 Center Line - 3 Bdrm, 2 Bath, Fin Bsmt, Remodeled Brick Bungalow, Redone Bathrooms, New Windows</p> <p>124,900 Redford - 3 Bdrms, 1 Bath, Brick Bungalow, 2 Car Garage, Fin. Bsmt, Lrg. Deck, Many updates.</p> |
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REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

BIA names executive committee

The Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan recently selected Richard Ives, Trinity Land Development, of Clinton Township as its new president.

Adorno Piccinini, Adco Group, Novi, is now treasurer; and Darshan Grewal, Singh Development, L.L.C., West Bloomfield, is now secretary. James P. Babcock, Babcock Building Co. Inc., St. Clair Shores, moves on to immediate past president.

Continuing their positions are James S. Bonadeo, Bonadeo Builders, Plymouth, as president emeritus;

Richard Komer, Wineman & Komer, Southfield, as first vice president; and vice presidents Paul Aragona, Aragona Properties, Clinton Township, Michael Mocerri, Leader Homes, Inc., Novi, and Sam Palazzolo, Palazzolo Brothers Construction Co. Irvin H. Yackness continues to serve as executive vice president and general counsel.

Newly elected to the executive committee is Richard Kligman, Superb Custom Homes, Plymouth, as vice president.



Ives



Grewal

"Our 2007 executive committee is comprised of the top professionals in the home building industry," said Yackness. "Their combined leadership, experience and expertise make them excellent representatives of our association as well as positive role models for our members."

Headquartered in Farmington Hills, BIA is a trade association representing more than 2,100 builders, remodelers, multi-family property owners, developers

and suppliers to the single family and multifamily residential construction industry. BIA is affiliated with the Michigan Association of Home Builders in Lansing and the National Association of Home Builders in Washington, D.C. Membership nationwide includes more than 220,000 individuals and companies.

Reverse mortgage

A free reverse mortgage seminar will be held at 6 p.m. every Thursday at Colonial Mortgage, 33919 Plymouth Road Livonia. RSVP with John McParland at 1-800-260-5484.

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American Home Mortgage	(877) 478-7289	5.75	2	5.25	2	J/A/V/F
Ameripius Mortgage Corp.	(248) 740-2323	5.875	0.25	5.625	0.25	J/A
Benchmark Lending	(586) 463-2255	6	0	5.75	0	J/A
Brink's Goldstar Mortgage	(800) 785-4755	5.625	1.875	5.125	2.25	J/A/V/F
Charter One Bank	(800) 342-5336	6.5	0	6.25	0	J/A/V/F
Client Services by Golden Rule	(800) 569-5805	5.625	1.625	5.25	1.5	J/A/V/F
Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 466-6113	6.25	1	6	1	J
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-8100	6.125	0	5.75	0	A
DFCU Financial	(800) 739-2770	6	2	5.625	2	J/A
Earth Mortgage	(877) 327-8450	5.875	1	5.5	1	J/A/V/F
Fifth Third Bank	(800) 792-8830	6.375	0.25	6.25	0	J/V/F
First Alliance Mortgage Co.	(800) 292-7357	6.125	0	6	0	J/A/V/F
First International Mortgage	(248) 540-1065	6	0	5.75	0	J/A
Gold Star Mortgage	(800) 203-1546	6	0	5.75	0	J/A/V/F
Golden Rule Mortgage	(800) 991-9922	5.5	2.25	5.125	1.875	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage	(734) 953-4000	6.25	0	6.125	0	J/A/V/F
LaSalle Bank Midwest	(800) 466-3800	5.875	2	5.75	2	J/A/V/F
Mainstreet Mortgage	(800) 900-1313	6	0	5.75	0	J/A/V/F
Manufacturers	(586) 777-1000	5.75	1	5.5	1	J/A
Michigan Schools & Gov. C/U	(586) 263-8800	6.25	0	6	0	J/A
Mortgages by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	6	0.125	5.75	0	J/A/V/F
Michigan United Mortgage	(810) 844-2222	5.75	0.625	5.375	1.125	J/A
National City Bank	(586) 825-0825	5.875	1.75	5.5	2.125	J/A
Northlawn Financial	(248) 988-8488	5.875	0	5.625	0	J/A/V/F
Pathway Financial LLC	(800) 726-2274	5.875	0	5.625	0	J/A/F
Premiere Mortgage Funding	(734) 453-8120	5.875	0	5.625	0	J/A
Shore Mortgage	(800) 678-6663	5.5	3	5.125	3	J/A/V/F
United Mortgage Group	(586) 286-9500	5.875	0	5.625	0	J/A
York Financial Inc.	(888) 839-9675	6	0	5.75	0	J/A

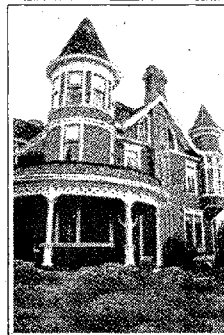
Above information available as of 2/2/07 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculations & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at www.rmcreport.com. Key to "Other" Column - J = Jumbo, A = Arms, V = VA, F = FHA & NR = Not Reported. All Lenders are Equal Opportunity Lenders. ☺

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BRIGHTON



Island Lake Access, close to parks. 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath ranch on .3 acre corner lot on dead-end street. Wooded behind. Fireplace. A little repair and much cosmetic work will make this a nice home for the lake lover. All offers considered. MLS#27011424 \$129,900
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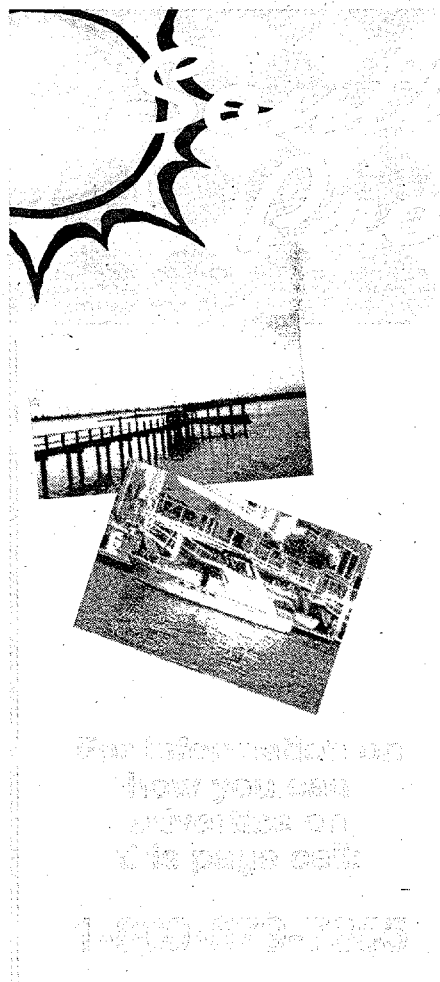
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MEISNER

FROM PAGE 9

buyer which then gave rise to a cause of action for possession of the property. In short, the court found for the builder. You are best advised to consult this case with your attorney.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of *Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track*, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote *Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium*, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. For more information, call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-associates.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.



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LIVONIA - Fabulous 1694 sq ft 3 bedrm, 2 bath ranch offering attached 2.5 car garage + add'l mechanics dream heated garage, newer thermal windows, oak kitchen, new dimensional roof, huge liv rm w/ frplc, hardwd flrs, 13x13 breezeway + more! \$219,900 (D75Gra)

FARMINGTON - Charming 2 bedrm starter home in Farmington! Everything's been done inc: new ceramic bath, ktchn w/ abundance of counters, cabinets & 7x3 walk-in-pantry, updated windows, roof, A/C, furn, siding, plumbing + award winning landscaping! \$148,900 (L09Vio)

BRIGHTON - Beautiful custom built 3 bedrm, 2.5 bath colonial offering huge gourmet ktchn w/ Jennair island, endless cabs & wood flrs, large sunken great rm w/ stunning frplc & custom built-ins, wooded lot, 3 car garage + more. \$317,900 (L35Lau)

CANTON - Beautiful colonial w/ great location close to the Summit, parks, shopping & Xways. Offers 3 bedrms, 2.5 baths, master w/ double closets, 1st flr laundry, sprinkler system + updated carpet, windows, ktchn, floors, furnace, paint & new roof. \$212,000 (L32Bro)

CANTON - Lovely detached 3 bedrm, 2.5 bath condo w/ loads of upgrades. 1st fir master, gourmet ktchn w/ granite cntrs, island & ample custom cabs, 1st flr laundry, great rm w/ vaulted ceiling & gas frplc, upper loft, full bsmt, 2 car garage + more! \$279,900 (L06Abb)

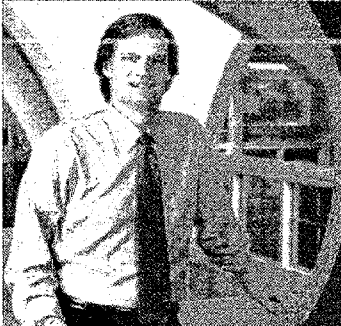
MILFORD - Terrific buy in Milford Twp - no Village taxes! Well maintained, clean ranch w/ 3 bedrms, 2 full baths, 1st floor laundry & fin'd walkout. Home sits on 1.5 gorgeous acres! Newer windows, boiler, softener, well + more! \$239,900 (L64Ann)

LIVONIA - Price reduced on this wonderful 4 bedrm, 2.5 bath colonial w/ great court location. Newer vinyl siding, front windows, Anderson windows & door wall on back, new furnace & C/A, updated bath, hrdwd flrs, new 6 panel entry & closet doors, etc. \$259,900 (L08Lan)

FARMINGTON HILLS - Charming 3 bedrm colonial in great area! Offers cathedral ceilings in great rm, family rm w/ brick frplc, hardwood floors throughout, doorwall off nook to patio & beautiful yard. Updates inc: roof, siding & wndws! A must see! \$194,900 (L98Dun)

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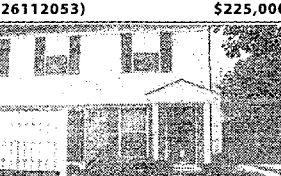
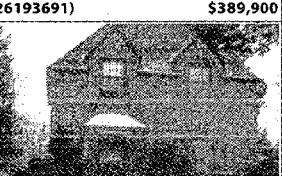
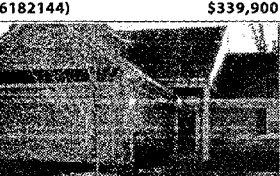
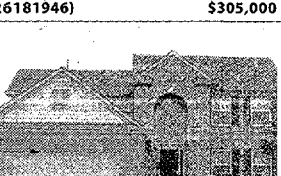
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 Canton 734-455-7000 BEYOND EXQUISITE! 4BR/2.5BA, 3447 sq.ft., cape cod. Prof. decorated. Many upgrades. 2-story GR w/2-way FP, lib., 1st flr mstr ste w/luxury BA. 3-car gar. Don't wait on this one! (27011545) \$500,000	 Canton 734-455-7000 COME HOME TO CAMELOT! Incredibly spacious Colonial offers 4BRs, 2.5BAs. Great flr plan with family rm/fireplace. Large 3 seasons rm and wrap around deck overlooking lg private lot! (26148166) \$275,000	 Canton 734-591-9200 IMMACULATE NEUTRAL CONDO 2 bdrm, 2.5 baths, 1st fl laundry, 2 car att garage. GR w/cath ceilings & FP. Great fin bsmt separate exerc area. Door wall to patio. Appl stay. A nice condo! (27010810) \$166,500	 Dearborn 734-591-9200 THIS BUNGALOW IS REALLY NICE! BEAUTIFUL new chery kit w/new stainless steel appl., spacious dining area, hrdwd flrs, fin bsmt w/fam rm, 1/2 ba, laundry rm w/storage, 1.5 car gar, lrg bckyrd, upddd wndws. (26212132) \$149,900	 Dearborn 734-591-9200 COVERED PORCH WELCOMES YOU TO THIS HOME. Come enjoy! Well maintained home, huge living room, 4 BRs (possibly 5); particle finished basement w/block security windows. Tons of storage, newer windows, furnace. (26201630) \$129,900	 Detroit 734-591-9200 AFFORDABLE 3 BDRM IN ROSEDALE PARK 3 BDRMS, FORMAL DINRM, 1.5 BTHS, NATL FP, FULL FIN BSMT W/FR & 2 CAR GAR. LAND CONTRACT TERMS AVAILABLE. HOME SOLD AS-IS. (27001288) \$164,500
 Farmington Hills 248-851-1900 QUALITY COLONIAL IN A GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD Beautiful Kit. w/HWF Open To FR. Cathedral Ceilings, Crown Mouldings, 6-panel Doors, Bay Window W/Window Seat, French Doors, New Furnace & Fin. Bsmt 2004, New Roof 1998. (27007399) \$360,000	 Farmington Hills 248-851-1900 FEATURE FILLED NEW HOME ON CORNER LOT 2 story ceramic foyer leads to incredible kitchen w/stainless steel prem applncs, granite, elegant wood floors. Master ste cathedral ceiling, jetted tub, sep shower. (26199252) \$315,000	 Garden City 734-326-2000 PLAYSPACE FOR THE FAMILY Vinyl windows, upddd kit, & baths, newer roof shingles, privacy fence, C/A, ceiling fans, & circuit breakers. Relax on patio & watch the kids in above grnd pool. (27010514) \$119,900	 Highland 248-684-1065 3 car garage w/ storage. (27001329) \$340,000	 Highland 248-684-1065 Mechanics dream home! (26068146) \$199,900	 Livonia 248-851-1900 UPDATED HOME WITH LARGE FENCED YARD Features kitchen w/granite counters, spacious liv rm, fam-rm w/frplc. Fin bsmt w/full bath. Updates include roof, furnace, windows and doorwall to patio. (26203151) \$200,000
 Livonia 734-591-9200 LOCATION, QUALITY, VALUE, AND CHARM ATTRACTIVE 1600 SQ FT RANCH HAS IT ALL. UPDATES INC.OAK KITCH W/LOADS OF CABINETS & CNTR SPACE, NEWER FURN & CENTRAL AIR, ROOF & WIND. LRG FR, ATT GAR, LNDSCPD YD. (27010211) \$177,000	 Milford 248-348-6430 QUICK OCCUPANCY Open and unique mid-level master suite. Lovely 2 stry GR. Hrdwd foyer,hall,kit/nook & powder room. Still time to choose colors. Walk to downtown events & dining. (26186013) \$325,000	 Novi 248-348-6430 DEVELOPERS ALERT!!! Extraordinary contemporary home on a gorgeous 6 acre, soittable, treed parcel in the red-hot M-5 corridor. Custom kitchen. Soaring ceilings. Decks galore. (26168714) \$875,000	 Novi 248-348-6430 PRIVATE TREETED LOT Over 4000 sf incl LR, DR w/Bulter Pantry, granite island kit,2 story GR w/frplc & lg windows. Nice screened in sun porch backs to protected woodlands. (26199870) \$575,000	 Novi 248-348-6430 REALISTICALLY PRICED,SELLER MOTIVATED Great home,location & price.Traditional colonial w/lovely kit,LR,DR,FR w/cath ceiling & frplc,den,full bsmt,new roof 2004,deck & sidewalks in sub. (26195233) \$318,900	 Novi 248-348-6430 4 BR, 2.5 BA COLONIAL Nice lot w/trees deep in sub, updates include: entire kitchen, 1/2 bath in basement & more. (26216105) \$315,000
 Novi 248-851-1900 GORGEOUS INSIDE & OUT! Beautiful 3BR, 2.5BA colonial. Library w/vaulted ceiling, bay wndw, French doors. Hardwd flrs in foyer, kit nook. Updated kitchen. Part fin LL. Newer roof, HWH. 2 car gar (26118535) \$289,900	 Novi 248-851-1900 FREESTANDING RANCH CONDO Comfortable living 2BR,2BA det ranch condo. Bkfst nook w/doorwall to deck. Huge family rm. Walkout LL-prepped to finish. Enjoy golf, tennis, pool. (26112053) \$225,000	 Plymouth 734-455-7000 AN INCREDIBLE 2 ACRE PALACE! Top of line lg kitchen open to family rm w/custom imported mantel. Priv. mstr ste w/bonus rm. 2car att gar + 3car det heated w/half BA. Back acre is all trees! (26180229) \$679,900	 Plymouth 734-455-7000 STATELY CAPE COD! This 3BR/2.1BA Cape Cod is located on a premium lot with maple cabinetry, extensive hardwood floors, custom window treatments, paver patio and much more. (26193691) \$389,900	 Plymouth 734-455-7000 INCREDIBLE PLYMOUTH HOME ON 1 ACRE! This colonial has it all, 4BR/2.1BA, formal living/dining, upddd kit w/Cherry cabs & Corian. Family rm w/custom mantel. Mstr w/updated BA & WIC. 2car att gar. (26182144) \$339,900	 Plymouth 734-455-7000 INSTANTLY APPEALING!! 1/2 acre of beautifully designed landscaping invites you inside this great updated Cape Cod. Hdw flrs l/o main flr. Fin. bsmt. \$3000 toward closing costs. (26181946) \$305,000
 Plymouth 734-455-7000 DOWNTOWN PLYMOUTH! First time on market since 1955. 3BR/1.1BA brick ranch w/family rm, fireplace, basement and 2car garage. Beautifully maintained and updated T/O. (26196533) \$229,900	 Walled Lake 248-348-6430 WALLED LAKE-COZY CONDO PRIV ENTRY. 2 BR, 1.5 BA Townhouse w/att gar. Fireplace, priv patio, fab fin LL. Quiet treed setting. Minutes from highways. Absolute move-in condition. (26140464) \$129,900	 Waterford 248-684-1065 Corner lot. (26157151) \$175,000	 Wayne 734-326-2000 ELEGANT, CHARMING TUDOR features beautiful fireplace w/marble hearth in LR & beautiful wood trim thruout. Remodeled Kit w/ all appl & hrdwd flr. Doorwall in DR to lrg deck. Hot tub. (27014061) \$174,900	 Wixom 248-348-6430 BEAUTIFUL WIXOM CONDO Desirable 2 br, 2.5 ba condo. New hrdwd flrs in GR, kit, laundry & foyer. GR w/frplc & wndws on either side. Eat in kit. 1st flr mstr w/ba & wic. Lg loft up w/ 2 br. (26215735) \$219,900	 Ypsilanti 734-591-9200 BEAUTIFUL HOME VAULTED CEILING IN DINING ROOM & FM RM W/NAT FP, MARBLE TILE & MANTEL. 2 STORY FOYER W/WOOD FLOOR ON HALLS AND HALF BATH. FIN BSMT WET BAR, REC ROOM, FULL BATH AND EXTRA ROOM. (26150800) \$280,000