

SUNDAY February 25, 2007

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Observer Beruer

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Homeowner offers cash for details

BY BRAD KADRICH STAFF WRITER

Bob Dungarani wants to know who is responsible for three incidents that have terrorized his family and caused thousands of dollars of damage to his Plymouth Township home.

And he's willing to pay to find out.

Dungarani, whose business, Simolex Rubber Corp., is also located in the township, has doubled his initial reward and is now offering at least \$3,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the people responsible for the three attacks, two of which happened while the family was out of town and the third which occurred just before Christmas during a party at the Maple Valley home.

The latest incident, which took place Dec. 23, was the scariest because there were some 15 people in the home at the time. Several rocks crashed through the kitchen and living room windows. Though no one was injured, Dungarani said, the attack frightened everyone in the house.

"It was over in four or five secnds, but when I ran out of the house I could see nothing," said Dungarani, who is from India. The first attack came in May 2006. The second, in August 2006, came while the family was vacationing in Hawaii and left a car belonging to Dungarani's daughter in such a shambles Dungarani was forced to total it.



Plymouth senior Julie Rowe (from left), Salem junior Mayur Patel, and Canton freshman Ashley Saunders work on their robot for the upcoming FIRST National Robotics Competition.

Taking control with technology School team puts finishing touches on robot, aims for title

> BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

Nearly 60 Plymouth-Canton high school students spent a majority of their midwinter break in school, putting the finishing touches on a robot they built which - they hope - will show off their engineering skills and bring them



Teacher nabbed in Internet sting

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

Plymouth High School English teacher Orin Andrew Kennedy is free on \$50,000 bond after being arrested Thursday on charges he used the Internet to proposition a minor and sending sexually explicit material over the Internet.

The Michigan Attorney General's office alleged the 27-year-old Kennedy chatted online, propositioned and exposed himself to someone he thought was a 14-year-old girl he met in a chat-

room. Kennedy, who was hired by Plymouth-Canton in August 2005, was arrested Thursday morning at his Ypsilanti home, where investiga tors seized a computer and a Web cam. He was arraigned in Ypsilanti's 14-B District Court on one count of using a computer to accost and solicit a minor for immoral purposes,



Buy One Get

One Free' with Of equal or lesser valu

'They broke my daughter's car so completely I had to buy her a new car," Dungarani said. "My car was right next to it, and they didn't touch it."

Plymouth Township Police Detective Ryan Krebs said the incidents are still being investigated, but that there's no indication these are nothing more than malicious destruction of property.

"There's been no evidence to support the idea it's a hate crime," Krebs said. "We're continuing to interview people and gather further investigative leads. So far there's been no information, no one from the community has contacted me with any information."

After the first attack, Dungarani offered a \$1,500 reward. By doubling it, he's hoping someone somewhere will come forward with information.

"I'd like to stop this kind of thing, not just to me, but to anyone in the community," he said. "These incidents are disrupting my life. My kids are so scared about what can happen to them when they go outside the house. Why do people do this?"

Anyone with information about the incidents can contact Krebs at the Plymouth Township Police Department via e-mail at rkrebs@plymouthtwppd.org or by calling (734) 354-3245.

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

home a championship.

The robotics team at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park completed construction of its robot before Tuesday's deadline, when it was picked up by FedEx and shipped to Eastern Michigan University for next month's FIRST regional competition. They'll contend with 64 other robotics teams, all trying to make their remote-controlled robots pick up plastic innertube-like objects and place them on a rack faster and more accurate than the competition.

FIRST, or For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology, is an organization founded by inventor Dean Kamen in 1989 to develop ways to inspire students in engineering and technology fields. With computers, technology and engineering producing almostimmediate changes in today's world, students are getting hands-on experience that will give them an advantage in college - and eventually the real world - whether or not they go into

Canton freshman Ashley Saunders pays close attention as she makes adjustments to her teams robot in preparation for the upcoming FIRST National Robotics Competition.

engineering.

"It's not just about building a robot," said Julie Rowe, 17, of Canton, who is debating whether to major in English or engineering in college. "It's about things like logistics and team management. FIRST is a microcosm of the real world ... ordering parts, learning how to use a mill, functioning in an engineering setting, working as a team."

PLEASE SEE ROBOTICS, A6

which is a 10-year felony, and one count of using a computer to disseminate sexually explicit matter to a minor, a four-year felony.

Kennedy was released after posting \$5,000 cash, and is scheduled for a preliminary exam March 14.

"The conversation began in early January, when the defendant first contacted who he thought was a 14-year-old girl, who really was an undercover agent in our office," said Matt Frendewey, a spokesman for Attornev General Mike Cox. "The conversation turned sexual and the defendant propositioned the 14-year-old girl.

"He never arranged a meeting, but we have sufficient evidence to charge him," he added. "Exposing

PLEASE SEE TEACHER, A6

Absentees could determine fate of bond

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

Absentee ballots may be a major determining factor in deciding the fate of Plymouth-Canton Community Schools' \$62.1 million bond issue as local clerks expect a small turnout at the polls Tuesday.

Plymouth Township Clerk Marilyn Massengill said her office issued more than 2,800 absentee ballots - with more than 75 percent having been turned in by Friday - which is several hundred more than a typical May school board election.

"This is an issue that hits people in the pocketbooks, so they're voting absentee," Massengill said. "As for Tuesday, at lot will depend on the weather, but I don't expect a huge turnout."

Plymouth City Clerk Linda Langmesser agreed with the sentiments of Massengill.

"I'm anticipating a slow day," Langmesser said. "I think absentee voters will be a major part of the outcome."

Langmesser said the 745 absentee ballots that were sent out is in line with other school elections.

Canton Township Clerk Terry Bennett said her office mailed out more than 4,700 absentee ballots, with about 76 percent turned in as of Friday morning.

"That's a tad low," Bennett said. "We've still got 1,128 ballots out, and we're usually down to about half that by this time.

We got about half of the absentee ballots in during the first couple of

weeks after we sent them out," she added. "But the last week or so, they've been just trickling in."

Bennett said her office usually gets a feel for how the turnout at the polls will be, however, she's not making any predictions for Tuesday.

We sometimes get vocal voters who tell us how they feel," Bennett said. "But it's been pretty quiet around here."

Major features of the bond include:

Building a new middle school in Canton Township to replace Central Middle School in Plymouth, and reimbursing the general fund for the cost to purchase the land.

Remodeling Central for the district's alternative education program, which is currently housed at Starkweather Education Center.

Adding additional classrooms at Pioneer Middle School, Salem High School and Field Elementary.

Constructing a gymnasium at Field Elementary.

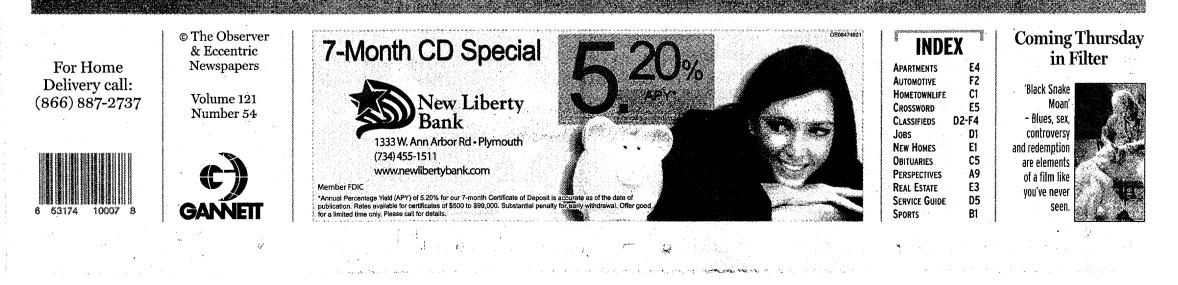
Purchasing 13 new school buses. Creating safety improvements,

including security cameras at Plymouth-Canton Education Park. Academic-related updates to comply with state imposed gradua-

tion requirements. According to the district, if the bond passes it will require a tax increase of 0.6 mills, costing the average homeowner - with a market value of \$275,000 - \$83 a year.

The polls Tuesday will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

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



PLYMOUTH PIPELINE

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, February 25, 2007

Newsletter was wrong

The date in the March Plymouth Community Council on Aging Sentinel Newsletter for the "Sounds of Canton" is incorrect.

According to PCCA director Bobbie Pummill, it should read Monday, April 9, not March 12.

Aging events

The Plymouth Community Council on Aging will host "Diet and Nutrition" sponsored by Heartland Plymouth Court, Monday, March 19, 10:45-11:45 a.m. at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer. Learn about the importance

of the different food groups for

A little reason to

the senior population, and how to create a balanced diet. Come learn how you can still work some of your favorite foods into your diet and still stay on track.

Call (734) 453-1234, Ext. 236 to register. Free coffee and bagels will be served.

The PCCA will also host the "Senior Fashion Show" spon-

sored by the Dress Barn in Canton. Council on Aging members will model the clothing as well as being escorted by gentleman members. Mark the date: March 12 at Plymouth Cultural Center from 1:30-3 p.m., refreshments will be served.

This is a free event. Call (734)453-1234, Ext. 236 to reserve a spot.

Goodfellows meet

The Plymouth Goodfellows host their organizational meeting, at which the 2007 "No Child Without a Christmas" mission will be discussed, 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 14, at the Plymouth District Library.

All are welcome. The library is located at 223 S. Main in downtown Plymouth. For more information, call

(734) 262-3199 or email at plymouthgoodfellows@yahoo.com VFW fish

The VFW Post 6695, 1426 S. Mill Street (Lilley) in Plymouth, will host fish fry Fridays from 5-7 p.m. every Friday though Good Friday.

The cost of the all-you-can-eat baked or fried fish is \$8 for adults, and \$5 for children. Dinner includes potato or macaroni and cheese, cole slaw, and roll.

Benefit concert

First Baptist Church hosts its "Make a Joyful Sound" benefit concert to fund-raise for the 2007 Naga Mission Trip to Manipur, India, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Saturday, March 10, with a dessert reception to follow. The concert will feature per-

formances by more than nine different choirs, groups, soloists and instrumentalists.

Ticket donation is \$10, \$5 for

children 12 and younger (checks)
payable to First Baptist Church,
Naga Mission Trip on the memo
ine). First Baptist Church is
ocated at 45000 N. Territorial
n Plymouth Township.
To and an tralvata soll (794)

To order tickets, call (734) 455-2300.

Players are 'Footloose'

The Park Players present their production of "Footloose," based on the 1980s screen version starring Kevin Bacon, March 22-24 and March 30-31 with 8 p.m. performances in the Gloria Logan Auditorium for the Performing Arts inside Salem High School.

"Footloose" tells the story of city boy Ren McCormack who has to move to a small rural town in America where dancing is banned. Pandemonium strikes as Ren cuts loose and soon has the whole town on its feet.

Tickets are \$10 for all shows, all ages. Tickets can be purchased 2:30-5:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday in the upper auditorium at Salem High School, or at the door one hour before curtain on performance nights.

Visit www.parkplayers.org or contact Kristen Quesada for more information by e-mail at quesadk@pccs.k12.mi.us. or by calling (734) 582-6836.

Table sellers invited

In anticipation of their upcoming Mom-2-Mom Sale, the Canton Newcomers, a social, civic and charitable organization, invites table renters to sell new and gently used maternity, baby and child items including furniture and larger play equipment.

The sale will be held 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April

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21, at the Summit on the Park. For more information. call (734) 699-7398.

Swimming scholarship

www.hometownlife.com

The James W. Franklin Scholarship Fund provides \$1,000 for graduates of Plymouth-Canton Community Schools who participated in an organized swimming program during high school.

The scholarship application is available in the high school counseling offices or on-line at www.JamesWFranklin.com. Applications for this year's award are due March 1, with the award being announced at the annual Honors Convocation in May.

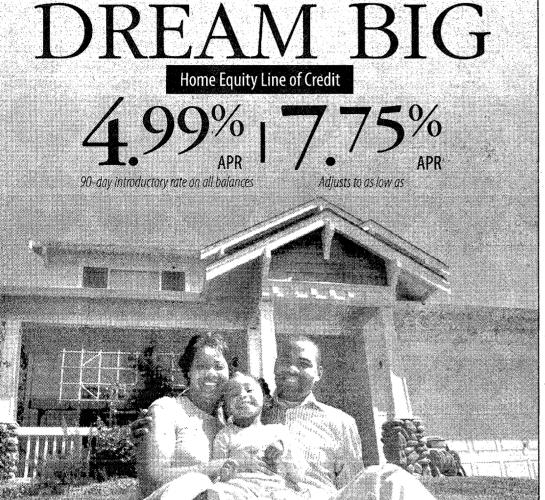
Symons scholarships

The P-CEP Choir Boosters announce the Darlene Symons Memorial Scholarships, a pair of \$500 scholarships open to PCEP graduates from 2006 or earlier with a minimum of 2 years in PCEP choir program. Applicants must be currently enrolled in a college-vocal music education or performance program. A letter of recommendation from college instructor is required.

The Darlene Symons Memorial Scholarships are administered through the **Canton Community** Foundation Scholarship Program. The scholarship program, which began in 1990 and awarded \$4,000 to nine students, has grown steadily over the years. Since the program began, local students have received more than \$360,000 toward their education.

Local businesses and organizations, as well as philanthropic individuals, continue to sponsor and support these various scholarships because the need for them is so great. Last year alone CCF received 130 scholarship applications for 34 awards.

This year CCF offers Canton Township, Plymouth and Plymouth Township residents access to 35 scholarships totaling \$35,300. The scholarships are available to graduating highschool seniors, current college students, and to non-traditional students (adults who are pursuing their degrees for the first time or after an extended absence). The 2007-2008 Scholarship Application is available on our homepage at www.cantonfoundation.org. Applications are due March 2 by 5 p.m. to the Foundation office.



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LOCAL NEWS

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, February 25, 2007

Plymouth chefs get 'chili' reception Competition win sends local cooks to world championships

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

www.hometownlife.com

The Plymouth Township couple who organize the Great Lakes Regional Chili Cookoff in downtown Plymouth each October will themselves be competing for world recognition after taking top honors at the Snowflake Regional Chili Cookoff in Jackson.

Ken and Annette Horn will be traveling in October to Omaha, Neb., for the world championships after Ken won first place for his "Fireworks" chili recipe and Annette's salsa was rated number one.

"It's a long-awaited win," said Ken Horn, whose last regional win was in 2000. "There's always some luck to winning. It's a combination of what other cooks cooked and what judges preferred on a given day. There's a hundred different variables, so you cook something you like, and hope the judges like it, too."

Annette Horn, who has cooked in the world competition a half-dozen times, will be seeking her first world championship.

"It was very exciting, having a husband-and-wife team win the regional competition," she said.

Winning a regional competition in red chili, verde (green) chili and salsa automatically puts the winners into world competition against cooks from across the globe, including such places as Mexico, France, Italy and Australia. While the Horns competed against two dozen cooks in Jackson, they'll each be going up against nearly 150 regional winners. Ken Horn has an opportunity to win up to \$30,000 in the world competition. Annette Horn said salsa competition isn't as lucrative, with \$2,500 the top prize.

The Horns became hooked on chili and salsa competition after entering a contest in Saline in 1985, where they competed as a couple and finished eighth out of 80 cooks. However, these days, the



Ken and Annette Horn of Plymouth are on their way to the world championships of chili after winning a regional competition recently. Annette Horn is the organizer of Plymouth's Great Lakes Regional Chili Cookoff.

Horns – who have been married 22 years - compete against each other.

'We originally cooked together, but then one would say it needs to be hotter or needs more meat," said Annette Horn. "I cook with my hands, a pinch of this and eyeball that, if it feels right. You can really mess up a good recipe in the last five minutes by doing that.

"Ken is more precise, so we decided that since he likes it one way and I like it another, we would make our own and see how they fare," she said.

The two are also different when it comes to revealing the winning recipes. Ken has no problem with giving out his winning formula.

"Since I haven't been winning, I've been tweaking the mixture," Ken Horn said. "I'm not even sure I know the exact proportions, but I keep pretty close tabs on it. It's the chili powders that drive the flavor the most.

"I like to say it has enough heat to get your attention," he said. "Too hot is always a problem because you don't want to alienate the judges. Too mild means you don't get the attention you need." Annette Horn, who isn't

quite as forthcoming, disclosed most of her winning recipe.

"I use fresh tomatoes, green peppers, red bell peppers, orange and yellow peppers for color, green and red onions, sea salt, a shot of hot sauce ... and my secret ingredient," said Annette Horn, who owns Native West on Ann Arbor Trail. "I sell (the secret ingredient) at the store. If someone came in, I wouldn't tell them, but I would point them in the right direction."

Annette Horn said that while she enjoys eating chili, salsa is definitely her favorite. "I love salsa," she said. "Sometimes I eat it for break-

"Mentally, physically, emotionally, the

amazing. I know for a fact that this is

treatment was a 100% success. It's

better for me."

fast, lunch and dinner."

This year's Great Lakes Regional Chili Cookoff in

Ken Horn's winning recipe for Fireworks Chili:

WINNING FORMULA

3 lbs. Tri-tip beef cut in cubes or

A3

(P)

- chili grind
- 1 can beef broth 1 can chicken broth
- 15-oz. can tomato sauce
- 8-oz. can green chilies chopped
- (no seeds)
- 1 T garlic powder
- 2 medium onions
- 1 T beef bouillon
- 1 T cayenne powder
- 2 T cumin

8 T chili powder (use hot and mild power to suit your taste)

Brown meat in oil and add to chili pot along with diced onions, chicken & beef broth, tomato sauce and green chilies. Blend spices and add $\frac{1}{2}$ of the mixture. Cook for 2 hours. Add remaining spices and cook for one more hour or until meat is done. Add salt to taste.

October will be the twelfth, and is one of the larger regional competitions. Annette Horn is the main organizer, while Ken Horn is the chief judge.

"Judging helps you become a better chili cook," said Ken Horn, who has also judged chili at the world competition. "It gives you a really good perspective on what the best chili cooks in the world are cooking."

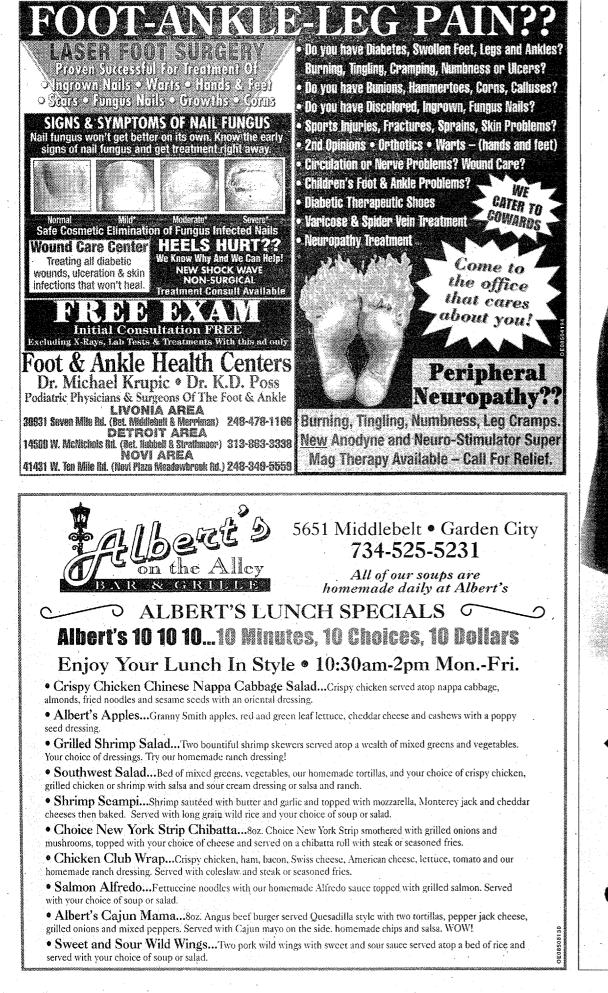
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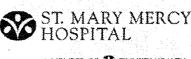
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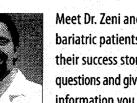
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Donovan D'Amore, 10, practices an Irish dance in his family's homemade studio. He's been Irish dancing since age 4 and is now on his way to the World Championships of Irish Dancing on April 1 in Scotland.

10-year-old Irish dancer heads to world contest

BY STACY JENKINS STAFF WRITER

Donovan D'Amore admits, he's in it for the glory. The 10-year-old Irish dancer from Farmington Hills has a collection of trophies, crystal bowls and beautiful plaques from dozens of competitions in which he's outstepped his com-

Now, he's on his way to the big one - the World Championships of Irish Dancing, where he will compete in the boys' age 10-11 group for what will likely be his

Donovan and his mother, Deirdre D'Amore, will travel to Glasgow, Scotland, for the April 1 competition. The fourth-grader at Our Lady of Sorrows School in Farmington said he's not nervous about performing, but more about awaiting the results.

The young Irish dancer has been through the pressure of competition many times before.

"It takes a lot of practice, but I've been doing Irish dancing for six years now, so I'm experienced," he said. "I enjoy the trophies the most, especially my first trophy – a first-place trophy I got when I was 8 years old."

Donovan has worked his way up from the beginning level, which he started when he was 4 years old, through a series of "first place" awards at each level. He is a student of his aunt, Megan Sanders, at O'Hare School of Irish Dance in Plymouth.

Irish dancing has passed through the generations in his mom's family. Deirdre danced for 16 years with her three sisters. They took lessons from the world champion Tim O'Hare, back in the days when he taught out of his garage.

Their mother was also an Irish dancer. Now, three of Deirdre and Randy D'Amore's children Irish dance -Donovan, 10, Caragh, 8, and Bridget, 4. Their youngest child is only 5 months old, but the family says he has the perfect "turned out" feet for Irish dancing.

"I'm Irish and I wanted to pass on our Irish heritage to our kids and now we're doing that through their dancing," said Deirdre.

There are many more girls who Irish dance than boys, but there are more boys nowadays than ever before.

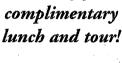
"There are more boys now that they don't have to wear kilts," said Deirdre.

"I would *not* have worn a kilt," chimed in Donovan. Donovan's dad is proud of

him for his accomplishments. "I'm really excited," he said.

"I wish I could dance!" Donovan will be joined at the world competition by his mom, his aunt/teacher and Tim O'Hare. The school has five qualifying dancers in the competition.

Donovan has already placed in the top 10 twice in the North American championship and he placed fourth in a regional competition spanning 10 states.



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LOCAL NEWS

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, February 25, 2007

Group delivers anti-war letters to McCotter

BY HUGH GALLAGHER STAFF WRITER

www.hometownlife.com

A group of about 30 gathered outside U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter's office in Livonia Thursday to protest President George W. Bush's plan to deploy 20,000 additional troops to Iraq.

The protest was part of a national campaign sponsored by the liberal political group MoveOn.org. With the theme "Congress is the Decider," the group planned to deliver 25,000 personal letters protesting the war to members of Congress from both parties. Letters were delivered at

noon to each congressional district office. The 11th District group formed outside the office building at 17197 Laurel Park Drive, Livonia, where McCotter has his 11th District headquarters. He also has an office in Milford.

McCotter, a Republican, has been a steady supporter of the war in Iraq. On Feb. 15, he voted against a Democraticsponsored non-binding resolution against the deployment of the additional troops, calling the resolution "impotent and immoral.

Participants took turns denouncing the war through a megaphone, as a steady wind whipped printed and handdrawn signs around. In addition to "Congress is the Decider," other signs read: "Our soldiers fulfilled their mission without question. It is our duty to question the mission in their behalf," "Troops Home Now" and "Iraq War, Who dies, Who Pays, Who profits."

When the protesters moved inside, they were briefly challenged by the building manager, who told them McCotter was not in the building and that the congressman's staff did not want to meet with the group.

"You can make an appointment with him. You're not a tenant of the building," he told them.

After a brief discussion, the protesters proceeded up to McCotter's second-floor office. The manager told them not to be disruptive to other tenants.

The group's letters were accepted by a staff member.

In his letter to McCotter, Betzler said the situation in Vietnam only improved through diplomacy rather than military action.

"... (E)ventually we withdrew our troops and over the course of the last 30 years our government chose a more civil path in our relationship with the Vietnamese government and its people," he wrote. "Today, we have won the hearts and minds of the Vietnam government and the people of Vietnam. Today, Vietnam is a friend to the U.S. government and U.S. people and is a major U.S. trading partner. This was accomplished, not through escalation of military troops, but through much diplomatic discussion."

Another veteran, Roy Lindhardt of Livonia. said he served five years in the Navy in the early 1960s. He said he

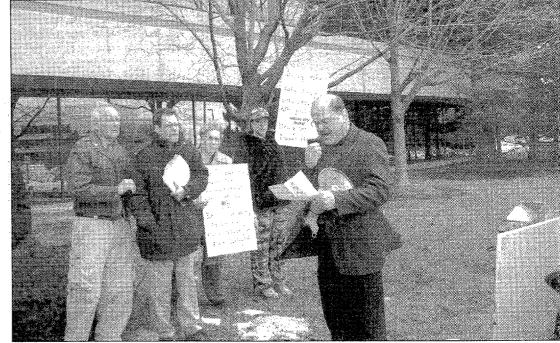
would support impeachment of Bush, Cheney and others in the administration. He said he worries about the extent of the president's emergency powers as tensions grow over

the war. The majority of those gathered at McCotter's office were middle-aged and older. Rachel Lamontagne, 24, of Commerce Township was the exception.

"My mother has been involved with political activism for years," she said. "I went to the rally in Washington two years ago and will go again next month. I am so fed up with President Bush."

She said she wished that more people from her age group would get involved in the protest. Lamontagne is a criminal justice student at Wayne State University.

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Larry Betzler of Milford, a Vietnam veteran, reads his letter against the war in Iraq during a protest Thursday outside of U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter's Livonia 11th District office.

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Robin Reading of Highland organized the 11th District protest. He began a Huron Valley chapter of MoveOn.org a couple of months ago.

"I've voted Republican most of my life," he said.

But he said he can't see anything changing under the Bush administration.

"Obviously, the American people are against the escalation. You've got the bipartisan Iraq study against it, (former Secretary of State) Colin Powell against it, the military leaders against it," he said. "March 19 will be the third anniversary of the Iraq War. We've lost 3,000 American lives, we've lost 10,000 lives of Iraq men, women and children not involved in combat."

The group included several former members of the armed services.

Larry Betzler of Milford is a U.S. Army veteran who served from 1967-70, including two tours of duty in Vietnam.

"I was part of the escalation of troops ordered by President Johnson," he said. "That escalation led to a significant increase in attacks, including the Tet offensive. The only thing we saw was a greater determination by the enemy to fight."

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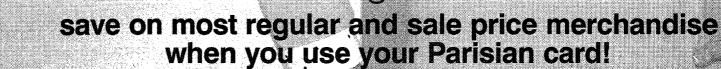
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ROBOTICS

(P)

A6

The Robotics Team has been working six days a week since Jan. 6, when they received nothing but a box of parts. In six weeks they had to design, build and test the robot before competition.

"It's a challenge," admitted Matthew Korzeniowski, 17, of Canton, who will major in engineering at the University of Michigan. "We get six weeks to build something that takes corporations years to do.

"There's a lot of engineering we do, like how much force you get out of the motors, and how many pounds can we put on the end of the arm before it snaps in two," he said. The P-CEP robotics team, in its eighth year, is led by technology education teacher Jay Obsniuk.

"We've never won a regional, but have always done well," Obsniuk said. "Last year, at the Wisconsin regional, we won the Delphi Award for our control system and the spirit award.

"Ours is a completely student-built robot," he said. "The mentors tell the kids what to do, and participate only when the kids need help. The kids design it, build it and test it."

Obsniuk said while the mentors – engineers from sponsoring automotive and manufacturing companies – are allowed to build the robot, he believes students

OPEN

MON.-SAT. 9-9 get much more from the experience by doing the project themselves.

"I've had kids who went on to Purdue (University's) engineering school, Michigan Tech and Lawrence Tech call up and say this experience has put them two-three years ahead of everybody else in their class," Obsniuk said. "They're learning what a sprocket is and how to design a gear ratio. They're doing things other students are just learning how to do."

Korzeniowski, who has been on the team since his sophomore year, said his essays to get into U-M were about FIRST and his participation on the robotics team.

"This program definitely helped me," Korzeniowski said. "Before I joined the team, I wasn't sure I what I wanted to do. But, after playing with robots, I knew this is what I wanted."

The P-CEP robotics team had been sponsored in the past entirely by Visteon, to the tune of about \$15,000. However, Visteon contributed only \$5,000 this year, so the P-CEP team also picked up Bosch Corp. – which is building a new headquarters in Plymouth Township – as a sponsor.

Marty Beeker, a navigation systems tester at Bosch who will soon be moving his office from Farmington Hills to Plymouth Township, mentored Northville High School students for five years before Bosch teamed with Plymouth-Canton. Beeker said automotive companies and suppliers may be experiencing tough times, but they aren't cutting back on efforts to attract future engineers.

"It's still a wise investment," Beeker said. "You have to build for your future, otherwise your struggles today get compounded tomorrow. And, Bosch has made the decision to stay with it and keep investing in the future."

In fact, because of the FIRST program, Beeker said Bosch has four students from the Bosch team at Northville working for them.

"This program is definitely attracting students that wouldn't normally be engineers, or wouldn't be necessarily aware of engineering, and directing them into engineering," he said. "Students, hopefully, will get a good direction and career path."

The P-CEP robotics team has gone from less than 10 students at its inception to several dozen today. And, while at one time those who created robots were considered geeks, that apparently isn't the case today. "Once you form a team with

Once you form a team with people, it's a whole new experience," said Rowe. "There's a lot of respect you get when you strap a couple of joy sticks onto a robot and drive it through the hallways at lunchtime."

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TEACHER FROM PAGE A1

yourself to a 14-year-old girl and propositioning her is inappropriate in any context."

Plymouth-Canton Schools Supt. Jim Ryan said he was "shocked and disappointed" after receiving the call from Washtenaw County authorities.

"Mr. Kennedy has been put on leave, and we're in touch with our legal counsel to determine our options," said Ryan, who said he also notified the Board of Education. "The legal process will take place, and we'll work from our end on how we want to proceed.

"Our lead tech is checking the computer today (Friday), but from all indications nothing happened at school," he added.

School district officials mailed letters home to the parents of Kennedy's 135 students, informing them of the incident and of a long-term substitute who will be taking over the class.

"In Mr. Kennedy's absence, a substitute teacher will provide the instruction necessary to help all of the students meet the objectives of the course," read the letter from Mike Bender, director of secondary education. "We want to assure you that this incident did not occur on school property. We are currently performing an internal investigation and will take appropriate steps once it has been completed." Parents who have concerns can contact district officials at (734) 416-2705.

The arrest is the 122nd attributed to Cox's Child and Public Protection Unit, which investigates Internet sexual predators.

"Predators continue to lurk on the Internet, trying to approach minors," Cox said. "My office will not let up in its pursuit to track down and prosecute these predators who seek to harm Michigan's children."

Cox urged parents to check their children's online "buddy lists" for screen names Kennedy used, including "oxyd69." If they believe Kennedy was in contact with their children, parents should contact the Attorney General's office at (313) 456-0180.

Frendewey said, thus far, they aren't investigating any other cases involving Kennedy.

"No other people have come forward and nothing else has been found in our forensic audit of his computer," Frendewey said.

Ryan said Kennedy apparently hasn't been in trouble with the law before, otherwise the school district would have been notified.

"Everyone who is hired has to be fingerprinted, and every year we get an updated list from the State Police," Ryan said. "This year the list had some people with old misdemeanors, but no one had a felony.

"We wouldn't hire anyone who wouldn't be safe around our children," he added.

Ficano proposes tax-free zone for Cobo

BY HUGH GALLAGHER STAFF WRITER

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano is asking the state legislature to create a taxfree zone at Cobo Center to attract more trade shows and conventions. The proposal is part of Ficano's continuing efforts toward renovating and expanding the convention center in downtown Detroit.

Ficano made his proposal Thursday night during his annual State of the County address before several hundred people at Henry Ford Community College in Dearborn.

He said he will ask the legislature and the governor to hundreds of dollars on the purchase of a new vehicle," Ficano said. "The no tax zone would give Cobo a marketing tool to attract other conventions that wanted to buy and sell their products or services."

COBO PLAN

In December, Ficano proposed a \$425 million renovation and one-million-squarefoot expansion for Cobo Center to be financed by extending hotel-motel and liquor taxes to 2037. Ficano argues that it is essential to renovate Cobo to keep the North American International Auto Show in the city and to attract other major conventions.

"The new Cobo will not raise

"Momentum is building from Mayor Kilpatrick, Gov. Granholm, the Detroit Auto Dealers, the Big Three, corporations, the media and other stakeholders."

Ficano returned to several themes he has been addressing in recent years – developing international trade, particularly with China; making Wayne County a center for alternative energy production; and creating an aerotropolis, centering future county development around the county's two airports, Metro and Willow Run.

Thursday Ficano announced plans for a second biodiesel plant in Wayne County. Advanced Resource Recovery will build a facility in Inkster. The facility will employ 40 people. Ficano continues to support development of E85 and other alternative fuels. "In Wayne County, we have converted our entire diesel fleet to biodiesel and have been using biodiesel in our road and salt trucks since last summer," he said. The county currently has five gas stations offering E85 fuel, including two in Canton.

trade partnerships with China, including a partnership with Plymouth-Canton schools.

We must continue to nurture the business relationships started on these trade missions to capitalize on China's momentum," Ficano said. "To attract and retain companies here, we must have a global market place that is competitive with a level playing field. We cannot repeat the mistakes with China that we made with Japan. Hopefully, we've learned that foreign companies like Toyota must be encouraged to locate in Michigan. Chinese companies want to locate here and we welcome them."

As another economic stimulus, Ficano proposed an annual tax holiday, to waive sales taxes



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for purchases made at Cobo Center.

"Boat and auto dealers could sell their products during the show. A visitor would save

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taxes but will provide nundreds of millions of dollars in economic impact each year to the city of Detroit, Oakland, Macomb and Wayne counties," Ficano said Thursday.

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CHINA TRIP

In November, two days after being re-elected to a second term, Ficano led his second trade mission to China. Thursday, he played a recorded greeting from Jianong Wu, vice mayor of Chongqing, China. The county has established business, educational and during a week in August for back-to-school shopping. The tax holiday would extend to clothing, books and supplies priced at \$100 or less per item; computers up to \$2,000; and furniture, small electronics and computer software less than \$500 per item. He said Washington, D.C., and 14 states have tax holidays.

Ficano also cited accomplishments of his administration including balancing the budget for four consecutive years; launching a land bank to provide funding to develop foreclosed and abandoned property; the Nuisance Abatement Program to fix up hundreds of homes; and the county's one-stop business resource center.



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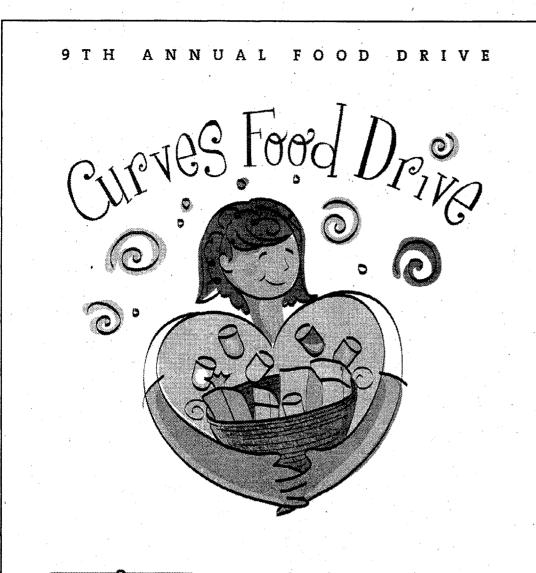
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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, February 25, 2007

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Deaf area seniors socialize in Redford

Hearing-impaired senior citizens from around the Detroit area gather in Redford Township each week to socialize, play cards, and break bread with other senior citizens. The Redford Community

Center is the site for the Thursday weekly social meeting of the Metro Detroit Deaf Senior Citizens Club. The group has been meeting

at the community center on Thursdays for more than a year, said Dorothy Morris, director of Redford's senior citizens department. Club members are usually at the center from about 9 a.m. to about 5 p.m., said Morris, who is studying sign language in order to better communicate with the group.

Club members can get lunch through Redford's weekday senior lunch program, or they



Zadwika Farah of Westland, right, along with, from left, Catherine Herzog, Loraine Englen, and Mary Jaskiewicz, communicate through sign language as they gather with other members of the deaf community for some card games at the Redford Community Center.

can bring their own. They sit down to card games, coffee and

doughnuts, and sign-language conversation.



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OUR VIEWS

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Vote yes 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 thumbsdown to the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools' \$62.1 million bond proposal in Tuesday's election.

We think that would be a mistake.

The proposal on which voters will cast their ballots 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 brought the 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 bussed in from Canton.

Voters who doubt Central has outlived its usefulness as a learning environment for middle schoolers need only have visited the school during one of Superintendent Jim Ryan's weekend tours. The three-story building is a security risk and lacks the same educational opportunities as the district's other, 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

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

Scale it back

Less than a year since the last turneddown proposal there is another, this time for \$62.1 million, still a huge amount of money for projects that would perhaps be nice to have if affordable, but some of them seem not that necessary.

Does Central Middle School need to be replaced because it is aging? What is meant by aging? Does the White House need replacing for the same reason? Some minor, inexpensive improvements to it may be all that is necessary to make it usable in the present capacity for many more years.

The \$31.2 million estimate for replacement of Central seems an exceedingly high price to pay. Perhaps more than 120, 3,000-square-feet luxury homes could be built for this much money. Whatever cafeteria improvements are needed, they probably can be done for much less than \$4 million, perhaps for something like \$10,000 or so. And for \$13.1 million, probably more than 100 classrooms could be built at \$131,000 or less each. Are that many needed?

Only two years ago district voters approved \$94 million for improvements and upgrades to all the district's school buildings we were told were needed. Didn't these improvements and upgrades include cafeteria improvements, refurbishing Central, adding a few more classrooms and a gym? If not, why? Is all that money, all \$94 million, already spent? If it is, for what?

Times are hard and getting harder nowadays. We are at war with the Middle East that costs this country about \$500 million a day. Inflation, outsourcing, losing manufacturing to foreign countries, and the downward economic spiral hit a lot of this school district's taxpayers hard, courtesy of some influential Washington politicians promoting Globalism and negotiating highly disadvantageous-to-us trade agreements.

A lot of this area's taxpayers are obligated to tighten their belts, limit their expenditures to absolutely basic needs, live within their means, so should the entities supported by taxpayer money, including school districts.

More taxes for the state, more for schools; there seems to be no end to more taxes. Little austerity is conducive to learning, while luxurious surroundings could be detractive. Perhaps the bond proposal, if still pursued, should undergo a scale-back for the second time to something more down-to-Earth, like \$4 million or less.

Joseph Wira

Plymouth

Votina no on bond

The Feb. 15 edition of the Observer had

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

an interesting letter to the editor, "Trust the Bring back paper ballots school board," written by John Nichols of Canton.

It appears to me that Mr. Nichols does not know all that needs to be known about the present bond issue nor any past bonds. Mr. Nichols, if you really knew what you were talking about your would never have attacked former board member Mark Horvath the way you did.

Mr. Horvath not only was an elected school board member, he is also a father, like you, who was concerned about his children and wanted the best for them. Mark attended board meetings before running for the board. He also attended a whole "bunch" of workshops before, during and after his time on the board.

Mark was always prepared for any discussion that might come up. In other words he always did his homework. Mark always knew the right questions to ask and worked well with the staff and got along great with the parents.

If everyone cared as much about their children, their schools as much as Mark does public education would be ahead instead of behind of most of the world.

New buildings will not accomplish that, if that is what you think will happen if we just build a new building. I agree with Mr. Horvath and will be voting "no" on this bond. I have been a solid supporter of what is best for the students, but I don't believe in milking the taxpayers. This is the wrong time to put the taxpayers further in debt.

Speaking of Central Middle School, if you research the history of this building you will find that we have put a lot of money into maintaining this building. It was lack of quality work and poor supervision by our own people that resulted in a bungled job and a cost of millions to the taxpayers.

How do I know all of this? Well, I had the privilege to serve on the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education for eight years, the last four with Mark Horvath.

Barbara Graham

Plymouth

New tax is no surprise

After a full term of no action, except increasing beer and cigarette taxes and blaming President Bush for the state's dismal economic situation, our telegenic governor is pushing for a new service tax on business.

Of course this action is being based on the recommendations of her Emergency Financial Advisory Panel, chaired by former governors William Milliken and James Blanchard - the two most tax raising governors this state ever had. Well, now we know who to blame on this unpopular decision.

Anthony Cauchi Canton

Dear Congress,

Please help clean up our elections by putting back paper ballots. We as Americans should go back to those paper ballots so we have records of our vote.

I knew right when I heard about the company of Di-bold that this was another way for opposition to rig an election by no paper trail. It just figures that former President Bush would be an investor of the company.

We must end the stealing of elections and have the man with the most votes be in office and not have a Supreme Court justice that was put in by another Republican and swayed his vote for the WRONG person.

Joseph McGlinchey Canton

A9

(CP)

Resist governor's plan

Gov. Granholm's State of the State speech illustrated a disoriented confidence that government can best manage the economy.

She demanded mercury levels for coal generators that are lower than federal levels. Costs will be prohibitive for no health benefits - she does not understand science. Renewable-source energy currently can exist only with subsidies, and we cannot afford them.

The state has no right to interfere in local politics: "Meaningful action toward shared or consolidated services with neighboring cities stand to lose real money." She is the governor, not dictator.

She would make preschool classes and attendance mandatory until 18 years of age, oblivious to the horrendous dropout rate of inner-city schools. She claims \$4,000 scholarships won't be paid by taxes but by tobacco settlement funds.

This is disingenuous because tobacco money goes into the general fund. Educated citizens gravitate to better opportunities out of state.

Her "No worker left behind" slogan appeals to the unemployed, but frightens potential employers.

The Single Business Tax needed to be eliminated — not replaced. The service tax creates a layer of bookkeeping for businesses from barber shops to architects that must be tested.

Granholm's advisors, former governors Blanchard and Milliken are memorable as tax and spend politicians. Michigan's economy could climb out of last place with advice from bankers, economists and industry leaders, but it just took another hit.

> Hank Borgman Farmington



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A10 (CPL)(A8-WReGc)

COUNTY NEWS

Roth 401(k) is a good option for employer plans

My employer just started offering the Roth 401(k) plan where they will match up to 5 percent. I am 55 years old and wondering if I should contribute to this new plan or keep my contributions on a tax-deferred basis. Please tell me what you think. Richard

I love the idea of using a Roth 401(k). I believe that the Roth 401(k) is a tremendous opportunity for investors. In a traditional 401(k) plan, you receive a double tax benefit. First, is that the money going into the plan is pre-taxed money, and secondly, the income generated grows on a tax-deferred basis. Taxes are due when the money is withdrawn. Furthermore, 401(k) plans are subject to minimum required distribution rules which mean that at the age of 70, you must begin taking required minimum distributions. On the whole, the benefits of a traditional 401(k) plan are it allows you to defer taxes on a portion of your wages by deferring into the 401(k) account and you also defer taxes on the growth on those invested dollars. The Roth 401(k) is a relatively new option that many companies are now offering. The great benefit of the Roth 401(k) is that all the accumulations of income are tax free and not tax deferred. The downside of the Roth



401(k) is that the money you contribute to the plan is posttax money and not pre-tax money. Therefore, you end up paying a little higher tax today, however, the great benefit comes down the road when the money is withdrawn. When money is withdrawn from a Roth 401(k) plan there are no taxes due. While in a traditional 401(k), all the money withdrawn is subject to ordinary income tax. Another advantage of the Roth 401(k) is that it is not subject to the Minimum Required Distribution rules. Therefore, you never have to withdraw your money and it can continue to grow tax-free for as long as you choose. In fact, if you should pass away and there is money left in your Roth 401(k), that money transfers income tax-free to your beneficiaries. In a traditional 401(k), there would be income taxes due. On the whole, I believe that in the great majority of situations, people should take advantage of Roth 401(k) plans. In fact, if your employer offers a traditional 401(k) and

does not offer a Roth option that is something I believe you should petition the employer to add on. One last note for employers that do not offer a Roth 401(k)

option, my question to them is why not? Good luck!

I am just about ready to retire and I want to know after I retire what should be the proper allocation of my portfolio, and in addition, should I leave my 401(k) at my employer or should I roll it over? Ralph

I believe the most important area for an investor to concentrate on is the allocation. In fact, when you read the studies the allocation is more important than the individual investments. I believe before an investor should even look at the individual investments, they need to set up an allocation based upon their individual goals and objectives. When I talk about allocation, what I am referring to is the percent of your portfolio that should be kept in cash, fixed income, investments such as bonds and fixed annuities and the allocation to equities such as stock mutual funds. It used to be much easier to set up an allocation because we did not have as many choices as we have today. In addition, our economy is totally different than it was a decade ago. It is

important that investors, in their portfolios, reflect the changing world in which we live

For the stock portion of a portfolio, prior to investing, an investor needs to allocate between a variety of asset classes such as large caps, small caps, international, energy and real estate. The key to have a well-balanced and diversified portfolio is to be in a variety of different areas of the economy. Not all sectors of the economy operate on the same cycle. Thus, by diversifying, you protect yourself. As to the proper asset allocation when someone retires, as far as I am concerned, whether someone is working or retired is relatively immaterial. What is material are their goals and objectives. I do not believe that all retirees are in the same position, and thus without knowing more about your situation, it is impossible to suggest an allocation. After all, some retirees need income, others do not. I've always said I think it is a mistake for investors to base their portfolios on their age. You base your portfolios upon your individual situation. With regards to whether you should leave your money within the company 401(k) or directly transfer it into an IRA, my general advice for the great majority of people is to transfer the money into an IRA.

By directly transferring the money into an IRA, you can better establish a portfolio that fits your individual situation. In addition, you're not subject to the whims of the employer who may change their investment options within the 401(k) plan. Employers are frequently changing their plans and that could have an effect on your portfolio. I recommend that you take the money with you. By directly transferring the money to companies like Schwab or Vanguard, you will

be able to establish a portfolio and implement it using commission-free funds. Both of those companies have a wealth of funds available to implement a portfolio. One last note. Always to remember that when someone retires today, typically they are still young and must think long term.

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After all, someone who retires in their 60s is far from old and they have to plan on living at least another 30 years. Therefore, in order to guarantee someone a rising income throughout their lifetime, which is essential in today's world, retirees should never forget to have a growth element in their portfolio. Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. *Observer & Eccentric* readers can submit questions at moneymatters@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 1400 AM.



Schoolcraft Expo spotlights public safety careers

Explore the possibility of a career in public safety and examine first-hand police and fire vehicles and displays at Schoolcraft College's Public Safety Career Expo. The Expo takes place 4-7 p.m. Wednesday, March 21, at Schoolcraft College's Radcliff Center in Garden City.

Potential employers will be on hand to accept resumes and answer questions about their programs. Those attending include representatives of police, fire and rescue units, the Wayne County Airport Authority, the Michigan State Police Bomb Squad, commercial enterprises, sheriff departments and colleges and universities.

Participants also include the U.S. Probation, Marshal and

Secret Service, Henry Ford Hospital security, Huron Valley Ambulance service and the Schoolcraft College Fire and Police academies.

For job seekers interested in a public safety career, Expo organizers suggest bringing 30 to 40 resumes to the event.

The event is free and open to the public. For information, call (734) 462-4421.

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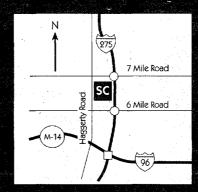
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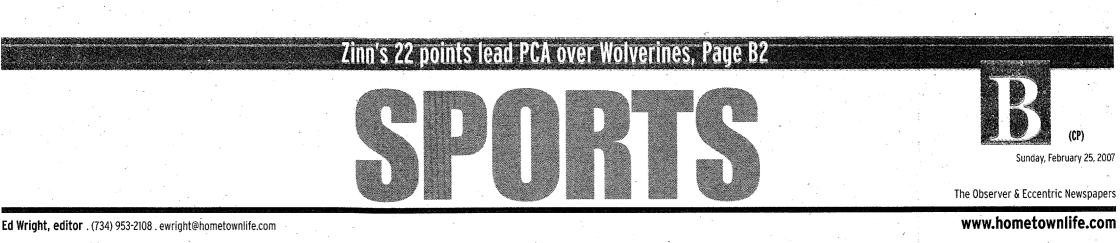
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Quinlan honored with two prestigious awards

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

How has Plymouth's Chelsey Quinlan managed to sculpt an out-of-this-world 4.03 gradepoint average while juggling a schedule that includes either an athletics practice (sometimes two), a sporting event or a National Honor Society meeting nearly every night of the week?

She's done it by making the most of every minute of every day, by putting homework before more-entertaining activities like TVwatching, and by hitting the books in some lessthan-ideal settings.

"One night my junior year we had a volleyball match way out at Walled Lake Northern," recalled Quinlan. "Well, a bunch of us on the team had finals the next day and we wouldn't be getting back to Plymouth until about 10:30, so we asked the bus driver if she would turn the lights on in the bus on the ride home so that we could study.

"I'm not sure if she was supposed to, but she did it any way and we all studied during the entire trip home."

The studying-by-buslight scenario was just one example of the time-management skills that helped Quinlan earn a pair of impressive honors over the past three months.

In December, she was presented with the "McDonald's & WXYZ-TV High School Student-Athlete of the Week," award, the presentation of which was aired on Channel 7's Sunday night sports show.

The icing on Quinlan's amazing achievement cake came earlier this month when she received just one of 32 Michigan High School Athletic Association Scholar-Athlete scholarships. Literally thousands of student-athletes from Iron Mountain to Monroe — applied for the MHSAA award, which puts Quinlan's accomplishment in its proper light.

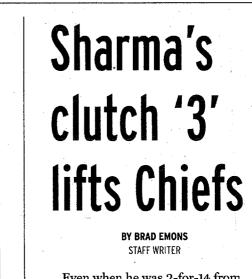
"I was shocked when I found out I had won the MHSAA award," said Quinlan, who will have earned 12 varsity letters by the time she graduates in June. "It was a great honor just to be named a finalist. When our athletic director, Terry Sawchuk, called me down to his office and told me I had won, I couldn't believe it."

In order to be nominated for the \$1,000 MHSAA scholarship, student-athletes needed a minimum 3.5 GPA, had to participate in at least one varsity sport and needed two recommendations from coaches, teachers or school administrators.

PLEASE SEE QUINLAN, B2 past three months.



Senior Chelsey Quinlan, a three-sport athlete at Plymouth, has received two impressive honors over the past three months.



Even when he was 2-for-14 from the floor and it was 47-all in overtime, Neil Sharma had the "green light" as far as coach Charlie Paye was concerned.

The 6-foot-3 junior forward stepped behind the three-point line near the top of the key and drilled a shot with 1:47 to go, propelling Canton to a 55-53 boys basketball victory Friday night over host Westland John Glenn in the semifinals of the Western Lakes Activities Association tournament.

WLAA HOOP TOURNEY

Sharma also added two key free

OLGC football

The Our Lady of Good Counsel (OLGC) football program will hold its parents meeting for the 2007 season at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 29, in the OLGC gym, which is located at 1151 William St. in Plymouth.

OLGC offers teams for boys in third through eighth grades. Families that belong to the following parishes are eligible: OLGC, St. Kenneth, Our Lady of Victory, St. Mary's of Wayne, St. Richard, St. Thomas a'Becket, Divine Savior, Resurrection, St. James (third-graders only) and St. John Neumann.

Parents of interested players should attend the meeting. Program information and registration materials will be distributed.

For further information, contact Kevin Suppelsa at ksuppelsa@wowway.com; or (734) 414-8275; or visit www.olgcfootball.net.

District hoop

The Plymouth Christian Academy and Canton Agape Christian boy basketball teams will be participating in the Class D District 106 tournament March 6-9 at Redford Covenant High School. Agape will open the tour-

nament on Tuesday, March

Westland in a game slated

to tip off at 6 p.m. A victo-

Wolverines into a semifinal

Thursday, March 8, against

PCA will open at 8 p.m.

on March 6 against host

Covenant, which is led by

All-State performer Durrell

Summers. A win would pro-

Thursday's semifinal round

The championship game

Diesel tryouts The Detroit Diesels minor

league football team that

Livonia will be holding try-

plays its home games in

outs from 2:30 p.m. to

5:30 p.m. on Saturday,

March 10, and Saturday,

March 24, at High Velocity

Sports, which is at 46245

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or older to try out. The reg-

istration fee is \$30.

call (313) 294-0890.

Michigan Ave. in Canton.

6. against Lutheran

ry would send the

game at 6 p.m. on

Westside Christian

pel the Eagles into

against Huron Valley

Lutheran, which also

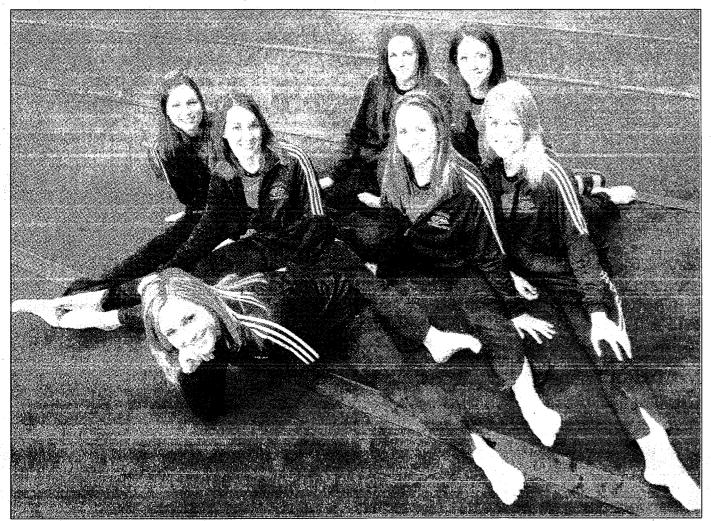
is set for 6 p.m. Friday,

received a bye.

March 9,

first-round bye.

Academy, which drew a



Pictured (from left) are members of the Canton gymnastics team's strong senior class: Andrea Houdek, Heather Quinlan, Alyssa Kelley, Kate Staley, Kaitlyn Burns, Chelsea Selden and Courtney Ward.



Senior Chief gymnasts ready to cap great careers

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

The talented group of freshmen Canton gymnastics coach John Cunningham welcomed into his program in the fall of 2003 was almost as rare as a perfectly executed Tsukahara.

Now seniors, they entered high school with sky-high potential and no matter what happens during the final two weeks of this, their final season — they'll vault into the sunset knowing that they lived up to the promise they brought with them four years ago.

"The members of this year's senior class make up the core of our team, there's no question about that," said Cunningham. "We're going to be OK next year once they're gone, but with that said, this group is really going to be missed.

"Just about every member of this

crew has scored a 9.0 or better in at least one event. And a couple of them have contributed since day one of their freshman seasons."

Led by the ultra-skilled Alyssa Kelley, the Chiefs have been a perennial state-ranked power each of the past four years. They entered Thursday night's Western Lakes conference meet with a 14-2 record and No. 6 state ranking.

Both of the team's losses were by less than a point, so Cunningham's squad is within the width of a balance beam of being unbeaten.

"It's been a fun four years," said Kelley. "I'll take a lot of great memories from my time on this team. The highlight was probably last year when we set a new team record for points at the conference meet. Overall, this year's team is probably the best one I've been on. Even when we've lost, it's been close."

Kelley has been the heart and soul

of the group. A highly decorated club gymnastics performer prior to high school, she suffered a serious back injury while in middle school.

BILL BRESLER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

"When she started here her freshman year, Alyssa was recovering from a broken back," remembered Cunningham. "The doctors told her she couldn't compete in club gymnastics any more because it was too demanding, but they said high school would be OK because she could go more at her own pace.

"I told her right away to tell me when she didn't want to do something or when she was hurting. And now, four years later, she only missed a couple of meets and just one this year because she was sick.

"When you look at her entire career, I'd have to say she's the best gymnast we've had here at Canton." Kelley is the defending Division 1

PLEASE SEE GYMNASTICS, B3

throws with 45 seconds left and Josh Butler contributed two more from the line to sew up the win.

Sharma, who finished with 10 points, struggled during the first half, going 2-for-10.

"Neil's our best perimeter shooter and he's capable of that," said Paye of the clutch three-pointer in OT. "Sometimes when it's a big game, he gets too excited and he shoots too quickly, or throws up a shot off-balance. At halftime we talked about slowing it down."

Canton, now 13-6 overall, moves into the WLAA championship game, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at Plymouth, against 18-1 Northville, which owns two victories over the Chiefs this season.

Lakes Division champion Glenn, now 14-5 overall, had it 12-game winning streak snapped.

"No excuses, they beat us, I take my hats off to them," Glenn first-year coach Dan Young said. "That shot by Sharma was huge. They beat us to loose balls. Canton does a good job defensively and they're physical."

The game was nip-and-tuck throughout.

Canton led 12-11 after one quarter, but Glenn forged ahead 23-22 at halftime despite the loss of junior forward Earl Hardison, the Rockets' leading scorer who was forced off the floor with an ankle injury.

Glenn led by as many as seven in

PLEASE SEE HOOPS, B2

Gymnasts shine

For more information,

Five local gymnasts played key roles in Gym America's fine showing at the Buckeye Classic in Columbus, Ohio Feb. 17-18. The Level 7 team; which

won the team competition, was paced by Olivia Ozeranic (first on vault and second on beam); Abby Rice (first on bars, floor and all-around; and 2nd on beam); Haylee Weber (first on beam and second on floor); and Paige Wright (1st on floor; and second on vault and beam. In the Level 8 competition, Kayla Weber won bars with a 9.40.

Churchill icers motor past 'Cats

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

What do you get when you put Livonia Churchill's NASCAR-fast hockey team on a spacious Olympic-sized ice surface? VROOM! VROOM! VROOM!

The Chargers opened up their throttles Friday night on the Compuware Sports Arena's larger-than-normal rink and raced past Plymouth, 4-0, in the Western Lakes Activities Association first-place crossover game.

If not for a stand-on-his-head effort from Wildcat goalie Justin Desilets, the Chargers may have flirted with double-digit goals.

WLAA HOCKEY FINAL

"I thought we did a nice job of adjusting to the bigger ice surface," said Churchill coach Pete Mazzoni. "When you don't play on it every day, it's very deceiving. There's a ton of room out there and it looks like you're skating slower than you are.

"I'll tell you what though: I'd love to have this team on that rink on a regular basis."

The victory improved the state's No. 1ranked Division 1 team to 22-2 heading into

Monday night's pre-Regional opener against

PLEASE SEE HOCKEY, B4



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth goalie Justin Desilets makes a stop on Churchill's Kody Strong during Friday night's 4-0 Charger victory. Desilets snuffed out 35 Churchill shots on the night.

FROM PAGE B1

Quinlan's accomplishments blew the minimum requirements out of the water.

This is a fantastic accomplishment for Chelsey and Plymouth High School," said Sawchuk. "Another Plymouth student-athlete — Alex Mihelick - won last year, so we've had someone win it both years we've been eligible.

"Chelsey is a very special kid who is going to be a great asset to society in whatever field she decides to pursue. This award is a tribute to her parents, teachers, coaches and, most importantly, to Chelsey."

Quinlan has earned varsity letters in basketball (fall), volleyball (winter) and soccer (spring) since her freshman year.

Somehow, she's also played elite-level club soccer yearround the past four years, which means that on many nights her homework was sandwiched in between two practices and/or games.

"The busier I am, the better I seem to do in school," said Quinlan. "The key for me is being organized and managing my time, although I'm not always organized and I don't always manage my time like I should.

"When you play three sports like I do, you have to stay on top of things and prioritize or you're not going to do well."

Quinlan didn't hesitate when she was asked what would top the list of her top academic achievements.

"Getting an 'A' in Chemistry my junior year," she said. "Junior year is difficult because you have to prepare for the



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's Chelsey Quinlan, pictured above during a volleyball match last year, was recently awarded with a prestigious student-athlete award from the Michigan High School Athletic Association.

ACT's and everything else, plus \rightarrow as a lot of people know -Chemistry is one of the hardest classes you can take at the Park. It wasn't easy, but I did it."

Quinlan said her parents -Steve and Jill – deserve a lot of credit for her success.

"There's no way I would have been able to do it without

OE085078

LEGAL NOTICE

The Plymouth Housing Commission is requesting proposals from qualified agencies interested in managing Washington Manor, which consists of 15 units of public housing located in the City of South Lyon. The address for Washington Manor is 432 Washington Street, South Lyon, MI. Interested parties must have a minimum of five years experience with HUD programs and references are required.

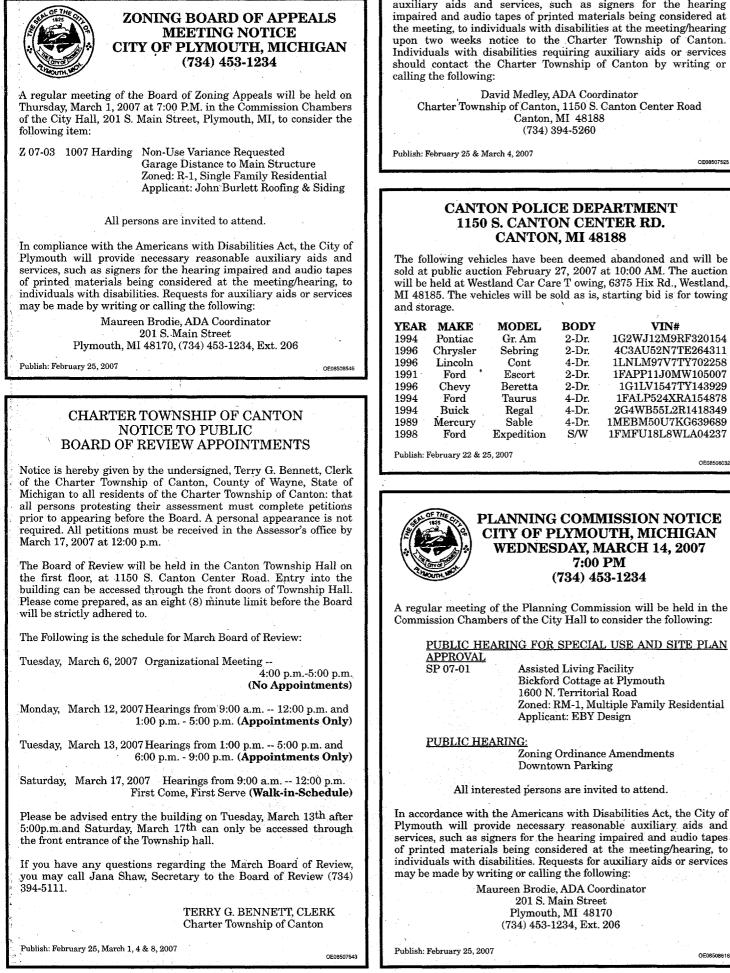
Proposals will be accepted by mail until COBD Friday, March 9, 2007, at the following address:

> **Plymouth Housing Commission** 1160 Sheridan Street Plymouth, MI 48170

For further information, please contact Sharon Thomas at (734) 455-3670, ext. 224

Publish: February 22 & 25, 2007

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young to drive. They've always supported me, too, in sports and school. "Whenever I'd get stressed out about something, they've always been there to talk to me." Quinlan will attend either the University of Michigan or Michigan State University in the fall.

them," she said. "They've been

at every game I've ever played

in and my mom took me to

everything when I was too

"If I end up going to Michigan, I'd lean towards getting into their sports management program through Kinesiology," she said. "If I go to State, I'd probably pursue a degree in Education."

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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

Zinn's 22 points lead **PCA over Wolverines**

Plymouth Christian Academy overcame a 25-12 halftime deficit and rallied to earn a tense 47-44 victory over Canton Agape Christian Friday night at Garden City United Christian.

The triumph improved the Eagles' record to 7-12 while the Wolverines slipped to 14-4.

"We had a great second half," said PCA coach Dave Yost. "This was a great, great team win. The kids played really well, especially defensively."

Junior guard Trevor Zinn paced the winners with 22 points. Agape was led by Jack Anleitner (16 points) and Terrell Pierce (12).

Agape led 17-4 after one quarter and 25-12 at the half before the Eagles stormed back to tie the game, 33-all with eight min-

PCA hit 10-of-16 free throws while the Wolverines were 14-of-23 from the line.

SALEM 72, W.L. WESTERN 69 (2 OTs): On Friday in a WLAA consolation bracket contest, the Rocks wiped out a 10-point firsthalf deficit to register a thrilling victory over the visiting Warriors.

Salem improved to 9-10 overall heading into Tuesday's regular-season finale at home against Livonia Stevenson. The opening tip is set for 7 p.m.

"It was a great game — both teams played well," said Salem coach Bob Brodie. "We charged our way back after they took a 10-point lead in the first half. The key was our free-throw

shooting down the stretch.

The Warriors nearly sent the game into a third overtime, but their last-second triple attempt hit the back of the rim and bounced harmlessly away.

www.hometownlife.com

Junior forward Ross Davis paced the Rocks with 21 points and 12 rebounds. Also playing well for the winners were Grant Stone (13 points) and Brian Baumgart (11).

Sean Armstrong led the Warriors with 18 points.

CHURCHILL 44, PLYMOUTH 40 (OT): Despite being outscored 14-6 in the final quarter Friday, host Livonia Churchill (9-10) rallied in overtime to beat the Wildcats (6-13).

The Chargers, who missed a tip-in at the buzzer in regulation, outscored Plymouth 6-2 in the four-minute extra session.

Andrew Vagnetti's two free throws put Churchill up by three with 30 seconds to go. Ryan Whittum's free throw with 11 seconds remaining then sealed the WLAA loser's bracket win. The Chargers hit 8-of-14 free throws on the night, including 4-of-6 in OT.

Junior forward Ryan Rosenick led Churchill with 17 points and 10 rebounds. Whittum finished with 11 points.

Brothers Kulraj and Navraj Sandhu scored 11 and 10, respectively, for Plymouth. All of Navraj's points came in the opening half as the two teams were deadlock 18-all.

The Wildcats were 6-of-9 from the foul line.

Chief spikers fall to Northville

upended in three games by Northville Monday night, 25-8,

VIN#

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two blocks), Jordan Kielty (three kills) and Ellie Kenny (three kills) were the Chiefs' bright spots for the night.

We struggled on servereceive in games one and three and we sent over too many free balls," said Canton coach Jen Barnes. "Since our passing was

struggling, we had difficulty running our offense. You just can't play that way against a strong team like Northville.

We served aggressive and ran our offense quickly like we did in game two, it was a totally different game. Again, we need to be more consistent."

OE085084



Canton's volleyball team was 25-23 and 25-8.

The Chiefs' lone senior. Joellen Heldt, was honored prior to the match. Marie Martin (three kills,

to a shot by Robert Jones with 4:00 to go. The Chiefs, however, led 35-33 on Butler's shot with 52 seconds remaining in the same period.

7 senior center, loomed large with 15 points, 15 rebounds and three assists and he scored a big basket with 2:52 in the game to give Canton a 42-41 advantage.

The Chiefs led 43-41 on Butler's free throw with just 9.62 seconds remaining, but speedy Glenn junior guard Keshawn Martin (18 points), who made several acrobatic drives to the basket, split two defenders down center of the lane and scored on a corkscrew layup with only three seconds remaining to send the game into OT.

goals in the final 4:55, both by Martin, and committed four critical turnovers down the stretch.

Canton hit only 22-of-58 shots from the floor (37.9 percent), but connected on 14-of-17 free throws (82.3 percent).

out competed," Young said. "They laid it on the line, and we had our chances. But I'm as proud of them as I've been during the whole winning streak."

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

HOOPS

FROM PAGE B1

the third quarter, 31-24, thanks

Ryan Waidmann, Canton's 6-

Glenn had only two field

Ryan Langdon also played a

solid floor game for the Chiefs with 10 points, seven rebounds and four steals. Stefan Marken added 14 for

Glenn, while Hardison finished with nine. "I proud of my guys, they flat-

utes to play.

Saturday, March 3, 2007 through Wednesday, March 7, 2007

The Charter Township of Plymouth Department of Public Works (DPW) will be testing the temporary water service connections that were installed as part of the Sheldon Road Underpass Project. The water service connections to be tested were recently installed to provide temporary water service to the City of Plymouth. Temporary water service to the City of Plymouth is scheduled to occur in the Spring of 2007 to allow for the removal and replacement of the 36" Detroit water main in Sheldon Road. The purpose of the test is to ensure the City of Plymouth will receive adequate water service through the temporary connections.

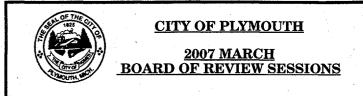
Testing will occur for five (5) consecutive days beginning Saturday, March 3, 2007 and ending Wednesday, March 7, 2007. During this time, Township residents may observe minor changes in water pressure and water discoloration due to the testing activities. Such changes are not uncommon or hazardous to your health and will be temporary should they occur.

For questions or concerns, Township residents may contact the DPW during the test period at the following phone numbers:

March 3, 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM:	(734) 414-1443
March 5 – March 7, 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM	(734) 414 - 1443

On March 3 after 4:30 PM, March 4 and during non-business hours on March 5-7, call the Plymouth Township Communication/ Dispatch at (734) 354-3248.

Publish: February 25 & March 1, 2007



The City of Plymouth will be conducting the 2007 March Board of Review and will convene in the City Commission Chambers, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170, for an Organizational Meeting on Tuesday, March 6, 2007 from 9:00 a. to 9:30 a.m. and appointments scheduled as follows:

The regular Board of Review schedule:

Tuesday, March 6, 2007 from 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Thursday, March 8, 2007 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Monday, March 12, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 13, 2007 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Thursday, March 15, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed. Hearings are by appointment only. COMPLETED 2007 BOARD OF REVIEW PETITIONS ARE NECESSARY and must be submitted to the Front Office located on the First Floor of City Hall, prior to your appointment . The "Deadline" for submitting petitions for all persons wishing to appeal in person before the Board of Review is Wednesday, March 14, 2007 by 4:30 p.m.

A resident or non-resident taxpayer may file a petition with the Board of Review without the requirement of a personal appearance by the taxpayer or a representative. An agent must have written authority to represent the owner. Written petitions must be submitted by Wednesday, March 14, 2007 by 4:30 p.m.

Copies of the notices stating the dates and times of the meetings will be posted and published in the local newspaper

All Board of Review meetings are open meetings in compliance with the "Open Meetings Act".

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact 734-453-1234, ext. 253 or 252.

Linda J. Langmesser, CMC City Clerk

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Publish: February 15, 18 & 25, 2007

GYMNASTICS

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, February 25, 2007

GYMNASTICS

FROM PAGE B1

www.hometownlife.com

state champion on the vault. She's also been among the elite all-arounders each year in high school.

Joining Kelley to give the Chiefs a solid one-two punch in the all-around has been senior Kate Staley, who excels on the uneven bars and the balance beam.

"As a junior last year, Kate really came to play," said Cunningham. "And that's continued into this year. She was probably our most improved gymnast last year. This year, she's been consistently over 36 in the allaround and she's probably our best girl on the bars."

Canton's best Division II all-arounder is Kaitlyn Burns, who achieved a personal-best all-around score of 35.65 earlier this year.

"Kaitlyn has the potential to get nines in three of the four events," said Cunningham. "She has a beautiful floor routine."

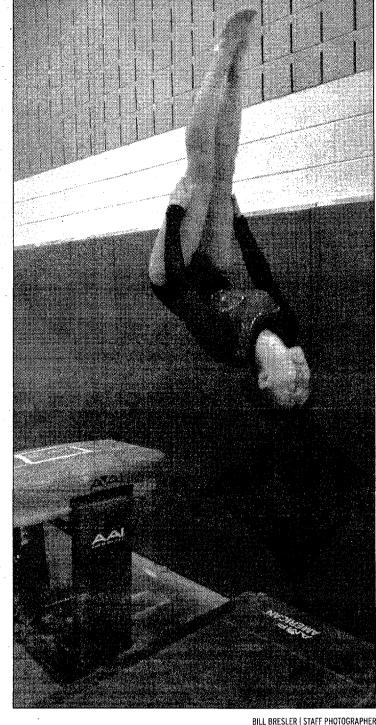
The Chiefs' most reliable beam performer was senior Chelsea Selden, who has been sidelined the past month with the broken fibula she suffered during a late-January practice session.

"We've really missed Chelsea because she would always start us out on the right foot on the beam," said Cunningham. "She has such a clean routine and she never, ever fell, which took the pressure off everyone who followed her.

"Chelsea works very hard with the younger gymnasts, too. Even though she's been out for over a month, she hasn't missed one practice, which says a lot about the kind of person she is."

Courtney Ward, Andrea Houdek and Heather Quinlan are — like Selden gymnasts who specialize in one or two events.

"Courtney has a beautiful floor routine," said Cunningham. "If only everyone on our team could leap like Courtney on their floor



Canton's Alyssa Kelley has been one of the premier all-around gymnasts during her four-year high school career.

routines. She's very consistent in that event and she's strong in the vault and beam also.

"Andrea's forte is the beam. She never falls and she often scores nines. Most teams worry about the beam, but we don't, thanks to girls like Andrea and Chelsea." Cunningham said the sen-

iors aren't not just leaders on the mat.

"One thing they do very well is encourage each other," he said. "They'll each watch the other girls' routines then offer advice on how to make it better. It's fun to watch."

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Livonia gymnasts 1-2 at Western Lakes meet

They were seeing Red and Blue in Thursday's Western Lakes Conference girls gymnastics meet hosted by Walled Lake Central.

Livonia Unified came in as the defending champion, but after the MHSAA forced them to de-unify for the 2006-07 season, Livonia Red (Churchill) and Livonia Blue (Stevenson-Franklin) still remain at the top, finishing one-two to lead the 12-school field.

Livonia Red wound up with a season-best 146.100 points followed by Lakes Division champion Livonia Blue with 144.100.

Northville placed third with 143.950, while Western Division champion Canton, the only team to defeat Livonia's Red and Blue teams this season, settled fourth with 143.100. (Division winners were determined by

WESTERN LAKES

GYMNASTICS MEET

Thursday at W.L. Central

Northville, 143.950; 4. Canton, 143.100; 5.

Salem, 142.425; 6. Brighton, 136.975; 7.

Howell, 135.875; 8. W.L. Central, 131.750; 9.

Plymouth, 117.300; 10. W.L. North/Western, 115.600; 11. Milford/Lakeland, 85.625; 12.

INDIVIDUAL EVENT RESULTS

Kelley (C), 9.575; 3. Emily Quint (LB), 9.550; 4. Sam Zach (ML), 9.40; 5. Katie Koetting

Division 1 VAULT: 1. Paul Guzik (LR), 9.60; 2. Alyssa

(S), 9.250; 6. Lauren DiLullo (B), 9.150; 7.

Cassidy Winter (N), 9.10; 8. Makenna Pohl

Andrea Pisani (LR), 9.050.

(N), 9.075; 9. (tie) Meghan Powers (LB) and

UNEVEN BARS: 1. Paula Guzik (LR), 9.450; 2.

Emily Quint (LB), 9.40; 3. Katie Koetting (S),

(WLNW), 9.050; 7. Alyssa Kelley (C), 9.00; 8.

Sam Zach (ML), 8,950; 9. (tie) Jessie Murray

BALANCE BEAM: 1. Andrea Pisani (LR), 9.70;

Collins (S), 9.60; 4. (tie) Alyssa Kelley (C),

2. Makenna Pohl (N), 9.675; 3. Autumn

9.30; 4. Andrea Pisani (LR), 9.20; 5. (tie)

Rachael Page (B) and Hannah Saaranen

(C) and Sarah Bugosh (S), 8.90.

OVERALL STANDINGS: 1. Livonia Red,

146.100; 2. Livonia Blue, 144.100; 3.

Hartland, 54.050.

meet averages.)

Salem notched fifth with a score of 142.425.

"It's our high score for the year and I'm so impressed with all the girls' performances," Livonia Red coach Kelly Grodzicki said. "They did an amazing job and we hope they can stay focused for the regionals (this Saturday at Plymouth)."

Among the local gymnasts who excelled in Division 1 were Salem's Katie Koetting, who placed fourth in the Division 1 all-around (37.450), just ahead of Canton's fifth-place Alyssa Kelley (37.40).

Koetting's highest individual finish was third in the uneven bars. Kelley tied for fourth on the balance beam.

Livonia Red's Paula Guzik was the all-around winner in Division I with a score of 38.1. She captured the vault (9.6) and uneven parallel bars (9.45).

She was also runner-up on floor exercise (9.55) and tied for fourth on the balance beam.

Teammate Andrea Pisani was third overall in Division I with a score of 37.60. She won the balance beam (9.7) and floor exercise (9.65) to go along with a fourth on bars (9.2) and tied for ninth on vault (9.05).

Livonia Blue was led by freshman Emily Quint, who was runner-up to Guzik in the all-around (37.775). She placed second on bars (9.4); third on vault (9.55); fifth on floor (9.375); and eighth on beam (9.45).

Salem's Brittany Young placed fourth in the Division 2 all-around with 35.275 points. Canton's Kaitlyn Burns was ninth.

GYMNASTICS RESULTS

Meghan Powers (LB), Paula Guzik (LR) and Katie Koetting (S), 9.50; 8. Emily Quint (LB), 9.450; 9. Rachael Page (B), 9.40; 10. Jessie Murray (C), 9.30. FLOOR EXERCISE: 1. Andrea Pisani (LR),

FLOOR EXERCISE: 1. Andrea Pisani (LR), 9.650; 2. Paula Guzik (LR), 9.550; 3. Lauren DiLullo (B), 9.475; 4. Katie Koetting (S), 9.40; 5. Emily Quint (LB), 9.375; 6. Alyssa Kelley (C), 9.325; 7. Meghan Powers (LB), 9.20; 8. Sam Zach (ML), 9.125; 9. Jessie Murray (C), 9.050; 10. Alicia Dimauro (LR), 9.00

ALL-AROUND: 1. Paula Guzik (LR), 38.10; 2. Emily Quint (LB), 37.775; 3. Andrea Pisani (LR), 37.60; 4. Katie Koetting (S), 37.450; 5. Alyssa Kelley (C), 37.40; 6. Lauren Dilullo (B), 36.525; 7. Meghan Powers (LB), 36.50; 8. Makenna Pohl (N), 36.425; 9. Jessie Murray (C), 36.20; 10. Cassidy Winter (N), 35.550. Division 2

VAULT: 1. Julie Foucher (N), 9.350; 2. Laura Nomura (LB), 9.250; Tiffeny Wysocki (B), 9.150; 4. Monica Cauley (H), 8.950; 5. (tie) Kaitlyn Burns (C) and Katarina Kariotis (S), 8.90; 7. Julie Davison (N), 8.850; 8. Magarita Lazarevska (LR), 8.80; 9. Kelly Tapella (LB), 8.70; 10. Michaelle Steslicki (N), 8.650.

UNEVEN BARS: 1. (tie) Julie Foucher (N) and Brittany Young (S), 9.050; 3. Laura Nomura (LB), 8.650; 4. (tie) Paige Locher (ML) and Amy Reynolds (N), 8.450; 6. Mandi Bourlier (LR), 8.40; 7. Amanda Röhköhl (H), 8.350; 8. (tie) Katarina Kariotis (S) and Kelly McKay (WLC), 8.20; 10. (tie) Tiffeny Wysocki (B), Andrea Houdek (C) and Monica Cauley (H), 8.150.

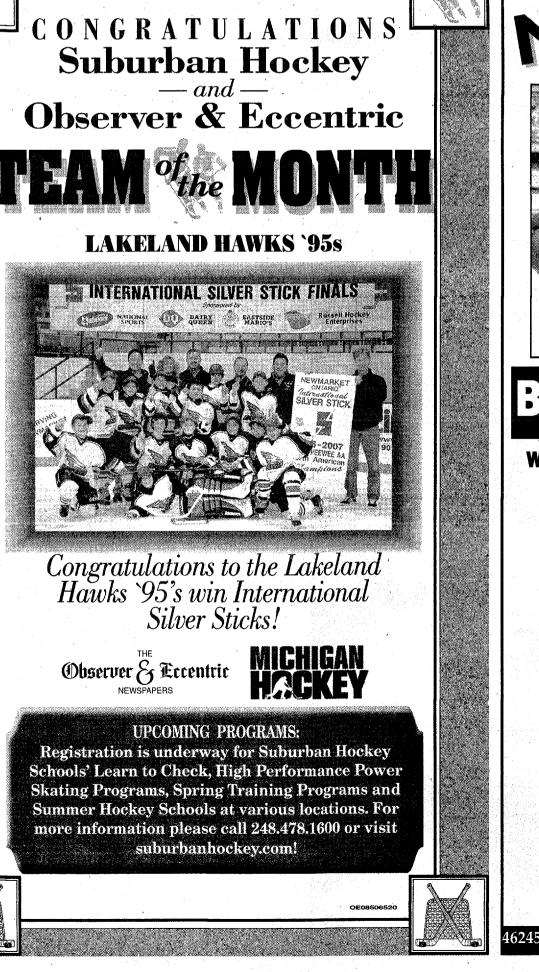
BALANCE BEAM: 1. Brittany Young (S), 9.475; 2. Monica Cauley (H), 9.40; 3. Amy Reynolds (N), 9.250; 4. Alyssa Gonzales (LR), 9.20; 5. Magarita Lazarevska (LR), 9.150; 6. Kylie Leidich (WLC), 9.10; 7. Julie Foucher (N), 9.050; 8. Paige Locher (ML), 9.0; 9. Laura Nomura (LB), 8.850; 10. Kelly McKay (WLCO, 8.750.

FLOOR EXERCISE: 1. Julie Foucher (N), 9.425; 2. Kelly Tapella (LB), 8.975; 3. Paige Locher (ML), 8.950; 4. Monica Cauley (H), 8.90; 5. Laura Nomura (LB), 8.70; 6. (tie) Kaitlyn Burns (C), Kylie Leidich (WLC), 8.60; 8. Katie Bridges (LB), 8.575; 9. (tie) Magarita Lazarevska (LR) and Julie Davison (N), 8.550:

ALL-AROUND: 1. Julie Foucher (N), 36.875; 2. Laura Nomura (LB), 35.450; 3. Monica Cauley (H), 35.40; 4. Brittany Young (S), 35.275; 5. Paige Locher (ML), 34.90; 6. Tiffeny Wysocki (B), 34.00; 7. Alyssa Gonzales (LR), 33.90; 8. Kylie Leidich (WLC), 33.850; 9. Kaitlyn Burns (C), 33.850; 10. Katarina Kariotis (S), 33.650.



(CP) **B3**



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TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's Joe Perkovich maneuvers through traffic during Friday night's 4-0 loss to Livonia Churchill.

HOCKEY FROM PAGE B1

Redford Unified.

Plymouth, which slipped to 14-8-2, will return to action Wednesday against the winner of Monday night's Novi-Livonia Franklin pre-Regional contest.

"I thought our boys played a decent game tonight, but Churchill has a heckuva good team," said Plymouth coach Chuck Dubois. "They have speed, they're always on the puck and they play disciplined hockey. It wouldn't surprise me at all if they make it all the way to the state finals (in the upcoming state tournament).'

The Chargers outshot their hosts, 39-10 - a lopsided statistic that had as much to do with Churchill's hardchecking defensemen as it did with its slick-skating forwards.

Churchill's signature play of the night unfolded at the 10:07 mark of the second period when Charger blueliner Mitch Carpenter administered a clean - but bone-jarring — check that separated a Plymouth player from his helmet once he slammed into the boards near mid-ice.

"Any time you can get a defenseman to step up, play a tight gap and execute some body checks, it tends to slow the guys on the other teams down," said Mazzoni, in reference to Carpenter's hit.

The winners' offense was paced by first-year senior Dustin Wischmeyer, who registered two goals and an assist.

"Playing on the bigger ice surface was different, but I liked it," said Wischmeyer, a few moments after the Chargers carried their latest piece of hard-earned hardware off the ice. "There's a lot more room to skate and it opens up the passing lanes."

The Chargers broke the scoring ice mid-way through the first period when Nate Milam slapped a rebound shot past Desilets from a seated position about 12 feet in front of the net. Keith Yackley and Garrett Miencier assisted on the goal.

Churchill threatened to double its lead two minutes later, but Desilets stoned

Bryon Niemczak on a 3-on-1 break.

Wischmeyer accounted for both second-period goals. He lit the lamp off an assist from Tony Ross at the 11:57 mark and scored an insurance tally nine minutes later from Ross and Josh Proben.

Proben closed out the scoring — and put the exclamation point on an outstanding night for the Wischmeyer-Ross-Proben line - when he found the back of the net with 5:40 remaining.

"It was nice to see that line have a good night because they've worked hard all year," said Mazzoni. "They're not the fastest guys out there, but they know where each other are and they pass well."

Churchill goalie Scott Lewan's shutout was highlighted by a dazzling glove save of a whistling Nick Rieckhoff shot with 3:33 left in the second period.

"Winning this game means a lot to this team," said Mazzoni. "Just to get to this game we had to get by Stevenson, which isn't an easy task. Plymouth has a very good team and their goaltender is excellent."

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Livonia Stevenson jumped out to a 6-0 first-period lead then withstood a late Salem rally to hang on to an 8-5 victory Feb. 20 at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

The Rocks managed to slice their once huge deficit to 7-5 on Kurt Driscoll's goal from Tony Garbarino and Evan Meibers with 4:01 left, but the Spartans sealed the win with Zach Roberts' empty-net goal with 24 seconds left. Stevenson outshot the

Rocks, 52-18. Jeff Pashnick earned the victory in goal for the Spartans while Ralph Aspenwall suffered the setback.

Six different Spartans scored during their first-period onslaught: R.J. Kierdorf, John Vella, Kyle Zagata, Chris Rapp, Tim Droze and Marcus Voran.

Kierdorf notched three assists in the first period for the winners.

The Rocks stormed out of

the gate in the second period with four straight lamplighters from Aaron Markwell, Kris Brant, Mike Haburne and Joel Cheesman. Roberts extended Stevenson's lead to 7-4 with 33 seconds left in the second off an assist from Rapp.

PLYMOUTH 6, MACOMB DAKOTA

1: On Wednesday, six Wildcats scored goals and goalie Nathaniel Gibson stopped 21 shots in the victory over the Cougars. Lighting the lamp for the

winners were Nick Rosochacki, Charlie Webb, Rick Cigile, Jason O'Guinn, Brett Kavulich and Nick **Rieckhoff.** Notching assists were Cigile (two), Adam Lazorka, Rosochacki (three), Joe Perkovich (two), Webb and Mark Olivier.

"Our goalie, Nathaniel Gibson, played an excellent game," said Plymouth coach Chuck Dubois. "He made a couple of great saves early in the game."

Monday, Feb. 26: (A) Novi vs. (B) Livonia

Franklin, 6 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 28: Plymouth vs. A-B winner,

6:30 p.m. (Winner advances to the regional

final at Novi Ice Arena vs. Walled Lake Central pre-regional champion.) MMHSGHL Tournament

Saturday March 3

1st-round games begin at

Eddie Edgar Ice Arena

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL Thursday, March 1 (NJCAA-Region 12-District H Playoffs)

Schoolcraft vs. Lakeland CC (Ohio)

at OCC-Highland Lakes, 1 p.m. ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE

Friday, March 2

Whalers at Kitchener Rangers, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 3

Whalers vs. Sarnia Sting

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL Tuesday, Feb. 27 Churchill at W.L. Northern, 7 p.m. Plymouth at Franklin, 7 p.m. Stevenson at Salem, 7 p.m. W.L. Western at Wayne, 7 p.m. Clarenceville at Ply. Christian, 7 p.m. Det. Urban at Luth. Westland. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 28 (WLAA Finals at Plymouth) John Glenn vs. W.L. Central, 5:30 p.m. Canton vs. Northville, 7:30 p.m GIRLS VOLLEYBALL DISTRICT TOURNEY DRAWS CLASS A (Friday, March 2) at LIVONIA CHURCHILL First round: (A) Salem vs. (B) South Lyon, 4 p.m.; (C) Northville vs. (D) Plymouth, 4 p.m. Semifinals: Livonia Churchill vs. A-B winner, 5:30 p.m.; Canton vs. C-D winner, 5:30 p.m. Championship final: 7:30 p.m. (Winner advances to the regional semifinals at West Bloomfield vs. Southfield district champion.) **PREP HOCKEY DIVISION I** at PLYMOUTH CULTURAL CENTER Tuesday, Feb. 27: (A) Salem vs. (B) Northville, 5:30 p.m. Canton (C) vs. South Lyon (D), 8 p.m. Thursday, March 1: A-B winner vs. C-D winner, 7:30 p.m.

DIVISION

at NOVI ICE ARENA

at Compuware Arena, 7:05 p.m. Sunday, March 4 Whalers vs. Mississauga Ice Dogs at Compuware Arena, 2 p.m. MAJOR INDOOR SOCCER LEAGUE Sunday, Feb. 25 Det. Ignition vs. Philadelphia KiXX at Compuware Arena, 4:35 p.m. Friday, March 2 Det. Ignition vs. Milwaukee Wave at Compuware Arena, 7:35 p.m.

Sunday, March 4 Ignition at Milwaukee Wave, 2 p.m. www.hometownlife.com

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, February 25, 2007



LOCAL SPORTS

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, February 25, 2007

Whalers lasso Belleville Bulls, 7-1

The Plymouth Whalers used excellent special teams and depth en route to a 7-1 victory over the Belleville Bulls in an Ontario Hockey League game played Friday night at the Compuware Sports Arena.

B6

(CP)

The Whalers won their third straight game and remain in first place in the OHL West Division and second overall in the league with a record of 42-14-1-2, good for 87 points. Belleville is 34-19-0-5.

Plymouth's league-leading penalty killing unit (87.4 percent) went 11-for-11 in the game and four-for-four in the first period when the Bulls were at their most dangerous. The Whalers scored on their second power play of the game on a goal by Evan Brophey at 17:10 of the first period and took a 2-0 lead 26 seconds later on Jared Boll's goal on a deflection at 17:36.

In all, Brophey led the

Whalers' attack with two goals and two assists as the game's first star. Brophey now has 30 goals on the season. Second star Chris

Terry added a goal (17 on the season) and two assists, while third star Daniel Ryder also had a goal (35) and two assists and now has 300 points in his OHL career (122 goals and 178 assists). Jared Boll (24), Dan Collins (25) and Andrew Fournier (15) added single goals for Plymouth.

Bryan Cameron scored the lone Belleville goal, his 23rd of the season, in the second period.

The Whalers broke the game open with five goals in the second period to lead 7-1 after 40 minutes on goals by Brophey (finishing sustained pressure in the Belleville zone at 2:35), Collins (hard shot the slot under the bar at 3:56), Fournier (tap of a rebound at 7:53), Terry (Boll

CC grapplers upend Chiefs

wide right wing in the Belleville zone, to Brophey at the right hash mark to Terry on the left at 14:12) and Ryder (rebound at 15:31).

Plymouth outshot Belleville, 53-37. Whalers goaltender Michal Neuvirth stopped 36-of-37 Belleville shots to run his record to 22-8-1-1.

PLYMOUTH 4, SAGINAW 0: Although the Whalers wore their green jerseys Wednesday night in a 4-0 win in Saginaw, make no mistake - it was a blue-collar effort that led to the victory before 4,584 at the Dow Event Center. Plymouth goaltender Jeremy Smith (Brownstown) stopped 39 shots for his fourth shutout of the season as the game's first star, while Evan Brophev scored twice and Chris Terry and Daniel Ryder one each.

Three of the four Plymouth goals were a direct result of winning battles for pucks and keeping the play alive in the Saginaw zone.

Plymouth took a 1-0 lead at

5:26 of the first period on Brophey's 27th goal of the season and 100th of his OHL career.

The Whalers took a 2-0 at 6:26 of the second period, capping off continual pressure in the Saginaw zone. Terry dug the puck out from the right boards and found Brett Bellemore at the right point. Bellemore took a low shot on goal that Terry tipped in from in tight on the right wing five-hole by Daniels for his 16th season. Brophey scored his 28th of the season at 8:20 of the period when he took a shot from the slot that caromed off Saginaw defenseman Mitch Maunu (playing without a stick) and past Daniels.

Ryder finished the scoring with his 34th of the season (10th in 18 games with Plymouth since coming over in a trade with Peterborough) at 3:05 of the third period when he carried the puck wide right wing and beat Daniels with a well-placed shot from the right circle that caught the far post.

1000 PRESENTS MONDAY - 3/5 VS. GOLDEN STATE WARRIORS • 7:30 PM PISTONS CHIP CLIP TO FIRST 10,000 FANS COURTESY OF

www.hometownlife.com

WEDNESDAY - 3/7 VS. CLEVELAND CAVALIERS • 7:30 PM PISTONS SHOOTING SHIRT TO FIRST 5,000 FANS - 14 AND UNDER AND THUNDERSTIX TO ALL FANS BOTH COURTESY OF Reck

SUNDAY - 3/18 VS. DALLAS MAVERICKS • 3:30 PM

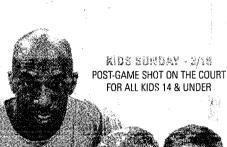
RASHEED WALLACE JERSEY TO FIRST 5,000 FANS - 14 AND UNDER PISTONS PLAYER CARD PACK TO FIRST 8,000 FANS (ALL AGES) BOTH COURTESY OF

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WRESTLING RESULTS

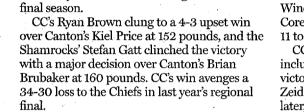
NOVI CATHOLIC CENTRAL 31 CANTON 30 Wednesday at Saline H.S. Division 1 Regional Final

103 pounds: Donnie Watkins (C) won by technical fall over Doug Eldridge, 16-0; 112: Carl Lucke (C) won by major decision over Steve Warner, 13-4; 119: Nick lanni (CC) decisioned Jeremy Fillipelli, 8-3; 125: Steve Cox (C) pinned Barrett Schwarzlose in 2:58: 130: Brent Winekoff (C) dec. Trevor O'Connor, 9-3; 135: Corey Phillips (C) dec. Shea Hasenauer, 16-11; 140: Shane Butwill (CC) pinned Fawzi Zeidan in 2:35; 145: Jo Sanders (C) dec Brendan Cox, 3-2; 152: Ryan Brown (CC) dec. Kiel Price, 4-3; 160: Stefan Gatt (CC) won by major decision over Brian Brubaker, 14-0: 171: Adam Powers (C) won by void: 189: Matt Aubrey (CC) dec. Dan Wanshon, 6-0; 215: Joe Kinville (CC) pinned Jon Webster in 1:56; 285: Mike Martin (CC) pinned Donnie Laramie in 2:51.

CANTON 48 SALINE 18 Thursday at Saline **Division 1 Regional Semifinal**

103 pounds: Donnie Watkins (C) pinned Ryan O'Sullivan in 41 seconds; 112: Carl Lucke (C) won by major dec. over Nick O'Neill, 20-7: 119: Jeremy Fillipelli (C) won by major decision over Brent Clink, 12-0; 125: Steve Cox (C) dec. Nate Opaleski, 8-3; 130: Brent Winekoff (C) dec. lay Augustyn, 13-5; 135: Corey Phillips (C) won by void; 140: Aaron Nagy (S) dec. Keith Zech (C), 8-2; 145: Joe Sanders (C) pinned Mike Blackwell in 3:17: 152: Kiel Price (C) pinned Will Balocco in 2:34; 160: Rodger Kropp Powers, 10-9; 189: Dan Wanshon (C) dec. Jake Feldkamp, 9-2; 215: Bryce Rajabian (S) pinned Dakota Dark-Bird in 2:20; 285: Joe Everett (S) pinned Luke Konsitzke in 25 seconds

(C) won by void: 171: Ean Pokryfky (S) dec. Adam



BY BRAD KADRICH

STAFF WRITER

Wednesday at Saline for a berth in next week's

But someone forgot to mention it to Novi

The Shamrocks spoiled the story line, edg-

knocking off Canton in an equally thrilling 31-

30 victory in coach Mike Rodriguez's 50th and

ing the Patriots 31-27 in the semifinal, then

Most observers expected the Franklin

Division 1 wrestling regional semifinal

state quarterfinals in Battle Creek.

Catholic Central.

"It's very disappointing," said Canton coach Casey Randolph, whose Chiefs earned a spot in the regional final by dispatching host Saline, 48-18 in the semifinal round. "We lost 10 starters from last year's team, but we felt pretty good about our chances (Wednesday). Instead

we gave (Rodriguez) the storybook ending." It was a match made up of streaks. The Shamrocks won the first three matches, including pins by Joe Kinville, who stuck Patriots and Canton Chiefs to battle in the Canton's Jon Webster in 1:56, and heavyweight

Mike Martin, who pinned Donnie Laramie in 2:51, to take a 15-0 lead. The Chiefs, though, won five of the next six

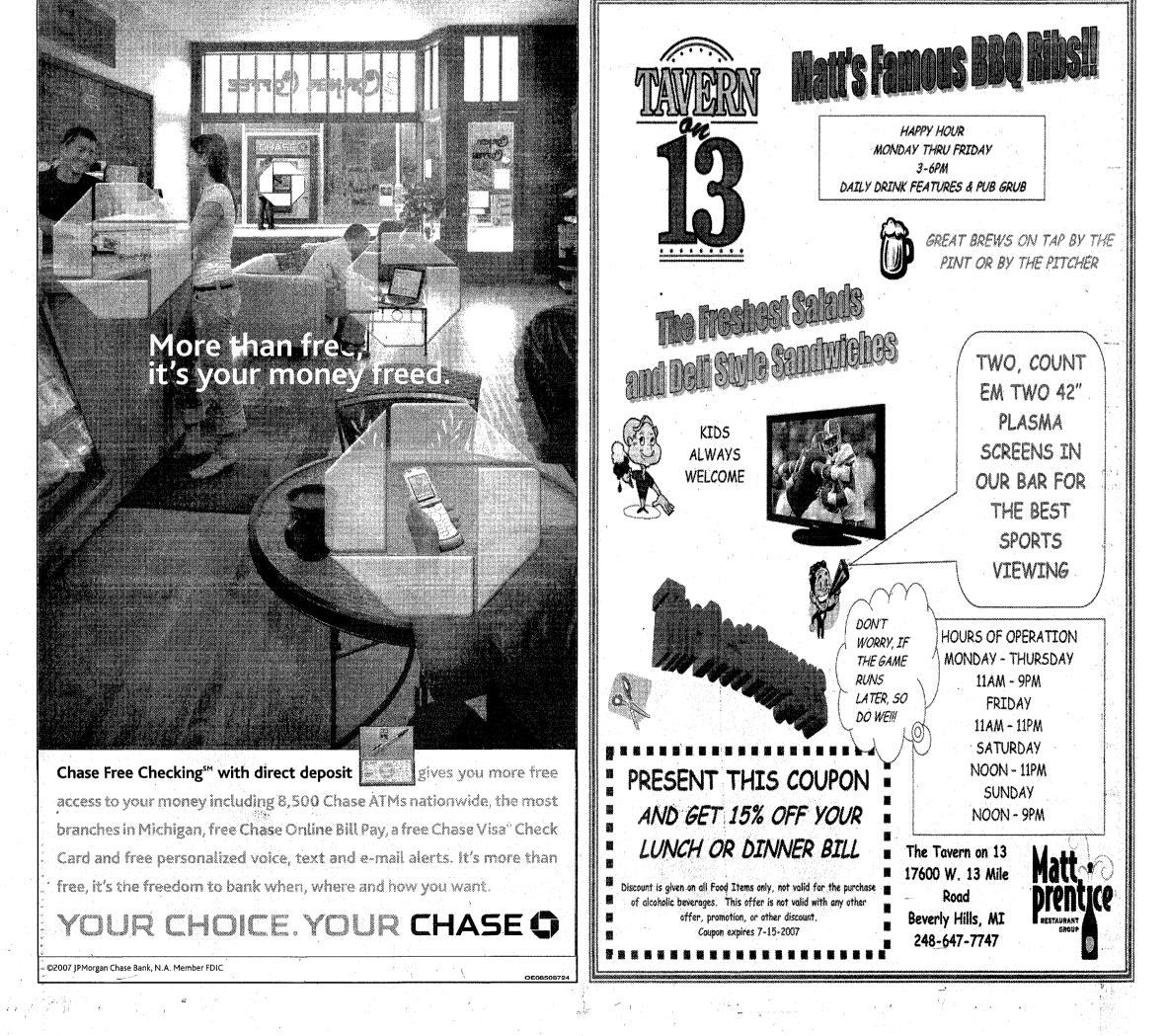
matches. Donnie Watkins (103 pounds) put a 16-0 technical fall on CC's Doug Eldridge, and Carl Lucke (112) followed that with a 13-4 major decision over Steve Werner.

Steve Cox came from behind and pinned CC's Barrett Schwarzlose in 2:58, Brent Winekoff beat CC's Trevor O'Connor 9-3 and Corey Phillips (135) beat Shea Hasenhauer 16-11 to give Canton a 21-18 lead.

CC won three of the next four matches, including a pair of pivotal ones, to claim the victory. Shane Butwill pinned Canton's Fawzi Zeidan in 2:35 at 140 pounds and, one match later, Brown beat Price in a match Randolph figured his Chiefs to win.

"The turning point was getting pinned at 140 and losing at 152," Randolph said. "We knew we had to win at 152 to win it."

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



LSO reaches out to families - C3

@ the Library - C3



lay, February 25, 2007 The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

www.hometownlife.com

Ford Road art takes a little getting used to

n my way home one day, I was quite shocked to see a large hunk of metal sitting on the corner of Ford and Canton



I had no idea where the piece had come from and wondered why it was rusted. I mean, who would pay to

Center roads.

put up a gabrielle zuzo

piece of art that was cov-

ered in rust? I just didn't understand.

Soon after I had discovered the artwork at the busy intersection, I learned Canton Township paid \$57,000 for it. Since I already wasn't fond of the piece, I couldn't fathom why the township would spent that amount of money to display artwork at an alreadycrowded intersection.

Now, don't get me wrong, I'm not against artwork. In fact, I had noticed and enjoyed other pieces along Ford Road, including the fishes in front of Target and the dancer located near the Canton 6 Cinema. However I didn't get the rhyme or reason behind the newest addition.

Many of my friends agreed and said they couldn't comprehend what the sculpture was meant to portray or why it was in its location.

So, I decided to do some research.

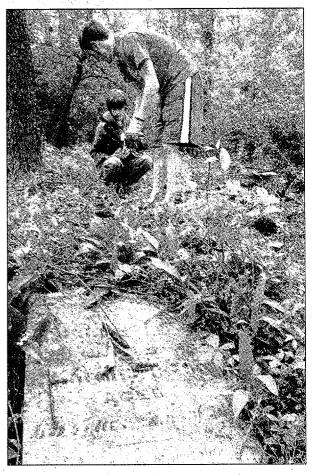
After digging up some arti-



HOMETOWN LIFE.COM NOIGES

Friends Jill Spangler (from left), Kayla Brindza, Casey Strachan, Summer Diehl, and Laura Gilmore spent spring break together in April 2006 on the beaches of Ixtapa, Mexico.

If it's planned right, spring break can be memorable



PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem sophomore Myles Aten (left) and Canton senior Kyle Kurtz worked on clearing brush last fall from the historic cemetery, revealing what's left of the 19th century headstones.

Salem students get hands dirty studying cemetery

BY KELLY CLAWSON

For nearly 200 years, Shearer Cemetery has been the final resting place for some of Plymouth's founding residents.

Through the course of time, weeds, vines and trees overshadowed the area until it became "indistinguishable from a forest," said Darrin Silvester.

cles, I realized how uninformed I was.

I never knew of a group in the township called the Downtown Development Authority. The DDA is responsible for installing and maintaining the public art on Ford Road.

The organization's funding is based on property values on certain lots along the main thoroughfare and its 2006 budget was \$8.5 million. Once I knew this, the money spent towards the sculpture at Ford and Canton Center didn't seem like so much.

When I read the DDA's mission is to improve and enhance the appearance of our community, putting the massive structure at the busy intersection began to make sense. Perhaps a little art could add to the township's personality.

Although I'm not gifted with artistic talent, looking at the different pieces dotted along Ford Road has become intriguing. I've come to admire and respect the DDA's goal.

Ken Thompson, the artist of the township's newest structure, has said that his work is open for interpretation and that's just what I've done.

Although I'm not certain what the piece is meant to convey, wondering about its symbolization is half the fun of viewing it.

I'm glad I've learned about the reasons behind the creative additions to our community and I only wish more young adults were informed about the sculptures because I think it would lead to an appreciation for them.

Now each time I drive by the Ford and Canton Center intersection, I find myself attempting to interpret the piece and find meaning in its shape

And although I've grown to like the abstract piece, I still have one little question: Why is it rusty?

Student journalist is Gabrielle Zuzo is a junior at Plymouth High School.

Ŷ,

BY SUMMER DIEHL

Senior year is the most important time in a high school student's life.

In addition to thoughts about what direction their lives will take after high school, what many seniors really anticipate is spring break.

Some parents may be reluctant to send their kid off for a week-long party with their friends. but there are ways to keep them from worrying and keep you from mak-

ing national headlines. Plan the trip with a group of friends you can trust and with whom you can get along Find a chaperone that won't hamper your fun but puts an emphasis on safety Choose a resort that

summer diehl

activities After you've talked your parents into letting you go on a fun-filled trip,

has a variety of on-site

there's a lot more to plan and organize. The costs associated with such a vacation can rack up easily and students have to understand why their parents may not foot the bill. If the cost falls on the teenager's shoulder, getting a part-time job could be helpful.

It also couldn't hurt to speak with your parents and ask if they can give you an allowance every week in exchange for you helping a little more around the house.

Once financing is squared away, one of the biggest decisions that accompanies spring break preparation is finding the perfect destination. Whether you want to lay around on the beach,

go shopping all week or desire action-packed days, getting a vacation planner is a viable option.

A planner can help you map out of the trip of your dreams as well help you determine a lowbudget, safe place to travel.

Once the location is set, you have to know what to pack.

If you're shooting for a traditional spring break, be sure to tuck away an ample supply of sunscreen with your bikinis and swim trunks to prevent burns and blisters. Also, be aware that flip flops can be a precious barrier between your toes and the sun-kissed sand.

Spring break might be the best experience of your high school career, so taking along a camera to capture memories is a great idea.

When all the planning is over and you're in the midst of your trip, you won't regret deciding to spend that time with your best friends. Regardless of where you go or how much you spent to get there, when you look back on the experience your memories of everything will be priceless.

Silvester, a history teacher at Salem High School, is trying to combat nature's takeover with the help of his students.

While it's unknown how many graves are inside the small cemetery, in the 1950s, 21 headstones were found.



Years later, only 16 were visible. Two of Silvester's Michigan history classes have been working to revitalize the grounds. The group has cleaned out weeds and trees and unearthed forgotten headstones.

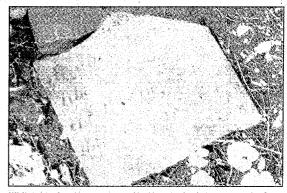
Silvester said moving outside the classroom and "getting their hands dirty" has made the experience meaningful for his pupils. More than \$15,000 has been

kelly clawson

raised for the project. The students, who want the cemetery to be viewed as a historical landmark, have plans to put up a sign marking its importance as well as

a monument in the center acknowledging those buried on the grounds. For more information on the project, call the

Plymouth Historical Museum at (734) 455-8940.



While clearing the overgrowth, the students uncovered a few traces of what remains of the nineteenth century headstones.



PHOTOS BY NICOLE WILDMAN

Band ready to break out with new CD and summer tour

Editor's note: Since Nicole Wildman interviewed members of Forever In A Day. drummer Brenden Harrison was replaced by Chris Donahue.

BY NICOLE WILDMAN

Forever In A Day, a six-member local band, recently sat down after a performance in Canton to discuss their beginning, their music and the eventful summer they're anticipating.

While the lineup of the band has changed several times, the guys

think they've got it right with their current combination: Dave Henry, Andrew Smyth, Joe Jones, Alex Burrows, Brandon

Ronchetto



nicole wildman

and Brenden Harrison. "There is no replacement," said Alex, lead guitarist. "It can't be anybody but us. If there is anybody but us, it wouldn't work."

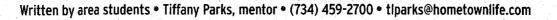
Andrew, who's on guitar and vocals, echoed those sentiments.

"There was a time when we tried out other members," he said. "We played with them and it just didn't work."

How did you come up with your name?

Brandon: "Andrew came up with that one day, I don't even remember how it came up now." Joe: "It goes back to that first bat-

PLEASE SEE BAND, C3



AROUND TOWN

Crafters/vendors needed

C2

(CP)

Crafters and vendors are wanted for the springtime craft show/bazaar 1-6 p.m. April 28 at the Inkster Recreational Center, 2025 Middlebelt in Inkster. Cost is \$30 per booth. Email Vdotson@twmi.rr.com for application or call (734) 595-1083.

Eat for Education

"Eat for Education" Taste Fest with Silent Auction will be hosted by Academic Pathways Cooperative Preschool, at 30330 Schoolcraft Road in Livonia, 6-8:30 p.m. Saturday, March 10. Tickets are \$10, as a fund-raiser for the school. Local restaurants and bakeries will serve signature dishes, while the auction features hotel packages/weekend getaways/spa packages, etc. (734) 261-9540 or visit academicpathways.tripod.com.

Genealogical society

The Livingston County Genealogical Society meets March 1 at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1041 W. Grand River in Howell, with a help session starting at 6 p.m. and the meeting at 7 p.m. Guest speaker Richard Hutchins, a Fowlerville author, will talk about "Howell Goes to War." The public is invited. For more information, call Margaret Bowland, (810) 227-7745.

Grief support series

Heartland Hospice ofers a five-week series, "Living with Grief," beginning Thursday, March 1 through March 29, from 5:30-7 p.m. This program is a series of weekly sessions offering insights and coping skills for an adult's journey through grief. This free series will be held at the Heartland Hospice office, 3840 Packard, Ste. 260, in Ann Arbor, and is open to anyone in the community. For more information or to register, contact Ann Christensen, bereavement coordinator, (734) 973-1145.

Beginning Genealogy workshop The Livonia Civic Center Library and the Western Wayne County Genealogical Society will host a free beginning genealogy workshop from (9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 3, at the library. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. A beginner's genealogy packet will be \$5. Topics include Census Records, Cemetery Records, Libraries/Archives, and Immigration and Naturalization. Contact Sue Cromwell, (248) 477-5846, Brenda Halseth, (734) 513-0619. Register at (734) 466-2197 by March 1. Academic Pathways preschool Academic Pathways Cooperative Preschool, at 30330 Schoolcraft in

Preschool, at 30330 Schoolcraft in Livonia, will host an open house form 1-3 p.m. Tuesday, March 6. Enroll in classes Tuesday and Thursday mornings for 3-year-olds, and Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings for 4year-olds. Potty training not required; certified teacher. (734) 459-6689 or visit academicpathways.tripod.com. Lenten fish fry

St. Sebastian Catholic Church, 20700 Colgate in Dearborn Heights, hosts its annual all-you-can-eat Lenten Fish Fry 4-7 p.m. Fridays through April 6. The event features baked and fried fish, macaroni and cheese, spaghetti, cole slaw and dessert. Cost is \$8.50 for adults, \$4.75 for children under 12. For more information, call (313) 562-5356.

Bocce for bucks

Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan's signature fundraising event, Bocce for Bucks III, sponsored by Complete Infusion Services, offers patrons an opportunity to receive professional instruction on the sport from World Cup Bocce players. The event takes place 2-6 p.m. Sunday, April

22, at the Palazzo di Bocce in Orion Township. Bocce for Bucks III features an afternoon of indoor bocce ball tournament play, ideal for families and people of all ages, an Italian buffet, silent

auction and much more. No prior experience or equipment needed. Dress is casual and prizes will be awarded to the top teams. New this year is a private benefactor reception to be held 6 p.m. Sunday, March 25, at Park West Gallery in Southfield. Funds raised will help provide an innovative, life-saving system - VNA's TeleHomecare program, used by VNA to educate and empower patients by checking their health between home visits. Tickets are available with the following benefits: \$100 Guest ticket -Receives bocce play, Italian buffet dinner, beer, wine, desserts, silent auction and exit gift; \$150 Patron ticket -Receives all of the above plus expert bocce instruction from World Cup Bocce Players one-hour prior to event start; and \$200 Benefactor ticket -Receives all of the above plus invitation to Private Benefactor Reception. For sponsorship, advertising or ticket information for Bocce for Bucks III, call (248) 967-8324 or visit vna.org.

Ewald scholarship

The H.T. Ewald Foundation is accepting applications for its 2007 scholarship program. Completed application must be postmarked by March 1, 2007. To be eligible one must be a graduating high school student living in Metro Detroit and entering college full-time in the fall. Scholarship recipients are chosen based on their overall scholarship record, leadership abilities, community work, character and financial need. To apply one must send in an official H.T. Ewald Foundation Scholarship application, three or more letters of recommendation, a

photograph, a minimum of 500-word autobiography and a complete high school transcript. Scholarships are awarded yearly in early August. The scholarship awards range from \$500 to \$3,500 and the amount is based on the financial need of the recipient. The number of scholarships awarded varies every year. The scholarships are renewable for up to four years. For an application or more information, call the H.T. Ewald Foundation office at (313) 821-1278.

Egg-citing science

Crack Open "EGG-citing" Science at the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum's March Sciencepalooza Saturday, March 3 and Sunday, March 4. For March's Sciencepalooza, visitors can "egg-splore" the many uses of the egg. Sciencepalooza is a special themed event held the first weekend of every month at the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. Sciencepalooza activity hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and noon-4 p.m. Sunday. The museum is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Saturday and noon-5 p.m. Sunday, Call (734) 995-5439 for more information.

Waste to Watts

The Ann Arbor Hands-on Museum has extended the Waste to Watts exhibition through summer of 2007 due to popular demand. Waste to Watts shows how new environmentally friendly technology can turn our trash into electricity. Developed by Landfill Energy Systems of Wixom, Michigan, this one-of-a-kind exhibit demonstrates how methane gas recovery from landfills can be used as an alternative energy source, ultimately reducing our dependency on other fuels. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Saturday, noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. For information, visit www.aahom.org or call (734) 995-5439.

VNA seeks volunteers

The Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan's hospice program needs compassionate volunteers to comfort and support patients at the end of life in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. In as little as two-to-four hours per week, volunteers can provide companionship, write a memoir, provide respite for family members or provide office support. A free 15-hour comprehensive training program is provided. The next training session is 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 24. All training takes place at the Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan headquarters at

25900 Greenfield Road, Suite 600. For more information or to register, call (800) 882-5720, Ext. 8361 or visit www.vna.org

Card party/luncheon Victoria Chapter #290, OES, Livonia Masonic Temple hosts a card

party/luncheon noon-3 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month. Admission is \$6; event features table prizes and door prizes. The temple is located at 27705 W. Seven Mile in Livonia. For more information, call (734) 459-6063.

Hospice training

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

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

Toastmasters meet

Do you have a fear of public speaking? Do you need to do presentations at work and don't know where to start? Or are you terrified of the thought of standing in front of a group of people to present that report? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then Toastmasters is for you! Canton Communicators Club meets every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Canton Coney Island on Lilley, just south of Joy, in the Golden Gate Plaza. For additional information, contact Bonnie at (734) 646-2237. **Grief support**

New Hope Center for Grief Support is a Christian-based bereavement outreach and resource center located in Northville. Age appropriate groups for widows and widowers are provided in various locations in southeastern Michigan including groups for young widows and widowers and their children between the ages of 4 through the teen years. Groups for parents who have lost a child, adults who have lost a parent, pet loss, and other specialized groups are offered at various times of the year. All services for adults and children are offered at no cost to the participants. If you are grieving or know someone who is,

please call the office at (248) 348-0115 for further information about services provided by New Hope Center for Grief Support, or visit www.newhopecenter.net.

CLUBS

Rotary A.M.

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

Canton Newcomers

The Canton Newcomers meet the first Wednesday of each month (September-May) for an adult evening of socializing, a speaker or an activity. Additionally, the group hosts more than 20 events during the month including Book Club, Bunko, Playgroups, Creative Kids, Ladies Day and Night Out, Scrapbooking, Walking and many more. Request a complimentary newsletter at cantonnewcomers.org or call Jennifer at (734) 981-1715. You don't have to be "new" to be a Newcomer!

Kiwanis Club

The Plymouth-Canton Kiwanis Club meets every Tuesday at 7:15 a.m. at the Plymouth Cultural Center on Farmer Street. The Club invites you to their morning meetings to discuss community projects and activities. Be part of the solution and not just a spectator. For more information, call (734) 981-0460 or see the Web site (www.pckiwanis.org).

Plymouth Newcomers

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

Fibromyalgia/Chronic Fatigue

The Great Lakes Fibromyalgia and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Association will meet 1-3 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month at Merriman Road Baptist Church on Merriman south of Ford. There will be a guest speaker at each meeting and a variety of topics will be covered. There is no membership fee but a small donation will be accepted. For information call Lucy Rowley 734-462-1768 **MOPS meet**

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

Mosaic

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

Moms Club

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

DAR

The Sarah Ann Cochrane Chapter-Daughters of the American Revolution meets the third Monday of each month except January, July and August. A group with ancesters who fought in American Revolution. Members participate in community work involving veterans' hospitals, schools and community service. Call (734) 420-2775 for further information.

German/American Club of Plymouth

Meets on the third Thursday of the month at the Knights of Columbus Hall, located at 39100 Schoolcraft Road, Plymouth, Call Mary Ann at (734) 420-0857 for further information.

American Legion

■ Beasley-Zalesny Post 112 meets at the I.O.O.F. Hall on the third Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. All veterans that served during any of the wars are eligible. Contact (734) 459-7324 for further information.

■ The Plymouth American Legion Passage-Gayde Post #391 conducts its monthly meeting the second Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Plymouth Knights of Columbus Hall on Mill (next to the railroad tracks) in Plymouth Township. All interested military veterans should contact Commander Mike O'Malley, (734) 459-7890, for more information. Women's Farm and Garden Club-

Plymouth

Meets every second Monday of each month from September through June. Persons interested in joining may contact club president Linda Coughlin at (734) 459-7478.

Plymouth-Canton Civitan Club

Looking for energetic new members to participate in community service projects. This club meets the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Plymouth Salvation Army Building on Main Street. The third Thursday is a dinner meeting with a speaker. Call (734) 981-7259 for further information.

Plymouth Community Arts Council's

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17th Annual Dinner Auction

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Friday, March 9, 6pm at <u>Laurel Manor</u> Tickets \$85/person Call 734 416-4278

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Free Seminar Hip and Knee Replacement Surgery



Dr. Angelo Sorce is an experienced orthopaedic surgeon relocating to the Plymouth/Canton area.

Please join him for a free educational seminar discussing arthritis of the hip and knee.

Dr. Sorce will address the latest technologies and current surgical techniques in hip and knee replacement surgery.

Complimentary refreshments will be served.

Sat., March 10, 2007 9:00am-11:00am

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> *To Register, Please Call* 313-586-5347

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FROM PAGE C1

tle of the bands. We needed something."

Andrew: "I'm not gonna lie, I stole it from (a band called) Starting Line. It's a Starting Line song name."

Brenden: "Except (that song is titled) Forever And A Day." Andrew: "That was my favorite band at the time.'

Is a new album in the works?

Andrew: "We've started recording our new CD. That's been in the process for nine months now."

Dave: "It's called It's So Well Rehearsed."

How would you describe it? Andrew: "This CD is ... " Brenden: "...a lot more electronic."

Andrew: "It's (us) but it's a lot catchier. It's not as hardcore (but) I don't want to say 'poppier."

Brenden: "Radio-friendly." Andrew: "It's not so much radio-friendly. It still has that old FIAD feel.

Brandon: "It's got an edge to it that I think our old fans will appreciate and we will gain even more fans. It's going to be good."

Brenden: "Our whole band



going all out. It's all or nothing." Is a tour on the horizon?

Dave: "July is our tour." Brandon: "We're going to Florida this summer. We plan on doing a full east coast, twoweek stint with Radio Pirate DJ. That will be a good experience."

Andrew: "(We have a) booking agent helping us book our tour."

Brandon: "This is going to be like the big breakout tour. It's going to be a lot of exposure for us."

Who is your favorite music artist?

Brenden: "I think my two favorite bands would be Underoath and Atreyu." Alex: "It's got to be

Underoath."

Brandon: "I listen to a lot. My favorite at the moment is The Devil Wears Prada."

Joe: "I love Anberlin and Acceptance and Brand New." Dave: "I'm down with the Academy Is. And I would say Tim McGraw, but I'm gonna' say The Providence right now because I love them right now. The Providence."

Andrew: "All right, I have three favorite bands right now: Hit the Lights, All Time Low, and Cinematic Sunrise." Brenden: "I have to give it up for Radio Pirate DJ right now."

@ THE LIBRARY

C3

(CP)

Every week the Plymouth District Library staff provides the library's list of best-sellers based on the number of requests for titles by library patrons. The books are available by placing a request with the library at (734) 453-0750 or on-line at plymouthlibrary.org

FICTION

- 1. "Plum Lovin" Janet Evanovich
- 2. "For One More Day," Mitch Albom
- 3. "The Alexandria Link," Steve Berry
- 4. "Cross," James Patterson
- 5. "Hannibal Rising," Thomas Harris

NON-FICTION

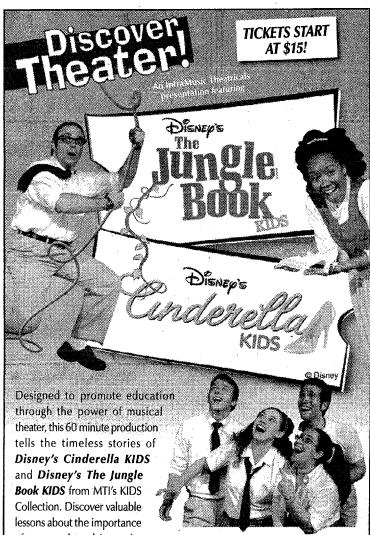
- 1. "The Audacity of Hope," Barack Obama
- 2. "Born on a Blue Day," Daniel Tammet
- 3. "Palestine Peace Not Apartheid," Jimmy Carter
- 4. "The Innocent Man," John Grisham
- 5. "Power, Faith and Fantasy," Michael Oren

PARENT'S CHOICE

NEW CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOKS

- 1. "Estelle Takes a Bath," Jill Esbaum
- 2. "The Most Precious Thing," Gill Lewis
 3. "Brave Bitsy and the Bear," Angela McAllister
- 4. "Tickets to Ride," Mark Rogalski
- 5. "The Prince's Bedtime," Joanne Oppenheim





Livonia Symphony offers special ticket price for families

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Carl Karoub is excited about a special pass for families to hear and see the Livonia Symphony Orchestra at an upcoming concert.

The French horn player doesn't want anyone to miss the program when players like himself will be spotlighted during Principals Night Out 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 3, in Louis Schmidt Auditorium at Clarenceville High School, 20155 Middlebelt, south of Eight Mile, Livonia.

Tickets are \$17 adults, \$5 children and students, but for \$17 an entire family can enjoy

the concert. For more information or tickets, leave a message on the LSO Hot Line at (734) 421-1111.

"We introduced the special family pass so they can get familiar with our orchestra," said Carl Karoub, principal French Horn player. "We don't want to keep it a

secret." LSO president Tom Bjorklund expects the concert to be an interesting one. Orchestra member Lanny Robbins is scheduled as guest soloist for Concerto for Bass Tuba by Ralph Vaughn-

Williams, an early 20th century composer. The selection is sponsored by DTE Energy. An added attraction is

Britten's Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra narrated by Livonia Mayor Jack Engebretson.

We have a very active music committee. They come up with interesting themes," said Tom Bjorklund. "We had Mayor Engebretson narrate a couple of years ago. The mayor has a deep resonating voice and he enjoyed doing it so we invited him back for an encore."

"The young person's guide is good for any age to show off all sections of the orchestra," added Karoub of Livonia. "The harp is displayed. It's a wonderful piece of music." Rounding out the program

which is chamber music for a smaller orchestra, Sonata for Five Strings by Rossini, and Antiphonal Music by 16th century composer Gabriela for brass players.

"The whole concert is interesting," said Karoub. "Antiphonal Music is for two brass choirs on each side of stage. It was the first use of stereo back in Venice.

"Brahms Festive and Commemorative Music is for a brass choir of about 10 musicians, and Petite Symphony (Gounod) features seven woodwinds and two French horns."

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"A dry crack

is Oberon Overture by Weber Wet or Damp Basement? Since 1985 The Crack Team Mr. Happy Crack says..

has specialized in repairing

has been nonstop growing." Brandon: "Yeah, we haven't stopped growing and after we got Dave, it took it to the whole next level." Joe: "I think the addition of

The band's logo adorns a beat up guitar case.

the keyboards helped to form our new style. There is a new flavor in there. The new songs are going to blow people away."

Brandon: "On this new CD, Alex actually did a lot for us. Alex did a lot of the music and composing."

Andrew: "That's the best part. We haven't sat behind some counter and some guys are like, 'you do this' and 'do it that way.' It's all our own ideas.

So not only (does) it show our talent, the way we put together the music will really shine through."

When will the CD be released?

Dave: "It's So Well Rehearsed (will) be dropping this spring, probably May. Seven or eight songs, nine maybe. There might be a couple of acoustics. We don't know how many acoustic songs yet."

Brenden: "For this CD we're going broke. A lot of other bands (will) make a five-song EP and they'll wrap it themselves, but we're

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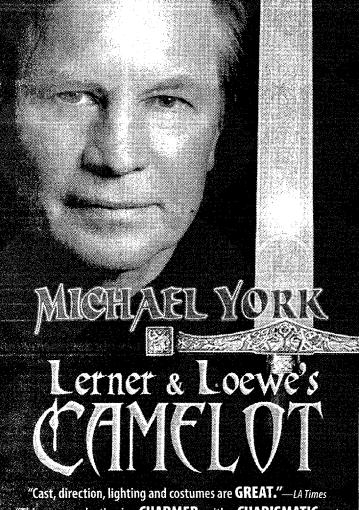
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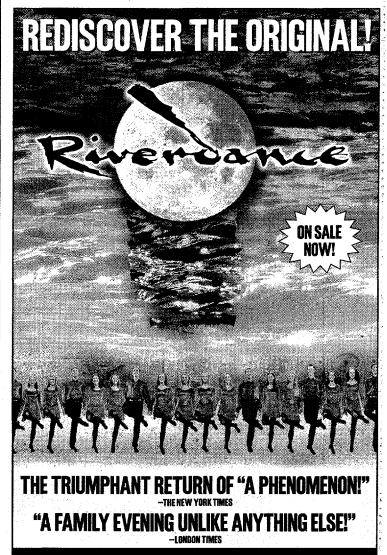
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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, February 25, 2007

Youth theater presents musical about Noah

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

C4

(CP)

The kids are still working on their animal masks, but before long they'll be heading two by two to the ark. About 33 members of the Motor City Youth Theatre and 10 of the adults with Grantland Street Players are preparing to present the U.S. premiere of Noah, The Musical on weekends from March 9-25, at the Grantland Street Playhouse, 27555 Grantland, one block west of Inkster, Livonia.

Curtain times are 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$10-\$15, all seats reserved. For more information, call (313) 535-8962 or visit www.mcyt.org.

Director Nancy Florkowski describes the production as an ensemble effort featuring a cast from age 5 on up.

"All the children are ani-

mals," said Nancy Florkowski of Redford. "We had a special mask making workshop on a Saturday taught by Mary Copenhagen who's on the teaching staff and a costumer for productions of the Wayne State University Theater Department.

"They're 3-D masks not flat, unicorns, tigers, horses. The adults are high school age and older and do most of the dialogue. The kids do singing and dancing."

Written by Ian Gower and Rob Alderton, the story revolves around Noah, played by Thomas Elliott. The Northville resident grew up in Motor City Youth Theatre programs. His brothers in real life, Andy and Zack Elliott, play Noah's sons along with Scott Crossman. Patricia Tait tells the story.

"It starts out with a storm and how bad the world is," said Florkowski A symbolic rainbow does eventually appear sort of like

"I just got it (the script) by chance," said Florkowski. "Playwrights send their work out and ask if anybody would

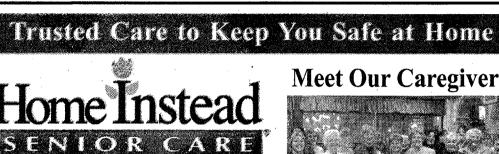
The production as well as the Grantland Street Playhouse is a work in progress. Members recently built a stage and are trying to bring the facility up to code. Florkowski, who retired as a teacher from Pierce Middle School in South Redford three years ago, says she's busier than ever before. In July, Florkowski, who founded the Motor City Youth Theatre in 1990, holds a summer program.

"We work from show to show trying to make improve-

the script did.

like to do it. We started e-mailing back and forth."

ments," said Florkowski.



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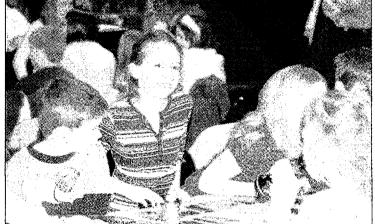
Members of the Motor City Youth Theatre rehearse for Noah, The Musical opening March 9, at the Grantland Street Playhouse in Livonia.

"There's so much more to do and so much more money is needed.

We have the Producers Circle, a support group that helps financially, at shows and with fundraising. Amy Helman is president and has four children in program which is year round."

Ichomin@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2145

At right, Mary Nelson of Redford works on the animal mask she'll wear in Noah, The Musical.



www.hometownlife.com

Athletes and volunteers wanted for Special Olympics

Special Olympics is looking for athletes and volunteers to participate in Regional Basketball Finals 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 3, at Northville High School, 45700 Six Mile.

For more information, call Lauren Ruprecht, Public Relations Coordinator, Wayne County Special Olympics at (734) 377-0724 of send email to Renner0@yahoo.com.

The mission of Special Olympics is to provide sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for

children and adults with intellectual disabilities

Athletes are given opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy, and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship.

For more information, visit www.somi23.org. More than 12,400 athletes participate in

Special Olympics Michigan programs. Michigan has one of the largest programs in the U.S., but is always looking for more athletes.

FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

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- **EXHIBITOR LISTING** on the center spread of Mature Lifestyle section and newspaper promotion of the event during April and May, 2007.
- FOOD: Continental breakfast plus two boxed lunches for exhibitors.

For more information about this popular Expo and to reserve your exhibit space, contact: Frank Cibor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers Classified Manager 734-953-2176 or fcibor@hometownlife.com

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, February 25, 2007

REUNIONS

As space permits, the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers print, without charge, announcements of class reunions. Send the information to Reunions, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48170. Please include the date of the reunion, one contact person, and a telephone number.



Berkley High School Class of 1987

A 20-year reunion in planned for Nov. 24, 2007. Looking for all current contact info for alumni from class of 1987. Contact Kim (DeWilde) Everingham at (734)422-0087 or e-mail info to kimsliasophia@gmail.com. Reunion website is www.BHSreunion1987.com for further information and details.

Bishop Borgess

Class of 1987

A 20-year reunion, Sept. 15, 2007, at the Livonia Marriott. Contact borgess87@hotmail.com for more information.

Dearborn Fordson

Class of 1977 A 30-year reunion, Friday, Aug. 3 to Sunday, Aug. 5, 2007. Contact Val Schulte (Wrenbeck) at msugrad81@cox.net with your current address and phone number.

Dearborn Edsel Ford Class of 1967

A 40-year reunion 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 4, 2007, at Doubletree Hotel, Dearborn. Hors d'oeuvres and cash bar, approximately \$35. For information, call Cheryl Riske Brown at (313)336-0192 or e-mail efhs67@yahoo.com

Detroit Chadsey Class of 1957

A 50th Reunion is being planned for Sept. 29, at Weber's Inn in Ann Arbor. Looking for January, June and Summer '57 graduates. If interested in attending or know of the whereabouts of other classmates, contact Pat Gorski-Zielinski, (989) 366-9288.

Detroit Western Class of 1962

A 45-year reunion will be held in September 2007. Seeking information on classmates from that year. All other classes welcome. Contact Judy Hull Rakowski at (734) 459-3832 or Judy Spiro Scranton at jlscranton@yahoo.com

Detroit Southwestern Class of 1957

A 50-year reunion is being planned for September 2007. Looking for January and June graduates. If interested in attending or know of the whereabouts of other classmates, contact Angie (Conz) Maccani at (313) 532-4379 or Ken Suski at (313) 291-5450.

Epiphany Grade School

website at www.gchs97reunion.com. Grosse Pointe North Class of 1991

Call (800) 677-7800, visit www.taylorreunions.com or e-mail: info@taylorreunions.com

Ladywood High School

Class of 1967 A 40-year reunion in planned for June 9-10, 2007. Headquarters at Courtyard by Marriott, Laurel Park, Livonia. Call Liz at (248)681-7768 or email LHS67@comcast.net for further information.

Livonia Bentley High School Class of 1957

A 50th reunion Saturday, June 9, at St. Mary's Cultural Center, 18100 Merriman Road, Livonia. Doors open 6 p.m.. dinner at 6:30. Cost \$45 per person due May 1. For information, call Janice Sue Fernandez, (734)427-1288.

Livonia Churchill Classes of 1971-2007

Alumni Summer Bash 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, June 16, Nankin Mills Park, Ann Arbor Trail and Hines Drive. No fees but accepting donations. All proceeds over and above costs are being donated to the Western Wayne Skill Center. For more information, call Chris (Don) Nicholson at (734)658-5296 or Chris@ChurchillAlumni.com or Gayle Napolitano Nicholson at (734)728-0393 or Gayle@ChurchillAlumni.com. Livonia Franklin

Class of 1969

A reunion is in the pre-planning stages for 2007. For more information, contact Kathy Nisun at (248) 363-5679 or e-mail: Kayninilu@aol.com. **Our Lady of Sorrows**

Class of 1966

Aug. 17, 18 and 19. For more information, call Pat Ormsby LaPlante at (248)476-0634.

Redford Thurston High School Classes of 1957, 1958

A 50-year reunion is planned with several events Sept. 14-16 at Embassy Suites, Livonia, For information, contact Ron Beller at (989)652-9724 or email at Admiral741@vahoo.com or Marian Keegan Hierholzer at (248)349-2697 or e-mail at Mamia@comcast.net **Roseville High School**

Class of 1956

A 50th reunion in fall of 2006. The reunion committee is searching for classmates. For information, call Shirley at (586) 677-2709; Alice at (586) 792-7757 or e-mail at alijune1939@scbglobal.net or thehermans2002@comcast.net. **Royal Oak Dondero High School** Class of June-Jan. of 1959 Seeking classmates for Aug. 4 reunion. Include name, address and email address to: Jean (Elliotte) Palmer 248-435-7875, TJPalmer73@aol.com, or Mike Soule 248-853-7483.



Stalker-Smith

Sarah Elizabeth Stalker of Brooklyn, New York, and Nicholas Richard Smith will be married June 2007 at the Matthaei Botanical Gardens in Ann Arbor.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Sue Stalker of Ann Arbor and Terry Stalker of Saline. She is a 2005 graduate of Eastern Michigan University with a degree in women's studies. She is employed with Icarus Project in New York City as a radical mental health advocate.

The prospective groom is the son of Richard Smith of Garden City and the late Rebecca Smith. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan-Dearborn. He is currently a graduate student at New York University.



Flevaris-Lloyd

Dr. Carole A. Flevaris and Anthony D. Flevaris, of Farmington Hills, announce the engagement of their daughter, Lisa Ann Flevaris, of Chelmsford, Mass., to Edwin Lloyd, of Bellingham, Mass., son of Harvey and Margaret Lloyd, of Dedham, Mass.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Northeastern University and the Rochester Institute of Technology. She works for the U.S. Department of Labor.

The groom-to-be is a graduate of the Rochester Institute of Technology and works for Eastman Kodak.



Seitz-McMahon

Frederic and Mary Seitz of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Laura M. Seitz, to Daniel R. McMahon.

The bride-to-be is an elemen-

The prospective groom is the

A July wedding is planned They will make their home in Canton.



Rutecki-Dainty

William Rutecki of LaVerne, Calif., and Barbara Rutecki of Plymouth announce the engagement of their daughter, Nicole Geneva Rutecki of East Lansing, to Ryan James Dainty of Mishawaka, Ind. The bride-to-be is a 2006

graduate of Michigan State University and is currently teaching in East Lansing.

The prospective groom is the son of Jim and Helen Dainty of Cookeville, Tenn. He is a 2004 graduate of the University of Tennessee. He is a master of divinity student at the University of Notre Dame. An Aug. 4 wedding is planned at Our Lady of Good **Counsel Church in Plymouth** followed by a reception a Plymouth Manor. The couple will make their

home in South Bend, Ind.



Howard-Peterson

Angela Peterson of Westland and Thomas Howard of Inkster were married June 10, 2006 at Christus Victor Lutheran

Church in Dearborn Heights. The bride is the daughter of Doug and Chris Peterson of Westland. She is a 2001 graduate of John Glenn High School in Westland and a 2004 graduate of Central Michigan University with a degree in broadcast and cinematic arts. She is employed by WNEM-TV in Saginaw as a health and traffic reporter.

The groom is the son of Tom and Laura Howard of Inkster. He is also a 2001 graduate of John Glenn High School. He is employed by Railserve Inc. in Midland, Michigan.

Attending the couple were: Keith Oliver, friend and Kim Brandt, friend; Brian Peterson, brother and Nicole Blan, friend; Randy Sinnot, friend and Sara Plescow, friend; Mike Hiltanen, friend and Brandi Howard, sister; Nick Peterson, brother and Nicole DeRuiter, friend; Jeff Drotar, friend and Melissa Nichols, maid of honor, friend. Ushers were Curtis Burke, cousin and Paul Dalton, friend.

A reception was held at Karas House in Redford. The couple honeymooned in Jamaica.

They are making their home in Saginaw Township.



Lamb-Adams

Christine Rose Lamb and James Gilbert Adams were marrried Oct. 13, 2006, at St. Maurice's Church in Livonia with the Rev. Robert Weiss officiating.

The bride is the daughter of David and Rosanne Lamb of Livonia. She is a 1997 graduate of Churchill High School and a 2003 honors graduate of Eastern Michigan University with a bachelor's degree in emotional impaired teaching. She teaches middle school in Redford at Keeler Day Treatment Center. She is pursuing a master's degree in learning disabilities a Madonna University.

The groom is the son of Vicky Adams of Taylor and the late James B. Adams. He is a 1997 graduate of Taylor Center High School and a 2003 graduate of Eastern Michigan University. He is a purchaser.

The bride was attended by Sally Snider, maid of honor and best friend of bride; Wend Warren, maid of honor and best friend of bride; Sarah Adams, bridesmaid, sister of the groom; Emily Lamb, junior bridesmaid, niece of bride; and, Sarah Lamb, flower girl, niece of bride. The groom was attended by Benjamin Lamb, best man, brother of bride; Michael Hetra best man, best friend of bride and groom; Craig Lamb, groomsman, brother of bride; and, Alex Lamb, nephew and godson of bride, ring bearer.

A reception was held at Burton Manor in Livonia. The couple honeymooned in Florida. They will make their home in Livonia.

Subscribe today, call (866) 88-PAPER



C5 (*)

tary school teacher.

son of Richard and Patti McMahon of Livonia. He is employed at the Salvation Army headquarters in Southfield.

for Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church with the Rev. Hal Edmonds officiating.

Class of 1966

A 40-vear reunion is in the planning stages for the summer of 2006. Contact Dorothy at (248) 477-9478 or dzsnyder@hotmail.com.

Ferndale Lincoln High Class of 1947 January and June

60th class reunion, Aug. 3, 4 and 5 at The Hilton Hotel on Crooks Road in Troy. For information or details contact : Treva (Powell)Hamill, 248-667-1601, bobtrev9@aol.com or, Dick Reising, 248-623-9060, dreisings@sbcglobal.net

Fordson High School Class of 1969

Planning a reunion for 2007. Please contact Kathy Nisun at (248) 363-5679 or e-mail: Kavninilu@aol.com or Kathy Shoebridge @ Klivingston@nucore.com.

Garden City High School Class of 1987

Searching for all class of '87 Alumni for a 20-year reunion. Need to find current information on alumni (name, address, phone, email, etc.). Contact GCHSClassof87reunion@comcast.net or call Sheryll (Pietryka) Catton at (734) 367-0898.

Class of 1997

A 10-year reunion is planned for June 9, 2007, at the Crowne Plaza in Romulus. For more information and to update your address, visit the reunion Class of 1987

Southeastern (Detroit)

A 20-year reunion is being planned for summer 2007. Looking for graduates of June 1987. If interested in attending or know of whereabouts of graduates, contact Terri Banks-Faison at (313)220-4769 or tntfaison@aol.com Southfield High School

Class of 1977

A 30th Reunion on Sunday, Sept. 2, 2007. For further information, contact MDurz@aol.com or IleneSilvermanAbrinSHS1977@comcast.net

St. Anthony Elementary All classes

Reunion on Oct. 6, 2007 for the Detroit school at 25th and

Vernor. Email mrkf4yahoo.com or call (734)995-9243 for further details and to give us your contact information. St. Philip Neri

Class of 1957

A 50th anniversary, 1-6 p.m. Sunday, June 24, at Marinelli's Restaurant, 4924 Rochester Road, Troy, just south of Long Lake Road. If you have information on classmates contact Harold Pryor at (734)462-5996. Utica High School

Class of 1981

A 25th reunion is being planned for the fall of 2006. Please send updated address information and inquires to: Todd Richter (trichter26@comcast.net).

The couple plans an October 2007 wedding in Sharon, Mass. They plan a honeymoon in Aruba and they'll make their home in Franklin, Mass.



Roberts celebrate 50th anniversary

Clyde and Lucy Roberts of Garden City celebrated their 50th anniversary Feb. 14.

The Roberts were married in Italy on Feb. 14, 1957 They have three children,

Frank Roberts of Canton, Mike Roberts of Canton and Jessica Chase of West Bloomfield.

They have six grandchildren. The couple have lived in Garden City for 43 years. Clyde

Roberts has been retired from General Motors for 19 years. He served 30 years in the Navy.

How to submit announcements

Local engagement, wedding, anniversary and birth announcements run in the Sunday editions of the Observer.

There is no charge to submit an announcement.

To obtain a copy of our forms for engagements, weddings, anniversaries and births email Hugh Gallagher at hgallagher@hometownlife.com.

Or send the following information to Hugh Gallagher, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia MI 48150:

For engagement announcements, include:

Names, addresses and cities for the bride, groom and both sets of parents Where bride and groom

attended (or attend) high school and college and years graduated

Where bride and groom are

employed Wedding date Wedding location Daytime phone number and

e-mail address in case we have any questions.

For wedding announcements, include:

All of the above, plus

Clergy's name

Names and cities of all attendants

Reception location

Honeymoon location City where couple will reside

Please send photos in a vertical format. If you are e-mailing a photograph, please send it as a "jpeg.

Photographs may be picked up after publication; or enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope

If you have questions regarding your announcement, call (734) 953-2149.



Ellen Grace Tomlinson

Jeff and Kelly Tomlinson of Florence, Ky., annouce the birth of their daughter, Ellen Grace, on Dec. 4, 2006. The Tomlinsons are former resi-

Hope of Livonia, Ilsa deArmas of Redfore and Pat Cardinal of Livonia.





JAMES HAROLD DAVIS

Age 98, of Westland, died February 13, 2007. Among his survivors are his daughter, Dixie Frazer, of Plymouth, and his son, James S. Davis of Charlotte; six grandchildren, and twelve great-grandchildren. Also surviving are one sister, Lucy Clark of Holly, and several nieces and nephews. Originally from Kentucky, Mr. Davis came with his wife Gertrude (died 2001) to settle in Wayne, Michigan, where they devoted their lives to caring for and loving their children, grandchildren and greatgrandchildren. Mr. Davis had been an employee of Unistrut Detroit Service Co. as a shop foreman. Cremation arrangements are being handled by the Cremation Society of Michigan Memorials are being received by Eaton Community Hospice, 2675 S. Cochran, Charlotte, MI 48813.

JASON HOPTON

Age 28 of Westland. Born May 11, 1978, died February 17, 2007. Son of Keith Arms and Ruth Hopton. Loving brother of twelve. Fiance of Odette Hickey and sons. Visitation Thursday, 2-9p.m. at Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 34567 Michigan Avenue, Wayne. Funeral service Friday, 1 p.m.

May You

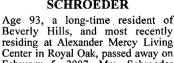
Comfort in

Find

Family

Friends

. . .



HELEN GRACE SCHROEDER

Beverly Hills, and most recently residing at Alexander Mercy Living Center in Royal Oak, passed away on February 5, 2007. Mrs. Schroeder was born in Westhope, North Dakota, in 1913. She was the daughter of Ole and Helen Colbornson. Her brother, H.O. Colbornson, died in 1977. Helen Grace was a member of the congregation and worked for The Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in Birmingham for 25 years, first as a part-time secretary and then as congregational secretary until her retirement in 1987. She also served for a number of years as secretary of the Women's Society at Redeemer. Mrs. Schroeder's husband, Carl J. Schroeder, passed away in 1980. She is survived by her son, Frederick W. Rhines of Wilton, Connecticut, his wife Betsy; her granddaughters, Gretchen Rhines Cheney of Washington D.C., Cynthia Rhines of Austin, Texas; and two great-grandchildren. Contributions in her memory may be made to The Music Fund at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 1800 W. Maple Road, Birmingham, MI 48009.



DOROTHY JANE NORRIS JENSEN Born February 11, 1920 in Green Bay,

Wisconsin, raised in Rockford, Illinois, lived in Birmingham, Michigan and ultimately, Vero Beach, died peacefully surrounded by some of her family on February 18 at Florida Baptist Retirement Center Vero Beach, Florida where she had been a resident for seven years. Dorothy's entire focus throughout her life was centered on her family, home and her many friends in Rockford, Birmingham, and Vero Beach. Her talents seemed endless: an expert seamstress who could copy designer dresses, needlepoint, knitting, gardening, music, dancing, cooking, and decorating – all achieved with mastery and grace. Her instant smiles and twinkle welcomed friends and strangers alike She was a member of the Rockford Country Club, Junior League of Rockford and Birmingham, The Village Women's club in Birmingham, Community House, Oakland Hills Country Club, The John's Island Club, IRMC Auxiliary and member of the first Presbyterian Church of Birmingham and Community Church in Vero Beach. She was predeceased by E.C. "Clem" Jensen, her husband of 58 years, in 1999. She is survived by her four children, David Jensen of Birmingham MI, Chris Loftus and Cathy Dusseau of Vero Beach, FL and Jim Jensen of "Grammie" to Meredith Rivers Burkitt, David River, Kate Dusseau Whitney, Matthew Rivers, Scott Jensen, Lindsay Dusseau and 3 precious great grandchildren, Sam, Luke and Joe. The family requests in lieu of flowers, memorials be sent in celebration of her life to Florida Baptist Retirement Center 1006 33rd Street, Vero Beach, FL 32960. The family extends their deepest gratitude for the love, care and support of their mother these past years by the incredible staff of Florida Baptist. There will be a Memorial Service in the Grace Chapel of The Community Church of Vero Beach on Sunday February 24 at 11:00 am. A guest book may be signed at www.seawindsfh.com/obit.php



dents of Livonia.

Grandparents are John and Luanne Woodley of Livonia, Len and Cindy Gallagher of Clarkston and Mark and Monica Tomlinson of Plymouth.

Great-grandparents are Pat



www.hometownlife.com

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

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Changing technology

Preliminary study shows CT scan cuts diagnosis time

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER



Dr. James Goldstein

Page C6

Sunday, February 25, 2007

The result of a new study is changing the way William Beaumont Hospital emergency room physicians treat low-risk patients with heart attack-like symptoms.

Dr. James Goldstein says hypothetically if he were suffering chest pain, he could be back at his desk by 4 p.m. after seeking medical attention around noon. That's presuming the 64-slice CT scan revealed his arteries weren't blocked. The coronary CT (computed tomography) angiography has become the preferred diagnostic tool used to detect fatty blockages or pockets of rockhard calcium in arteries that may be causing the pain.

As lead author of the study appearing Feb. 27, in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology, Goldstein worked with Beaumont's ER staff to recruit 197 patients deemed to be at low risk — patients at risk for heart disease, but with no previous known heart disease. According to Goldstein, director of research and education in the cardiology division at Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak, "over 50 percent of patients who present with chest pain have a significant likelihood of having normal arteries."

The standard testing procedure for low-risk patients takes about 15 hours and involves initial blood testing and an ECG (electrocardiogram) then repeating both four hours later. In the study, all of the patients' tests to detect a heart attack and damage were normal. Researchers then assigned half of the patients randomly to have a CT scan, the other half to standard diagnostics including more blood testing and ECGs, as well as a nuclear scan that uses radioactive material to evaluate blood flow to the heart at rest and during stress. Nuclear scans take several hours as physicians usually like to observe patients in the ER for at least eight hours before stressing the heart with medication or exercise. It then takes several more hours for the radioactive material to pass through the body.

In the study, coronary CT angiography reduced the diagnosis time for chest pain patients by 75 percent and more than 95 percent of the time accurately detected if arteries were clear or clogged with mild to severe blockages without cardiac catheteri-

Mike from Redford e-mails

Mike, the proper diet

health after a bout with

cancer. Think in terms

of more plant, less ani-

Research shows that

20 percent of cancers

would have never hap-

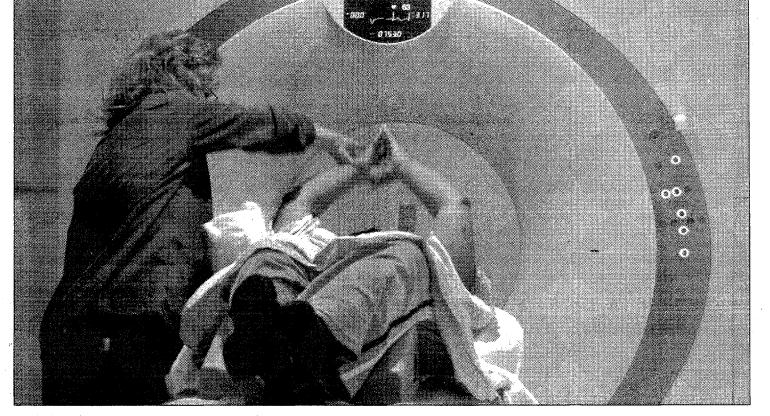
pened to begin with if

everyone ate five serv-

asking about a diet for

is critical for good

cancer survivors.



A patient undergoes a 64-slice CT scan at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. CT has been used since the mid -1970s to visualize areas of the body slice by slice.

zation. Costs were reduced as well, since patients were able to leave the ER sooner with a diagnosis without being admitted or having to return for testing.

CT scans require patients only to lie still on a table as it moves slowly through an X-ray system. Cardiac catheterization is invasive as it involves the insertion of a catheter into a chamber or vessel of the heart.

"The CT was more definitive," Goldstein said. "I think it's going to reduce the numbers of patients who have to come back for further testing."

Coronary CT angiography has come a long way since Goldstein began to do research at the University of California-San Francisco in 1979. Computer technology has enabled the 64-slice CT scanner to overcome the movement of the heart so it's able to take nearly 200 images per second. Goldstein says that when the 64-slice became available $2\frac{1}{2}$ years ago, he was amazed at the clarity of the images of arteries which could previously only be seen with invasive catheterization.

CT has been used since the mid-1970s to visualize areas of the body slice by slice.

"Based on this and other research and clinical experience, we're using CT as the preferred diagnostic strategy in low-risk patients," Goldstein said.

In the 1980s, Beaumont researchers performed the first randomized study that established angioplasty as a primary heart attack treatment. In the next couple of months, Goldstein will begin recruiting at Beaumont for a larger trial of the CT scanner involving 750 patients in 15 U.S. hospitals. The result of the research could possibly change the standard of care. Chris Simpson was happy to be part of the first study of 197 patients at Beaumont Hospital in March 2005. That's when the Troy woman began noticing symptoms she considered odd. Because her father died of his fourth heart attack at age 41, Simpson knew the warning signs to look for. After exercising for a short period, she would get jaw pain or sometimes for no reason a pressure would start at her collar bone and radiate up the neck.

"I was feeling a little spacey for no reason. All of the symptoms were very mild and didn't last," said Simpson, who immediately made an appointment to see her physician. After describing her symptoms, the internist sent her directly to the emergency room, where she was asked to participate in the study. She "had the CT scan a few hours later and the following morning was told a lesion had been found." A cardiac catheterization revealed her right coronary artery was 99 percent blocked.

"It's (CT scan) a good test for those who are at lower risk with no known heart disease," said Simpson, a 59-year-old instructional designer for a Troy-based corporate training company. "I had angioplasty; they put in a stent. Since then, I've had two more catheterizations and three more stents.

"Even before I was living a very healthy lifestyle, taking baby aspirin every day, trying to avoid cholesterol-laden foods, and was exercising four days a week, going to Curves and walking on the off-days. Because of my family history, I had always known I would develop heart disease."

Ichomin@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2145

Veggies reduce risk of cancer Stay safe during spring break



Peter's Principles

Peter Nielsen

ings of vegetables per day. When choosing veggies, use pigment as your guide. The darker the vegetable, the more likely it is to have beneficial cancer fighting substances.

mal!

Foods high in fat should be used sparingly. Medical experts recommend covering two-thirds of your plate with plant-based food and one-third with meat and dairy products. Fat derived from some fish can also be beneficial when it comes to cancer survival.

Consult your doctor for more information. John from Royal Oak suffers from diabetes. He e-mails for natural tips on controlling the disease.

John, help may be as close as the nearest spice rack. A recent study finds that cinnamon may help Type 2 diabetics improve their ability to stabilize blood sugar.

Researchers find that cinnamon helps fat cells recognize and respond to insulin. Insulin is the hormone that removes excess sugar from the blood. In fact, cinnamon appears to increase the metabolism of glucose by a factor of 20. Other reports show that a compound in cinnamon makes fat cells more responsive to insulin. It does this by activating the enzyme that causes insulin to bind to cells.

Tired of sugar? Feel free to sprinkle plenty of cinnamon on your oatmeal, cereal, even in your coffee. Not only is it delicious, it just might help stabilize your blood sugar.

If you have a health or fitness question you would like answered in the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*, e-mail **Peter Nielsen** through his Web site www.peternielsen.com. For many college students, spring break at the beach is the reward for months of study during the long, cold winter. As irresistible as it may seem to overindulge in sun and fun, don't break up the party with a trip to the emergency department.

Dr. Brian Keaton, president of the American College of Emergency Physicians, says emergency physicians see many serious injuries during spring break, and advance planning and common sense should be as essential to a student's travel plans as a bikini and a boogie board.

"The fastest way to ruin a good vacation is to overdo it, whether that means excessive sun exposure, sports injuries or overindulgence in alcohol," said Keaton. "Every year, emergency physicians treat college students who have left good judgment behind along with their textbooks."

So don't let the pleasure turn into pain. If you are under the legal drinking age, don't drink alcohol. If you are of legal drinking age, drink responsibly and never combine alcohol with driving, boating or swimming.

Do not get into a car with a driver who has been drinking.

The abuse of drugs and other illegal substances is always a bad idea.

Wear a life jacket at all times when boating.

Wear sunscreen with the maximum level of sun protection, and plan outdoor activities for before 10 a.m. and after 3 p.m.

Drink plenty of water especially when in the sun or perspiring heavily.

Take it easy with athletic activities after an inactive winter and get training from a professional, particularly for water sports such as surfing, water-skiing and scuba diving.

Swim with a buddy even if you are very experienced; be aware of any rip tides in your area and learn how to swim out of one should you get caught. Get enough sleep. Many bad decisions are the result of sleep deprivation.

The best protection against sexually transmitted diseases and unintended pregnancies is abstinence. If you do have sex, use a condom. Your vacation may only last a week, but parenthood, HIV and herpes are forever.

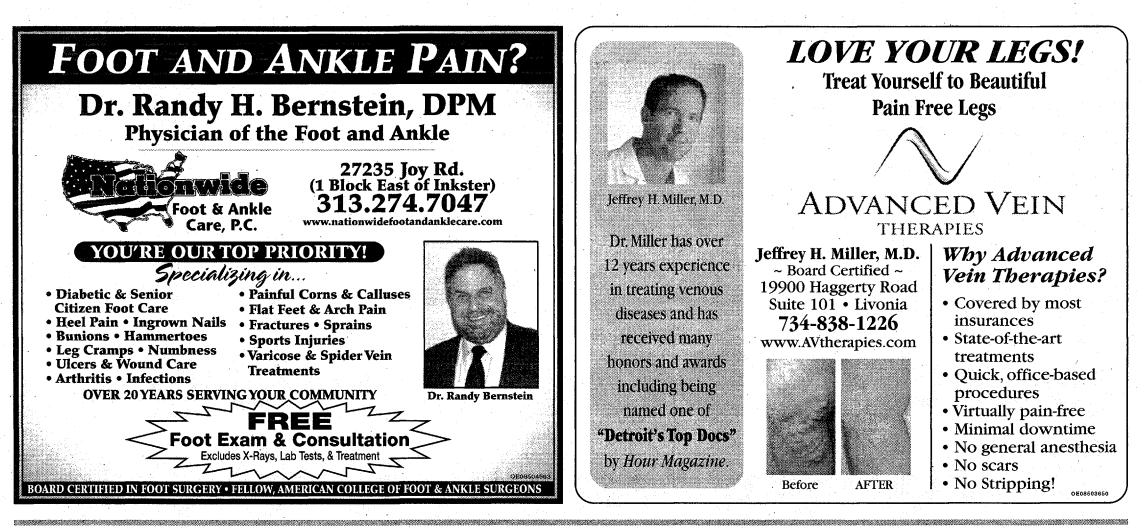
If traveling with a group, resist the urge to "go along to get along" if risky activities are suggested.

Don't visit unfamiliar areas by yourself, especially at night.

Take medications and proof of insurance with you.

Program your cell phone with I-C-E (in case of emergency), and identify a person and phone number that emergency medical services can contact just in case you do end up at the hospital and cannot speak for yourself.

"Emergency physicians were all college students too at one time," said Keaton. "We just want you to enjoy your vacation without a trip to the hospital."



Guidelines help prevent heart disease

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Dr. Shukri David is glad the new guidelines for preventing cardiovascular disease in women were released today. The cardiologist has been telling patients they should be exercising 30 minutes three to four times a week. The 2007 guidelines from the American Heart Association recommend 60 to 90 minutes, preferably on a daily basis for women who need to lose or sustain. weight loss.

Published in a special women's health issue of Circulation - Journal of the American Heart Association, the updated guidelines emphasize a woman's lifetime risk for developing cardiovascular disease (CVD) and provide direction for health care professionals on not only physical activity but nutrition, and the use of aspirin, hormone replacement therapy and dietary supplements in treating and preventing heart disease and stroke. David says most women believe their greatest risk is for breast cancer.

Heart disease is the number one killer of women as well as men.

Nearly all women are at risk for CVD, the authors wrote, that's why a heart-healthy lifestyle is important. The guidelines recommend controlling blood pressure and weight; eating fresh fruits, vegetables and low-fat dairy products; drinking alcohol in moderation, and restricting sodium. Saturated fat intake should be less than 7-percent of calories if possible.

WOMEN AS WELL

"One of the misconceptions is that heart disease has always been a man's disease so clinical trials from the 1970s to 1990s have primarily focused on men," said David, chief of cardiology at St. John Providence Hospital in Southfield, and a former president of the American Heart Association

board for the Greater Midwest Affiliate based in Southfield. "The volumes of participation of women were low and couldn't come up with consistent recommendations. Now we have more data coming in. The information is rather important for those at risk or those who have CVD. More women die of CVD than the top five killers. Almost four in 10 women end up dying of heart disease."

David believes the more than 30 million women with documented heart disease are just the tip of iceberg. He says women are much more stoic than men and rarely slow down to complain even if they do suspect a problem. Others are financially unable to afford screening for heart disease, or are too busy taking care of others to take care of themselves.

"They usually don't have typical symptoms such as pressure or pain in the chest like men," said David. "They have fatigue or arm or jaw pain, or their stomach is upset."

David says women need to pay attention to their symptoms and to seek medical attention. They also need to stop smoking. The 2007 update offers a complete list of current clinical recommendations for preventing CVD in women 20 and older at www.americanheart.org.

"The guidelines let doctors know they should pull the trigger quicker on nicotine replacement therapy," said David. "We're not just talking about quitting smoking but recommending nicotine replacement therapy.

"They're recommending that women take supplemental omega-3 fatty acids. In the past this hasn't been pushed among women, for women with heart disease to take up to one gram a day, women with high triglycerides 2 to 4 grams a day."

The guidelines do not recommend women take hormone replacement therapy and selective estrogen receptor

modulars (SERMs) for the sole purpose of preventing heart disease.

NO DATA ON ANTIOXIDANTS

Antioxidant supplements such as vitamin E, C and betacarotene should not be used for prevention of CVD. David says there's no data that antioxidant supplements reduce coronary artery disease.

The 2004 guideline recommendation that folic acid be considered for use in certain high-risk women has been reversed. Folic acid should not be used to prevent CVD.

"Women over age 65 should probably take a baby aspirin every day, regardless of risk status, and for women who are at high risk to use a higher dose of aspirin of 325 milligrams per day," said David.

"Very high risk women with heart disease should lower their LDL (bad cholesterol) to less than 70 milligrams and may require medications to do that."

David is concerned because the guidelines don't give health care professionals direction for heart disease screening. Yet, there are recommendations for mammography and colonoscopy.

"If a woman is 40 or 50 and has a family history or risk factors, I would recommend a stress test before beginning any physical activity," said David.

For more information on heart disease and stroke, call 1-888-MY-HEART or visit goredforwomen.org. The American Heart Association urges Congress to make the No. 1 killer of women a national priority by passing the HEART for Women Act this year. The HEART for Women Act is bipartisan federal legislation that would improve the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cardiovascular disease in women. For information. visit www.heartforwomen.org.

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FEBRUARY

Eating disorders awareness

In recognition of Eating Disorders Awareness Week Beaumont Hospital presents a two-part program, Eating Disorders are Serious Illnesses, Not Choices, 7-9 p.m. Monday, Feb. 26 and Wednesday, Feb. 28, in the auditorium, Roval Oak. No charge or pre-registration. Weekly support groups take place 7-8:30 p.m. Monday at Beaumont Hospital, 3601 W. 13 Mile, west of Woodward, and 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday at Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road. Meetings open to all persons with anorexia, bulimia, binge eating, compulsive eating, etc. No registration required.

Support groups for family and friends meet 7-8:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of every month, and for parents only on the fourth Wednesday of the month, at Beaumont Hospital. For information, call (734) 324-3089.

Thyroid disorders

7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 26, Dr. William Karl, D.C. presents Treating Thyroid Disorders Naturally at the Civic Center Library, Livonia. If you suffer from hair loss, cold hands or feet, stubborn weight gain or unwanted pain, there may be help. Learn safe, natural, effective alternatives. No charge. To register, call (734) 425-8588. Half hour to health

Dr. Daniel Laframboise, chiropractor, presents Half Hour to Health Workshops at 6:15 p.m., in his office at 18444 Farmington Road, Livonia. Feb. 27 topic is How to Increase Your Immune System 300-per cent, and March 6 The Best Kept Health Secret, No charge, Seating limited, To register, call (248) 474-5252.

Women's lecture

Shari Maxwell, M.D., takes an informative and intimate look at issues surrounding women's health 5:30-7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 27, at Henry Ford Medical Center-Plymouth, 14300 Beck Road. The obstetric-gynecologist discusses topics such as birth control, fibroids, incontinence, menopause, and issues surrounding abnormal Pap smears, and the importance of yearly screenings. To register, call (800) HENRYFORD (436-7936). Informational meeting

The nation's largest, most successful nonprofit event, the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life, is coming June 16-17 to Lahser High School, Bloomfield Hills. More than 4,600 communities have already taken up the fight to end cancer. Activities include a cancer survivor celebration and victory lap as well as a luminaria ceremony to help honor and remember everyone touched by the disease. Anyone interested in learning more should attend an informational meeting 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 27, at Gary Doyle Center, 7275 Wing Lake Road. Contact Lauren Konchel at (248) 483-4308

or visit www.acsevents.org/relay/mi/bloomfieldhills.

Divorce support group

Group discussion 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 27, gaining financial control of your divorce. Jacqueline Gold-Roessler and her partner David Roessler discuss financial aspects of divorce and how to plan for your future fol-Iowing divorce, in the Women's Resource Center at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, between Six and Seven Mile, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 462-4443.

Mental health forum

Luncheon and interactive forum for clergy on mental illness and addictions noon to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 28, at St. George Greek Orthodox Church Cultural center, 43816 Woodward, north of Square Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills. Tickets \$15. For information, call Cathy or Sue at (248) 338-1299. Keynote speaker is Philip Dwyer, clinical director of psychology at Garden City Hospital and an addictions counselor and adjunct professor at Oakland University. The program is designed to provide information, answer questions supply referral resources for pastors, priests, Stephen ministers, parish nurses and other spiritual leaders. Participants will also have the opportunity to attend discussions on suicide prevention, children and adolescent behavior, healthy boundaries, relationship of substance abuse to mental illness, dementia, and family violence.

Bone and joint disease

A free seminar 2:30-4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 28, at St. John Providence, Fisher Auditorium, 16001 W. Nine Mile, Southfield.

Arthritis Today JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY 18829 Farmington Road Livonia, Michigan 48152 Phone: (248) 478-7860

WHAT ACHING ALL OVER MEANS

Aching in all your bones and joints has meaning to your doctor as it is a symptom of a limited number of conditions. The list includes viral infections, experiencing the after ffects of prolonged and hard physical labor, fibromyalgia and polymyalgia rheumatica. Another reason to ache all over is having arthritis of the knee or hip. The single joint arthritis disrupts your gait, and interferes with ability to arise from a chair, car or the commode. In time, the strain includes the other leg, the arms, back and torso. What the conditions in this list have in common is that questioning and examining you can rule out any one of them as being likely or not. Each has distinct features. For example, polymyalgia identifies itself by the profound intensity of its ache, and that it occurs suddenly, at times, coming on overnight. In contrast, fibromyalgia is present for

months or years, often presented in the past, then disappearing only to return again. Fatigue, sensitivity to touch, and fleeting migratory, but daily pain are its characteristics. In some instances of aching all over, a simple freatment confirms the diagnosis. If the cause is a bad knee with a gait disturbance, injection of steroids into the knee will end the all over aching. The reason is not that the steroid is a miracle injection, but that return of

normal walking relieves the strain on your whole body. Don't be reluctant to say you ache all over. To your doctor that is a clue to your problem, not a distraction from it.

www.drjjweiss.yourmd.com

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Learn about bone and joint disease, arthritis-diagnosis and treatment, causes and treatment for bursitis and tendonitis, typical causes of hip and knee pain and treatment options, the joint replacement process

Resources and refreshment provided. Call (888) 440-7325 to register. Free self-parking at Medical Bldg. South Lot. Health screenings

Meijer is offering health screenings geared to uninsured or underinsured patients but anyone may attend, includes cholesterol testing (\$30) full lipid panel, liver function (\$15), fasting blood glucose (\$4), and hemoglobin A1C testing (\$30) includes A1C and fasting blood glucose test. Patients receive all test results within 15 minutes. Cholesterol or fasting blood glucose test patients must fast for at least 10 hours and 8 hours respectively but may take their medications in the morning. The other two tests do not require fasting. Clinic hours are 8 a.m. to noon, Feb. 27, March 27, April 24, May 22, and June 26, at 4200 Highland, Waterford, (248) 738-7833; March 22, April 19, May 17, and June 14, at 28800 Telegraph, Southfield, (248) 304-9533: March 15, April 12, May 10, and June 7, at 1703 Haggerty, Commerce Township, (248) 926-3133: March 6, April 3, May 1, May 29, and June 26, at 20401 Haggerty, Northville, (248) 449-5733; March 13, April 10, May 8, and June 12, at 6001 Highland, White Lake, (248) 889-6810; March 2. March 30, April 27, May 25, and June 22, at 49900 Grand River, Wixom, (248) 449-8533; March 16 at 1005 E. 13 Mile, Madison Heights, (248) 307-4910; March 20 at 900 N Lapeer Road, Oxford, (248) 236-8010, and March 28 at 3175 Rochester Road. Rochester Hills, (248) 853-2180, and 800 Brown, Auburn Hills, (248) 393-5110.



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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, February 25, 2007

LOCAL NEWS

www.hometownlife.com

MISC. SINGLES

Moon-dusters

(CP)

C8

Ballroom Dancing to a live band every Saturday 8:30-11 p.m. at the Livonia Civic Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia. Admission: guest/\$6, associates/\$5.50, members/\$5. Dress: Ladies - date style clothes, gentlemen - jackets and ties. for more information, call Joe Castrodale (248) 968-5197.

METROPOLITAN SINGLE PROFESSIONALS

Join our E-mail list at www.mspsc.com for special events. Information (248) 544-6445. Office (248) 851-9919 Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. **Euchre**

Anytime 6:30-9:30 p.m. Meets at the



SINGLES

Main Lounge at Drakeshire Lanes, 35000 Grand River Ave. just east of Drake Road in Farmington Hills. Cash bar and reasonable priced dinner is also available off the menu. \$5/members, \$6/non-members. **Volleyball**

Anytime 6:45-9:45 p.m. Drop-in volleyball in the gym and fieldhouse of the Bloomfield Hills Middle School, 4200 Quarton Road, west of Telegraph. Cost is \$6. In the park, Farmington Hills, anytime 6:30 p.m. to dusk. Heritage Park, Farmington Road, between 10 Mile and 11 Mile. Cost \$2.

PARENTS WITHOUT PARTNERS

Monthly dance

50

years,

The Wayne-Westland chapter of Parents Without Partners sponsors a singles dance on the second Saturday of every month at the Dearborn Elks Club at 25000 Michigan Ave. 9 p.m.1 a.m. Disc jockey, cash bar. \$6 mem-

bers, \$8 nonmembers. Public invited. Information, Pat, (248) 478-8977, or Diana, (734) 751-7386.

SINGLE POINT MINISTRIES

Single Point Ministries of Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church is at 40000 Six Mile Road, the corner of Six Mile and Haggerty, in Northville. Sunday Fellowship

Meet at 11:30 a.m. every Sunday in Knox Hall for fellowship and encouragement. Coffee, doughnuts, conversation and Christ are always present. For more information, call the SPM office at (248) 374-5920.

Bible Studies-Prayer Nights

Ministries office.

OPEN

HOUSE

'Character Building is Our Concern

Friday, March 2nd

7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

For New Families

44661 W. Ann Arbor Trail • Plymouth

(1/2 Block West of Sheldon Road)

734-453-5520

www.redbellpreschool.com

RED BELL Preschool

- Learner's Bible Study 7 p.m. Mondays in Room A101.
- Praying Together 7 p.m. Tuesdays in the Sanctuary at Ward Church.
 Men's Bible Study _ 6:30 a.m. Wednesdays in the Single Adult
- we miss our daddy love sam love chestmut t

Donna Law with Sam and Chestmutt. Law is caring for the two dogs until their owner returns from serving in Iraq.

Drive to help soldiers serving in Iraq

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

If there's a pet owner with a

crisis, Donna Law will be there to assist in every way possible. When one U.S. soldier was deployed to Iraq, the Redford woman took in his two dogs Sam and Chestmutt.

But Law wanted to do even more so she's collecting items to make the soldier's life as bearable as possible in the hostile country. From now through March 17 at Pet Supplies Plus in Canton, Law is accepting donations of travel size mouth spray, disposable razors, shaving cream, hand sanitizing spray, bacterial wipes, lip therapy or ChapStick, cough drops, gum, tooth paste and folding tooth brushes as well as calling cards for the solider and five men under his command to phone home. Surplus items will be passed on to others serving there.

An Adopt a Pet day is being held in conjunction with the drive from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, March 17. Both efforts are being orchestrated by Law's Mutts & Mutts Rescue, Michigan Coonhound Rescue and the store.

Canton story manager Ted Linden says he hopes the drive will inspire others to collect items for the men and women serving in Iraq.

"I believe no animal should be forgotten no matter what the crisis the owner may be facing and if you need us we'll be there to help you in any we can," said Donna Law.

"We're looking for deodorants, granola bars without chocolate which melts, Kleenex, cough drops, emergency or pocket-size containers of Bayer Aspirin, Rolaids, small First Aid kits."

Law would like to help many of the soldiers serving in Iraq by caring for their animals, but space doesn't allow so she's looking to purchase property.

Observer & Eccentric

But her biggest need right now is a van to rescue and transport the dogs. Her van had 176,000 miles on it when the engine died. She borrowed an old Buick from her parents but only two dogs fit in the back seat and a puppy on the lap of a volunteer who sits in the passenger seat.

People have been generous so far. Last semester's sixth hour special education class at Garden City High School with Amy Kierszkowski in room 215 A collected \$50.76 plus a dog jacket, squeaky toy, leash, and treats for Sam and Chestmutt.

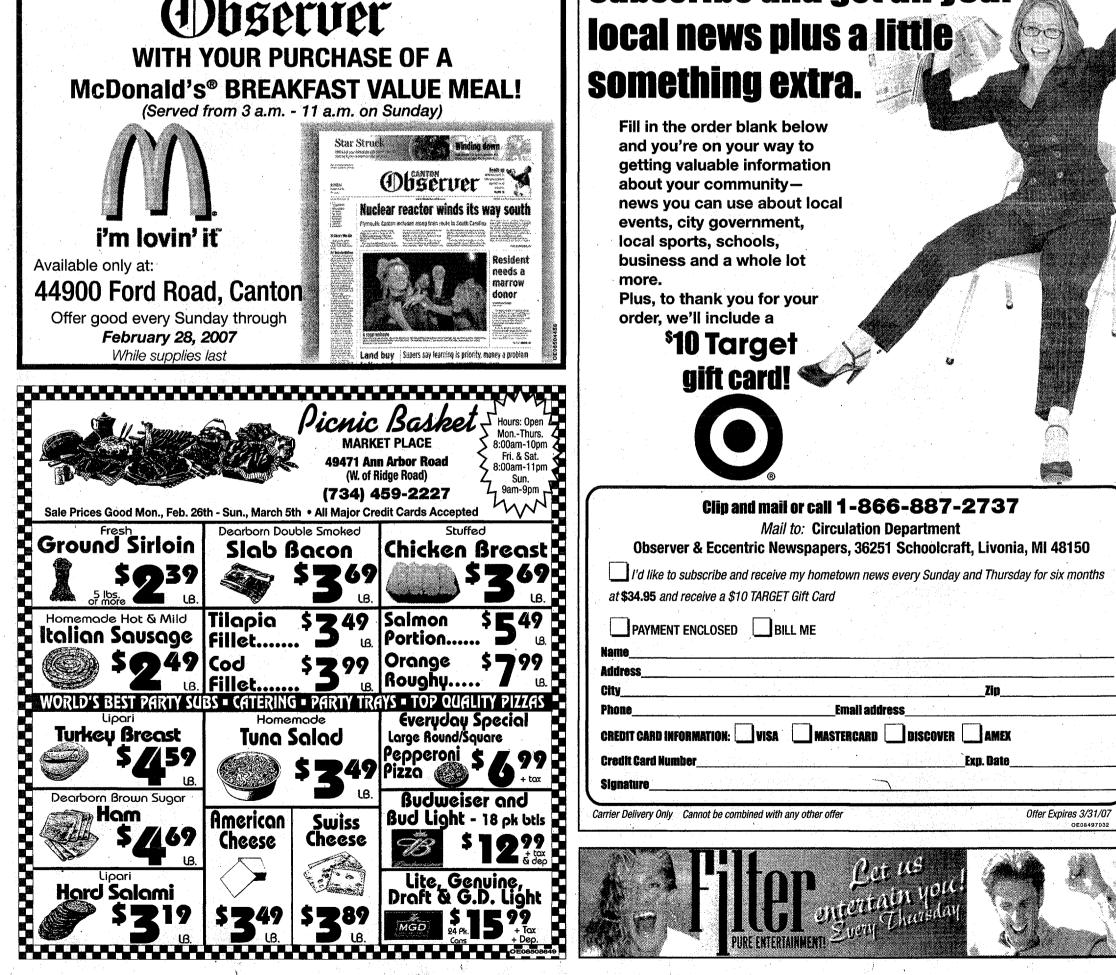
Law started rescuing animals in 1988 and her Mutts & Mutts Rescue became a nonprofit in 2001. If you can help, call (313) 538-1383. To see a list of the animals up for adoption, visit www.muttsandmutts.petfinder.org.

Pet Supplies Plus is on Ford Road between Sheldon and Morton Taylor in Canton.

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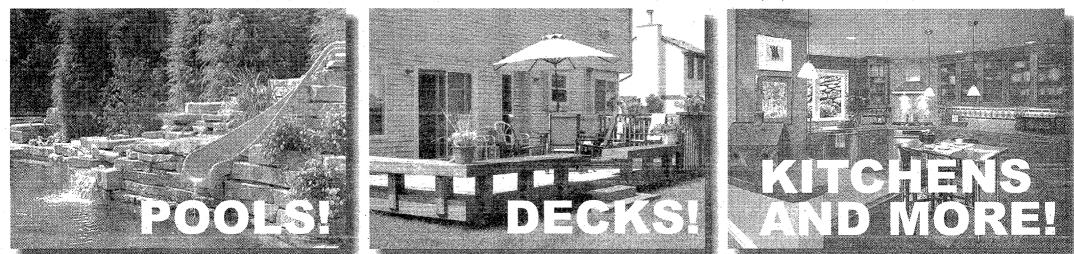
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1pm- Make Your Home Safe/Code Compliant
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4pm- Playground Equipment

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NEW THIS YEAR

- Win a shed! Canton Construction along with the Michigan Carpenters Union will build a shed each day to raffle off.
- Visit Kid's Corner! Home Depot and Canton Construction will sponsor a woodworking project center for kids.
- Win IKEA's display! IKEA will be setting up a soft seating / relaxation area to raffle off.

Young volunteers needed for scholarship competition

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, February 25, 2007

Kohl's will reward nearly 1,600 kids nationwide for their volunteer efforts in 2007 by awarding more than \$200,000 in scholarships through its Kohl's Kids Who Care Scholarship Program.

Kids ages 6-18 are eligible for scholarships. To nominate a young volunteer, visit www.kohlscorporation.com and submit nominations by March 15.

The rising cost of college tuition is no surprise, but the results of a recent study might be. Kohl's commissioned Impulse Research, a full-service public opinion and marketing research firm, to develop and conduct the study. The survey was conducted online with a random sample of 1,025 parents of children ages 6-18. The 2007 survey revealed that nearly 95 percent of parents consider the cost of college a concern, yet more than half are currently saving no money for their child's tuition.

To help cover the rising cost of

tuition, 75 percent of parents hope to tap into scholarship funds as a resource with a full 70 percent counting on scholarships to cover at least 25 percent of tuition costs.

Parallel to the rising cost of tuition is the rising trend of youth volunteerism in the U.S.

Whether they're donating time, fundraising or organizing benefits, young adults are tackling an endless list of community service opportunities.

Today's teens also find that community service is an important factor when considering college. According to the 2007 survey, more than 60 percent of parents are aware that volunteering can actually improve their child's likelihood for success in college admissions and 65 percent of families perform volunteer activities at least once a year.

Last year there were 12,000 nominations of great young volunteers for the Kohl's Kids Who Care Scholarship Program. This year two nominees from each of Kohl's more than 800 stores will win a \$50 Kohl's gift card. Store winners then compete for one of 170 regional scholarships worth \$1,000 toward post-secondary. education.

Regional winners are then eligible for one of 10 national prizes worth \$5,000 toward post-secondary education. National winners also receive a \$1,000 donation to the charity of their choice courtesy of Kohl's. National winners will be announced in July.

The Kohl's Kids Who Care Scholarship Program is part of the company's Kohl's Cares for Kids program.

Special Kohl's Cares for Kids merchandise is sold yearround with 100 percent of the net profits funding children's health and education opportunities nationwide.

DETROIT SCHOOL REUNIONS

maroonfowl@aol.com or call (248) 642-0249. **Detroit Girls Catholic Central** Class of 1967

Searching for classmates of the class of 1967 for a 40th reunion this summer/fall. Contact Diane Kangas (Krok) at (586)446-9011 or Mary Mezzardi (Winowiecki) at mmezzadri@hotmail.com. **Detroit Henry Ford**

www.hometownlife.com States

Class of 1967

A 40th reunion will be held 6:30-11:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 8, at Laurel Manor Special Event Center in Livonia. Seeking January, June and summer graduates from 1967. For information, call Ellen (Neihoff) VanderRoest at (248)684-7705 or email chuckandelvan@comcast.net.

Detroit Holy Redeemer

Class of 1957

A 50-year reunion. Oct. 12, 2007, at O'Kelley KofC Council, Dearborn. In interested in attending or know the whereabouts or former classmates, contact John Duff at oliverlynn@aol.com or phone (734)261-3346.

Detroit Mackenzie Class of 1957

Looking for graduates to attend a reunion scheduled for Oct. 19, 2007. Call Eleanor at (734)425-8278.

June 25. Call 800-859-9502 or email loret@wideopenwest for details. Cost is \$90.00 per person, complete with dinner, open bar, memory book, champagne toast and much more. **Detroit Cooley** Classes of 1967, 1968

Reunion 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Sep. 29, 2007, at Laurel Manor, Livonia. Discounted tickets before March 1. Contact Dave Junquist at (810)667-9131, Website www.geocities.com/cooleyreunions67. All classmates are encouraged to register for inclusion in memory book at

A 50th reunion at the Embassy Suites, Livonia

Oct. 5. 2007. Cost is \$90 per person, complete with

dinner, open bar, memory book, CD, champagne

This invitation is to all 50s' graduates. Deadline is

www.classreport.org/usa/mi/detroit/cooley/1967 **Detroit Denby**

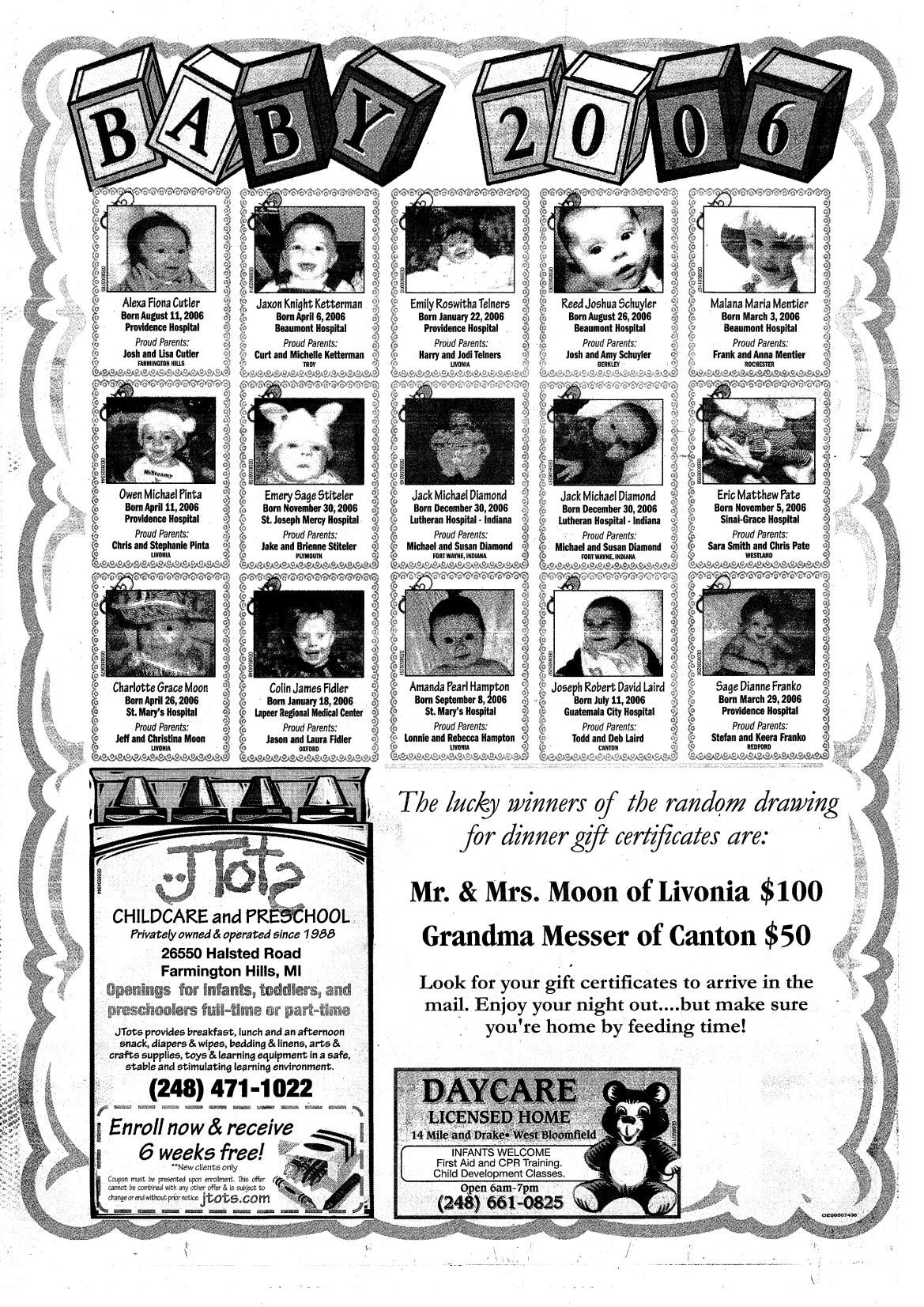
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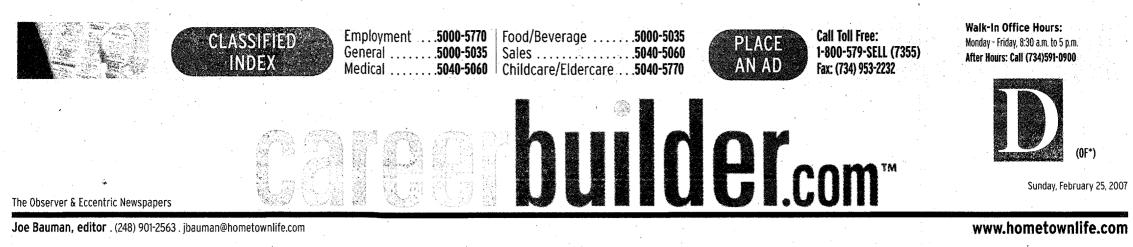
Detroit Cody

Class of 1957

toast and much more.

A 50th reunion is planned for Sept. 7, 8, and 9, 2007, at the Thomas Edison Inn, Port Huron. Seeking lost graduates, January/June classes. If you are not yet on the mailing list, please email





Small talk can add up to big business

BY JULIE BROWN STAFF WRITER

Chances are you know who won the recent Super Bowl. You may be an Indianapolis Colts fan, or sorry your beloved Chicago Bears lost, but knowing the game's outcome can be a definite career booster.

The fine art of small talk has its place in business and professional settings, experts agree.

A study at the Stanford University School of Business tracked M.B.A.s 10 years after they graduated. The study found that grade point averages had no bearing on their success, but ability to converse with others did.

Thomas Harrell, professor emeritus of business at Stanford, studied a group of M.B.A.s a decade after graduation, to find out what made some of them particularly successful.

The one common trait was verbal fluency, feeling comfortable both in public speaking and in general conversations, with friends and with strangers, co-workers and others.

Being able to connect with



others through small talk can lead to big things, according to Debra Fine, author of The Fine Art of Small Talk, and other experts.

Margaret Harlow, co-owner of Harlow Tire on Wayne Road

in Westland, agreed small talk matters. "I think that's always important," the Wayne resident said. "That's what we do at chamber of commerce meetings, and Rotary. It gives you a feeling for the person."

Sports topics, such as the Super Bowl, find their way into Harlow's business conversations. She likes to talk about Indianapolis coach Tony Dungy, "the hard road he has traveled with the loss of his son, being a black coach in the NFL." Harlow's impressed that Dungy never raises his voice.

"Yes, he's the winning coach but he's a nice man."

Harlow's not a shy person, but knows that some others are in business settings and has advice. "There are people like me who will make them feel at ease. Just do it," Harlow said.

Harlow encourages others to attend chamber meetings, "any community event," she said. Take business cards willingly, and have a brief conversation about your business.

"If you present yourself in the right way, you're going to come across as a good business person," said Harlow, adding people like to do business with others they feel good about.

Michele Hodges, president of the Troy Chamber of Commerce, noted, "There is no such thing as small talk." In a "relationship economy," any information that can create trust is timely.

Hodges cited the recent astronaut scandal at NASA as an example where small talk could have helped: "Perhaps things wouldn't have gotten so

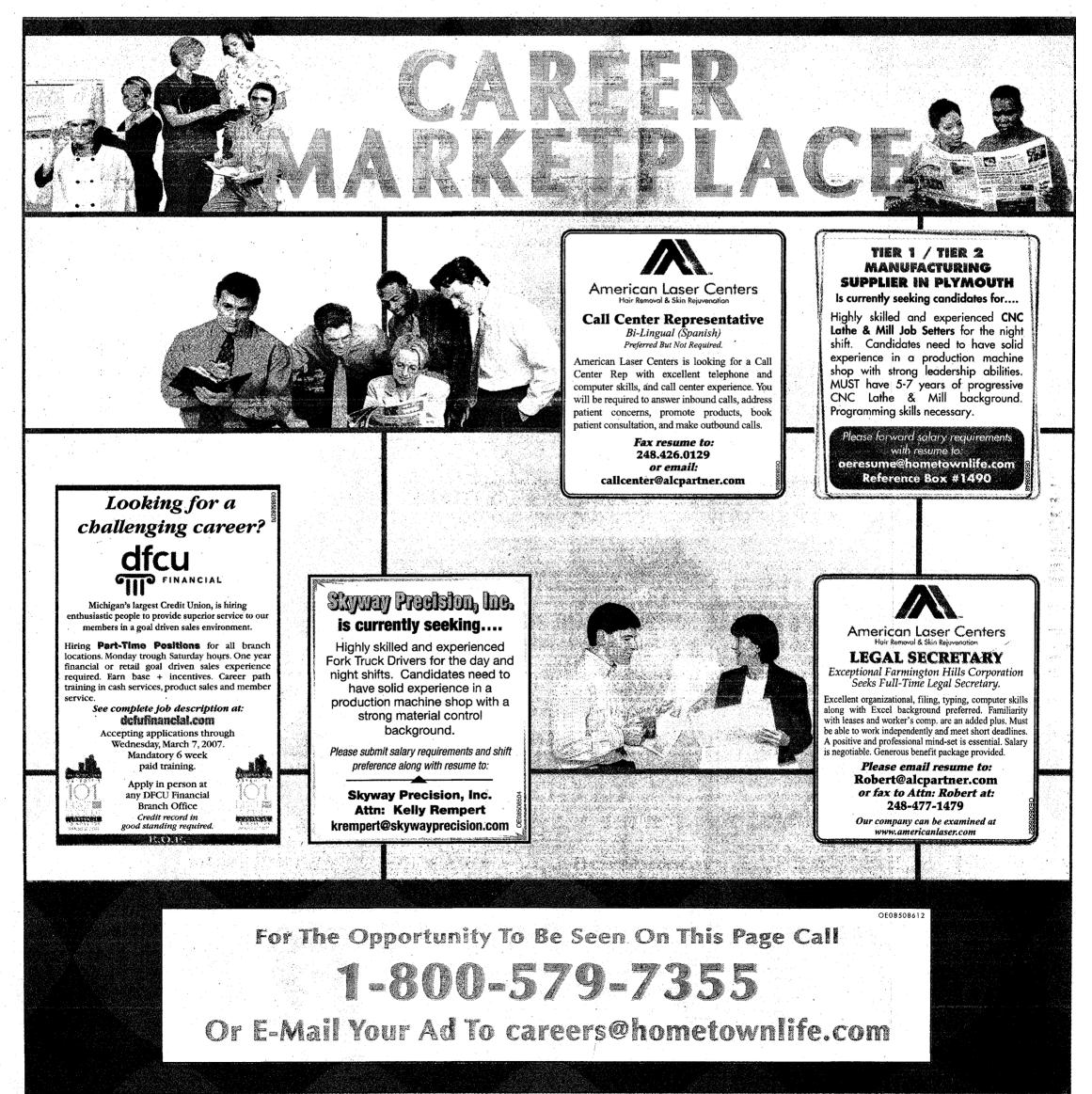
far." She finds it vital to create trust and awareness of each. other. "That's all important."

Hodges also has tips for the shy person in a business setting, first knowing you're not the only person feeling that way. Seek out a chamber staffer for help, Hodges recommends, as she or he can help with introductions. "Let us know who you're looking for. That's what a chamber staff person is there for."

It's also important to take an interest in others, Hodges said, and understand your product/service and be able to make an "elevator pitch." "Tell your story," the Grosse Pointe Park resident said. The chamber of commerce can provide the infrastructure to help you in your business.

Hodges has two small kids at home, and thus limited TV time. "I do occasionally feel left out during office discussions." She finds she can compensate for that. "That's your chance to listen and really understand the person you're talking to." There's a need to balance

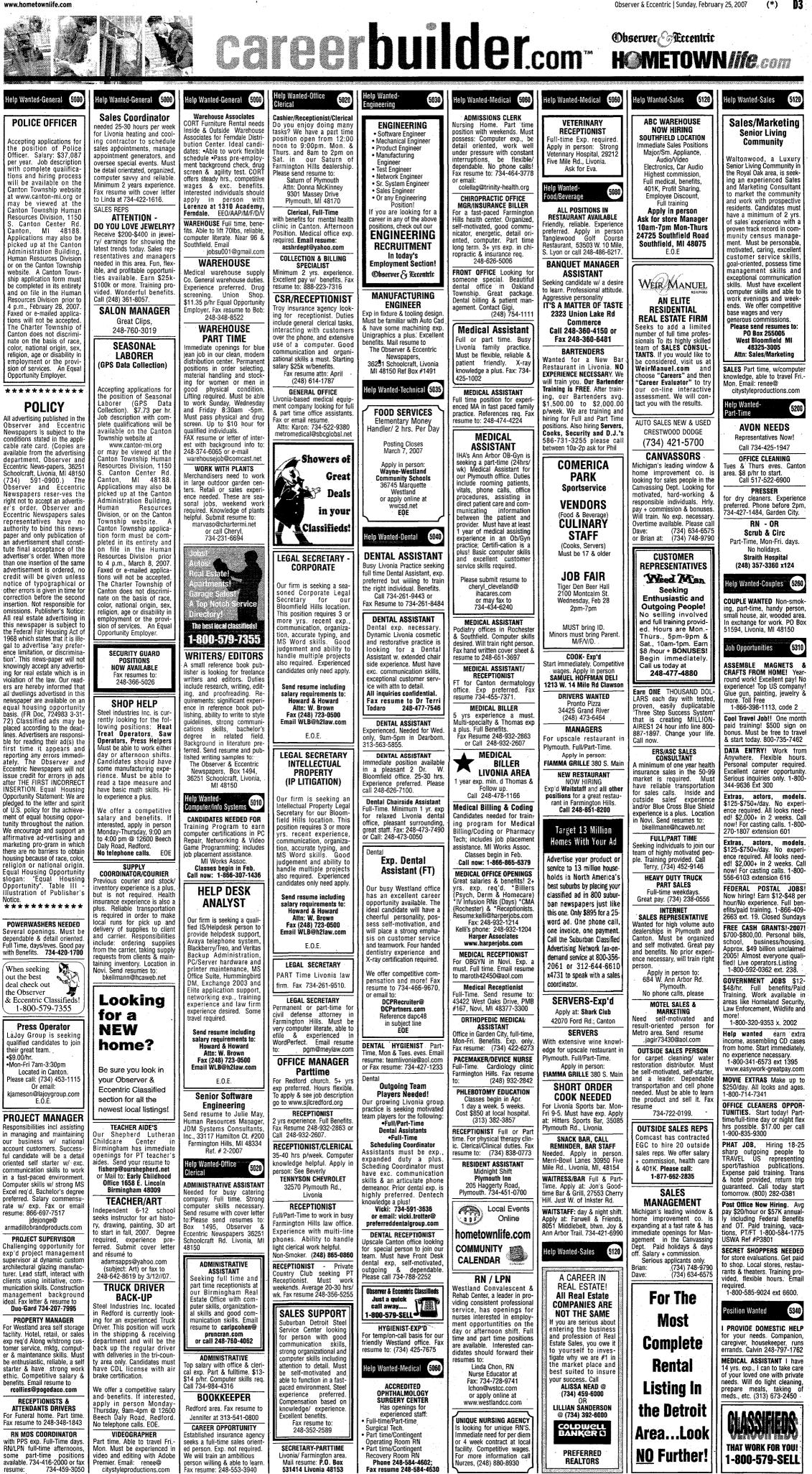
talking and listening, Hodges added.



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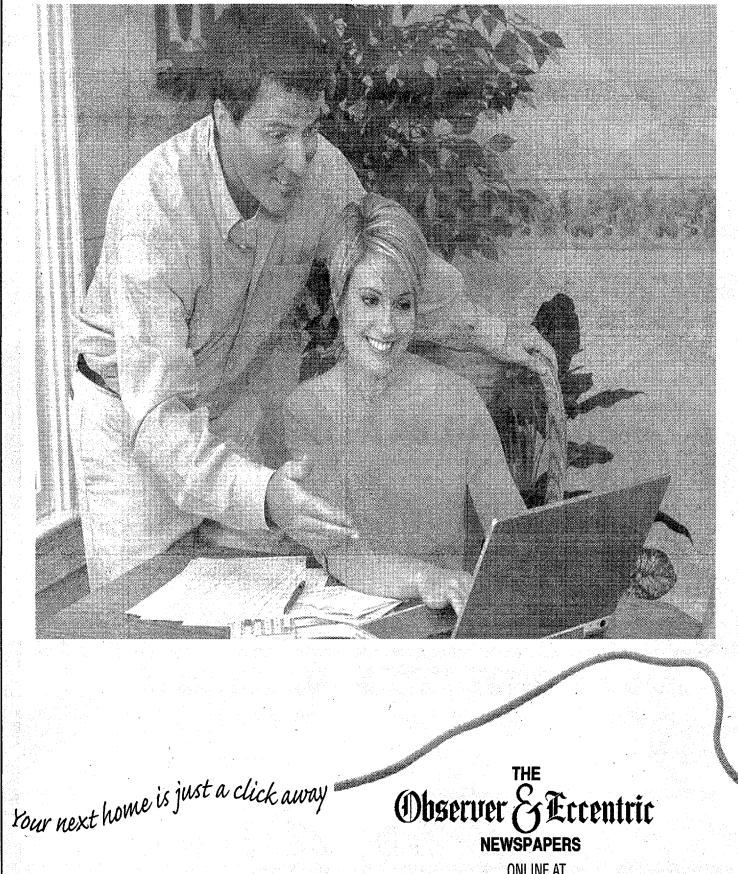
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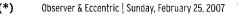
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TOYOTA TUNDRA TAKES AIM AT WORKING MEN

Advertising Feature

CAReport



By Kevin Koloian **Avanti News Features**

Toyota has strayed away from recreational pickup truck buyers this year by completely redesigning the Tundra for 2007 to attract the American working man.

Since the Tundra was introduced in 2000, it truck and the work capacity suffered from its small size. So, the original Tundra was just a fun-to-drive truck capable of handling small home-improvement jobs.

While handyman hobbyists were getting Tundras, independent contractors and people who haul heavier payloads continued to buy the larger and stronger Ford F-Series, Dodge Ram and Chevrolet Silverado.

Toyota hopes to change that in 2007, making the Tundra a truck of true full-size proportions capable of handling some of the toughest construction jobs. Whatever type of work you do, the half-ton Tundra can be suited to your needs. You can equip it for dual use as a work-site vehicle or just get it as is and use it for family transportation. There are three cab sizes, three bed lengths and three engines, including a new 5.7-liter V8, putting the 2007 Tundra on equal ground with all

The Tundra's three cab sizes include the Regular Cab, Double Cab and CrewMax. Big or small, all three have their advantages depending what you need the Tundra for.

The interior of the Regular Cab, which starts out at \$22,290 got four more inches of shoulder and hiproom for front occupants this year. And the oversized rear door handles on the Double Cab and CrewMax models now allow glove-wearing workers to easily open the door.

The Double Cab has four forward-hinged doors and is now the extended-cab version of the

The Tundra CrewMax is an extra-large crew cab, offering the roomiest rear-seat accommodations in the entire pickup truck class with 44.5 inches of rear



has never been big enough to be considered a full-size

of the traditional Big Three pickups.

Tundra. It is as large as many competitors' crew cabs.

legroom.



Whatever type of work you do, the half-ton Tundra can be suited to your needs

Regular and Double Cabs can be ordered with either a 6.5-foot or 8-foot bed, while the CrewMax comes strictly with a 5-foot bed.

The standard-cab Tundra comes in a single DX trim level, while the Double Cab and CrewMax are available in SR5 and Limited trim levels.

The DX adds 18-inch steel wheels, a cloth bench seat, dual-zone air-conditioning and a fourspeaker CD stereo with an MP3 player input jack.

The SR5 includes chrome bumpers, additional front-seat adjustments, an extra pair of stereo speakers, cruise control, full power accessories, keyless entry and rear heater ducts.

Long-bed versions of the Double Cab SR5 come ready made to tow. They are equipped with a tow/haul mode for the transmission and manually extendable exterior mirrors. The CrewMax SR5 models have heated mirrors, rear A/C ducts, a reclining rear bench seat and a sliding rear window with a defroster.

The top-of-the-line Tundra Limited model comes with alloy rims, wider tires, a bed rail system with adjustable tie-downs, leather upholstery, front captain's chairs, a telescoping steering wheel, automatic climate control, a 10-speaker JBL sound system with an in-dash CD changer, Bluetooth and power-retractable exterior mirrors with an autodimming feature.

If you still need to customize your truck, options include a navigation system, a backup camera, 20-inch wheels and, on the CrewMax only, a sunroof. The TRD Off Road Package provides an upgraded suspension with Bilstein shocks, BFGoodrich allterrain tires and fog lamps. Buyers seeking a colorkeyed look can buy the Sports Appearance Package for the Regular and Double Cab.

For the countless Tundra variations there are a few things all models have in common. The equipment you'll find standard on all 2007 Tundras are a sixspeed automatic transmission, antilock disc brakes, traction and stability control, front-seat side airbags and side curtain airbags. The Tundra Regular Cab has a manual cut-off switch for the passenger-side front airbag.

All versions of the Tundra are offered as twowheel-drive or four-wheel-drive. A properly equipped 4x2 Tundra Regular Cab can tow up to 10,800 pounds beating the Silverado by 300 pounds.

Inside, all Tundras have the same large, easyto-read displays and clearly labeled dials. Similar to the F-150, a large center console with an armrest/huge storage bin dominates the interior of the Tundra.

Full-size truck buyers with serious towing and hauling needs shouldn't overlook the 2007 Tundra as they have its predecessor.

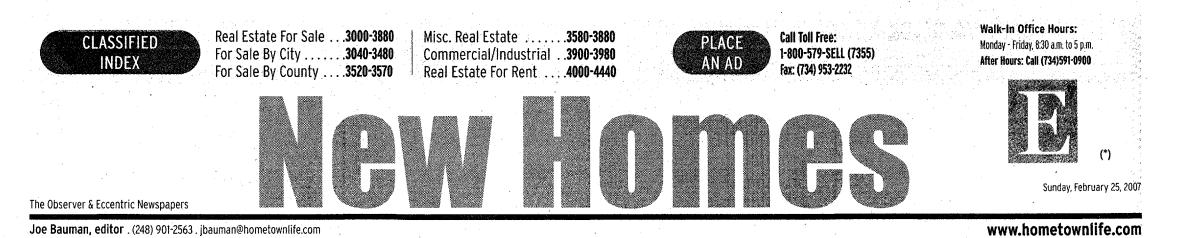
It's just as fast as its competitors. And with a trailer hitched to the back, its six-speed transmission makes it a more efficient hauler than some of these trucks.

Ford and Chevy loyalists who need a truck that can handle the wear and tear of rugged outdoor work owe it to themselves to give the second generation Tundrà a second look.

2007 Toyota Tundra. Vehicle Class: Pickup Truck. Power: V8 Engine. Mileage: 17 City / 20 Highway. Where Built: Gibson County, Ind. Base Price: \$22,290.

Kevin Koloian covers the auto beat for Avanti NewsFeatures. Write him at mailto:kevinkoloian@excite.com OE08508460





Text your next home

tapped into the text messaging craze full force. According to the Cellular Telecommunications and Internet Association, a trade association for the wireless communication industry, U.S. cell phone users sent more than 64.8 billion text messages in the first six months of 2006, up

than text messaging your friends and family. If you're house hunting, for example, and spot a home you like, you may even be able to receive the listing information on your phone with a simple text message.

have to do is send a text message with the property ID number, displayed on the for-sale sign, to "TXT ERA" or 898372. House hunters can also choose to be notified by text message when homes that meet their requirements become available.

ever-changing lifestyle," said Bill Cogan, ERA vice presi-

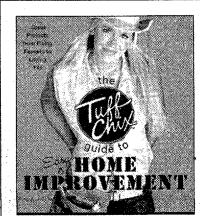
says his company was the first national real estate brand to tap into the mobile frontier with ERA.com Mobile, a service that allows customers to view ERA's listings and use its other Web tools from their cell phone's Internet browser.

tech-savvy company. In fact, it may be ahead of the curve.

ing is expected to increase six-fold between now and 2009.

most popular with first-time homebuyers. That may come as no surprise to some industry experts, considering a study by comScore Networks that reports 46 percent of people between the ages of 25 and 34 consider text messaging to be of "high importance" when choosing a cell phone. Soon enough, it may be of high importance when choosing





NEW HOMES

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, February 25, 2007

Herman would fit well on a sloping hillside

Colonial brick with pillars and a stately entry would describe the regal stance of the Herman (402-59) at 3,227 square feet. It has been designed to sit on a sloping hillside. The two-story rear of the home has a deck with a railing that runs two-thirds the way across the home. This makes the back yard accessible from the main floor.

The garage has room for a small work area or for the storage of lawn mowers, bikes, etc. The garage goes directly into the utility room, which houses the washer and dryer and a sink. The bedrooms are separated across the house. The vaulted master bedroom is on the right front with a large walk-in closet, and full bathroom. There is a whirlpool tub, shower, and individual sinks.

The other two bedrooms are on the left and contain wall closets. There is a full bath next to bedroom 2. The living and dining rooms are combined to form a great room that has a vaulted ceiling. There are French doors opening out to the covered deck off the master bedroom. In one corner of the great room is a fireplace with a large hearth.



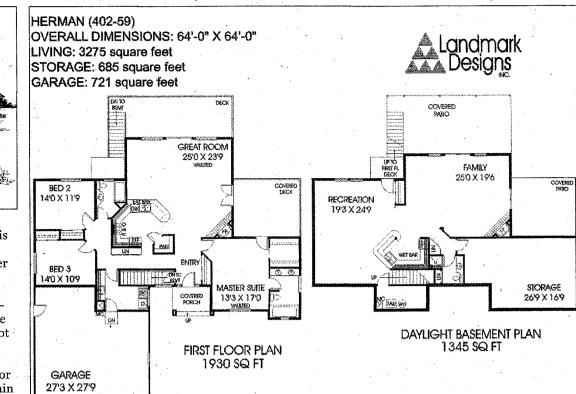
The kitchen has an eating bar on the back of the counter area, along with a walk-in pantry. The pantry has adjustable shelves that all for the storage of various items in addition to food. There is a full view of the great room from the kitchen area.

Off the entry is the stairs to the daylight basement. There is a large recreation room with a wet bar area, along with a snack bar eating area. This room opens onto a small concrete area that leads to the steps up to the deck above. The other main room in the basement is the family room, with a fireplace in one corner. and a full bath and two linen closets. Through a door off

this entry to the bathroom is a large storage room with a small storage off of it. Either of these could be used for bedrooms if needed.

Off the basement is a covered patio area, ideal for the barbecue or for putting a hot tub or spa. The entire spaciousness of this home is a home for a growing family or one with teenagers. The main floor has 1,926 square feet and the daylight basement has 1,309 square feet.

For a study plan of the HERMAN (402-59), send \$15 to Landmark Designs, 33127 Saginaw Road E., Cottage Grove, OR 97424 or call (800) 562-1151. Be sure to specify plan name and num-



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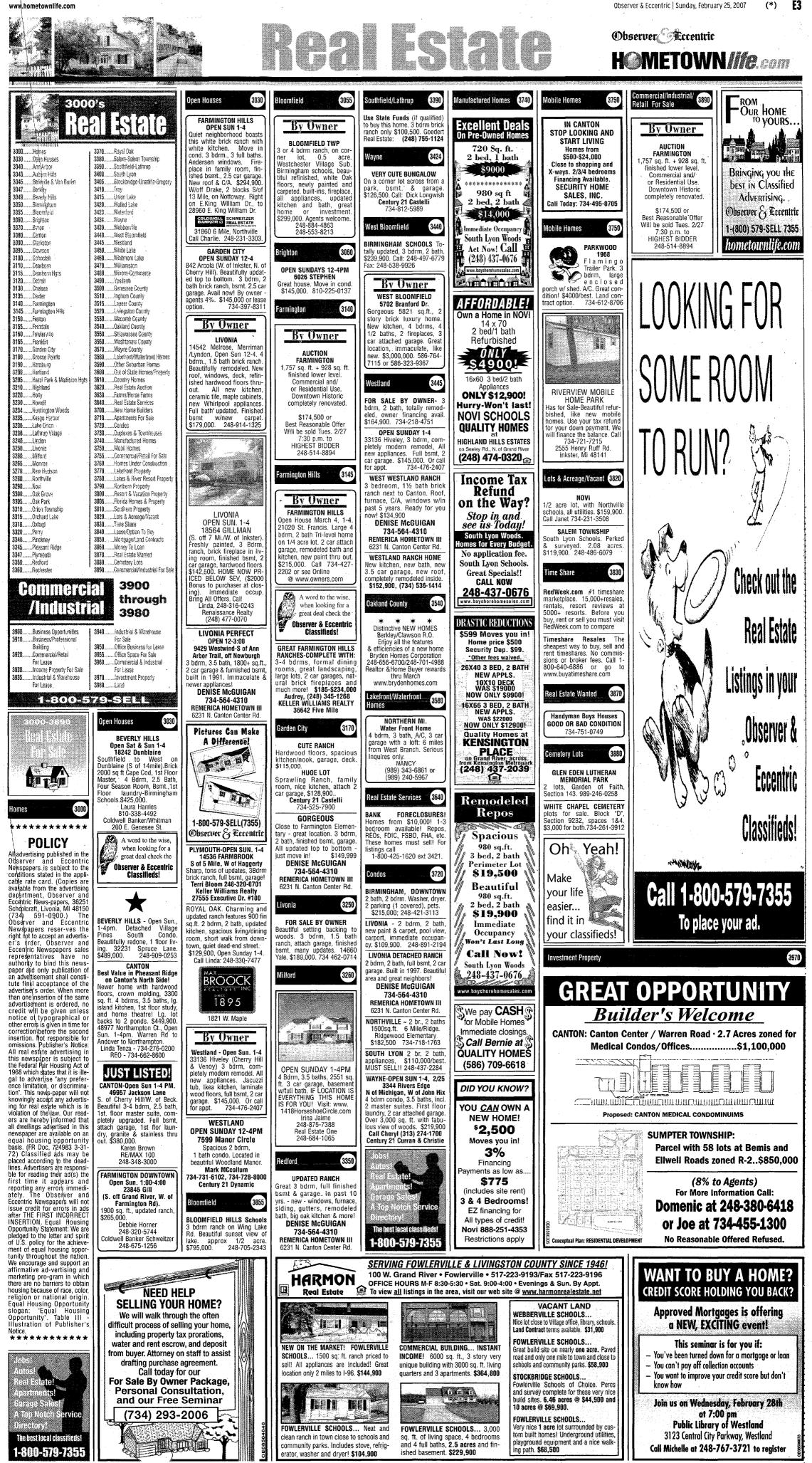
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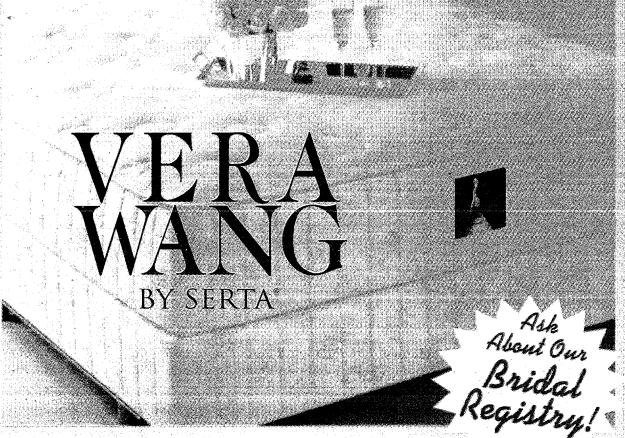
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*Free delivery excludes futons and bunk beds and applies to orders of \$699 and up.

Vera Wang makes sleeping stylish

eave it to Vera Wang to make the humble mattress fashionable. The designer, known for revolutionizing the bridal gown market, recently partnered with Michigan-based Serta to create a line of mattresses that blend fashion and function. The Vera Wang Collection by Serta debuted last year, and is available locally at the Mattress & Futon Shoppe.

The line uses patented exotic fills and sewn-in duvet covers. The Sweetheart mattress is adorned with Wang's signature triple heart motif, while a special pale pink Cherish mattress features a quilted ribbon pattern, and benefits the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

According to Earl Eiben, President of Mattress & Futon Shoppe, 47 percent of newlyweds purchase a mattress within the first year of marriage.

"Vera Wang is definitely tapping into the bridal market with this product. We think it's a great fit," Eiben said.

Serta Sales Representative Eric Bowles said Wang was involved in all aspects of the design process.

"We wanted to make sure we teamed up with the premiere name in wedding and bridal, and unlike other times when designers just pass their name to a product, she was very hands-on," Bowles said. "She approved all the fabrics, how the mattresses look and how they feel."

Prices range from \$1,200-\$1,900. Mattress & Futon Shoppe has 14 locations serving Southeastern Michigan, including stores at the Novi Town Center, Canton Corners Center and Livonia at Merriman and Plymouth roads. Bridal registry is available.

Call 1-800-332-3070 or visit www.mattressandfutonshoppe.com.

On the Cover

In keeping with current bridal trends, this gown by Amy Michelson from Roma Sposa Atelier features a dramatic back, with long ties secured with a rhinestone brooch. Covered buttons give the dress a glamorous, vintage feel. For more on the latest looks in bridal, see "Haute PINK."

> PHOTO COURTESY OF ROMA SPOSA, BIRMINGHAM COVER DESIGNED BY DAN DEAN

Roma Sposa shares top bridal trends

Anna Roselli, owner of Roma Sposa Atelier in Birmingham, had the pleasure of participating in the latest bridal fashion shows where the most important couture houses of bridal designers presented their latest collections. Here are her notes on this year's bridal trends:

Shape: The silhouette of this season is the fit-and-flare trumpet gown. The fitted upper body flatters while the bell skirt at the knee adds drama and glamour.

© **Cut:** For gowns of 2007, it's all about the back. Deep-V backs accented with extravagant embroidery and beaded details are usually offset with simple fronts and necklines.

Color: This season is all about color! Adding little touches of bold color to the traditional white gown brings out the bride's true personality. Color is definitely a 2007 necessity. Popular hues are pinks, champagnes and sages. For the bolder bride, jewel tones such as deep purples, reds, golds and even black are prevalent for 2007. I Lace: This classic has made a comeback. Lace details add a

vintage and romantic feel to any gown. Its ultra feminine quality is enchanting without being exaggerated. Frills: Along with lace, other ultra-feminine touches will grace the bridal runways this year. Detailed embroidery, ruffles and bows bring back the idea of the little girl fairytale dream gown.

Bling: Single pieces of extravagant jewelry are also popular this season. An elaborate necklace or cuff bracelet paired with a simple strapless gown demonstrates a sense of style and chic simplicity.

© Sleeves: Sleeves are also coming back this year, simple cap sleeves being the most popular. Off the shoulder dresses are also going to be seen gliding down the runway and down the aisle.

That being said, Roselli believes firmly that when shopping for a wedding gown, a bride is living one of the most important shopping experiences of her life. The wedding gown she selects will probably be the most meaningful garment she will ever own; therefore it is important to consider the kind of wedding she is planning and choose a dress that allows her to be comfortable in her own personality and body shape.

Roma Sposa is located at 722N. Old Woodward in Birmingham. Call (248) 723-4300.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ROMA SPOSA This Monique Lhuillier gown, available at Roma Sposa, reflects current trends of color, feminine embellishment and bold jewelry.

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Beyond the Window Lainey takes us on a tour of Canton, with IKEA at center stage.

Crafty Gal

Blush

Beat the cold with crafting! Stephanie Tardy shares books that will get you started.



Christina Kallery explains how to be a blushing bride — or just look like one.

©Girl Talk Local ladies share what warms their heart in winter

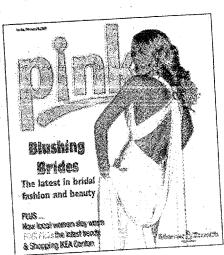
Pink Pick
Stay on top of the trends with PINK!

- RINK Winnerg

Diane Rodemeyer of Livonia will "Take the Cake" on her next trip -aCake Beauty Travel Set, that is. PINK readers were asked to tell us about their dream trip in order to win the cute little case full of delicious beauty products. Rodemeyer was selected at random to receive the travel bag (value, \$30). Here's what she said:

"My dream trip is ... anywhere that my husband is. It's not where you go, it's who you go with. If we have to pick a place ... we love antiques so our dream is to go to Paris and shop all the antique markets."

If you'd like to indulge in some Cake of your own, visit Poppy Beauty Bar in Royal Oak, The Beauty Lounge in West Bloomfield or Beauty First in Rochester Hills. Or, visit Cake online at www.cakebeauty.com.



From Rodeo Drive To Royal Oak... Smiles Are In Fashion!

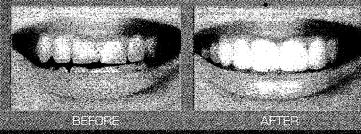


Why Lumineers?

Lumineers, the latest advancement in porcelain veneers technology, uses a thin porcelain coating no thicker than a contact lens that can actually change the color and shape of your teeth without the severe tooth reduction necessary in traditional veneers, and in most cases, without the use of shots. Dr. Baran is one of the top Lumineers dentists in the state. Her expertise in Lumineers can make a striking difference in your smile in just two office visits!

Dr. Dolores Baran

Recently Named #1 IN THE STATE OF MICHIGAN FOR LUMINEERS!



Smile Facts!

If your teeth need to be straightened, Dr. Baran offers Invisalign invisible braces. Rather than the traditional bulky metal braces that can irritate your lips or cheeks, you can straighten your smile with Invisalign's clear plastic aligners. This procedure takes six months to a year to complete, about half the time of traditional braces, and most people won't even know you are straightening your teeth unless you tell them. The procedure works for anyone as long as they have all their molars and adult teeth.

If you like the shape of your teeth, but the color has yellowed with age or become stained, Dr. Baran offers an advanced whitening procedure developed in California using the latest technology which produces dramatic results.

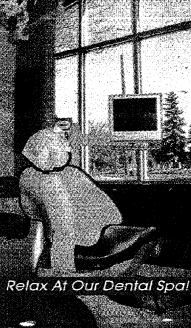
Convenience and patient safety are emphasized by Dr. Baran. Patients who need crowns can have them made in about an hour right in the office by the CEREC, a stateof-the-art computer milling machine, and digital X-rays that use 95% less radiation are used in place of traditional Xrays.

- DR. BARAN ALSO SPECIALIZES IN:
- FAMILY GENERAL DENTISTRY
- STATE-OF-THE-ART GUM SURGERY
- PAINLESS DENTAL PROCEDURES





Waterfalls in every room, a relaxing massage chair, soothing paraffin dips for your hands, aromatherapy. It sounds like a luxurious spa, but it's not. They're just a few of the amenities that greet patients at the new dental office of Dr. Dolores Baran. Dr. Baran and her staff believe a visit to the dentist should be as relaxing, comfortable and enjoyable as possible. At Dr. Baran's office, even sitting in the dental chair can be entertaining rather than uncomfortable. TV's were added to every operatory so patients could have the opportunity to watch television or DVD's during the procedures. In addition to offering patient relaxation and comfort, Dr. Baran also utilizes all of the latest technology that can make a striking difference in your smile.





A New Concept In Dentistry

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By Elaine Perlin Crossley

Don't let your spirits fizzle just because the holidays are over! Retreat from a winter's day to lively Canton, with its cornucopia of styles to spruce up your personal spaces.

Break out your trainers, and lose yourself beyond a vast bay of windows into a kaleidoscope of color and design - at knock-out prices. And along the way? A few epicurean delights.

The IKEA Idea

The IKEA Group's popular two-story blue and yellow stores exist in 44 countries with more than 200 operations. In Canton, meander through 311,000 square feet of fun.

Known for a plethora of stylish home and office wares at reasonable prices, patrons are also lured by IKEA's restaurant and café, bistro and marketplace.

Much of the store's charm is in its Swedish and other international influences. Designs range from trendy dorm or studio accents to impressive furnishings for lofts and larger homes. Don't be surprised, for instance, to see such top brands as Whirlpool and Corian among the cuttingedge kitchen exhibits, or a display of sleek leather sofas.

Enter IKEA

Drop the kids off at Smaland - a supervised magical forest play house. (Pagers are assigned to parents for peace of mind.) Other family-friendly perks include sev-



eral play areas throughout the store, and in the restaurant, bibs, a microwave for bottle warming, organic baby food and a kids' menu.

ith lainey

Take the escalator to the second floor to begin a fascinating journey into the visual, tactile and tasty world of Ikea.

A Swedish Spree

No more plastic at your girls night out party! Pick up six 'Svalka' wine glasses for only \$4.99, or a 20-piece flatware set for \$9.99. Check out the trendy 'Godis' glasses in an eclectic mix of designs, or the 'Enstra' (star) dishes.

Chic lighting includes shapely paper lanterns, the 'way moderne' 'Knappa' and 'Blimp' pendant lamps and alluring crystal chandeliers. For teens and tots, note colored lighting strips or wall lights in a rainbow of flowers, stars, moons, shells or lady bugs.

Great textiles include the 'Andrea' hand-woven rug, the 'Flokati' white wool shag and many Persian and Native American patterns. And you've got to admire IKEA's attractive bedding.

Cool storage ideas, accessories and wall art abound. How about 'Fler' candle set in a spectrum of colors, or a myriad of mirrors? Then, hit the 'Zona Verde' (greenroom) for bamboo, palm plants and beautiful orchids.

Food, Glorious Food

The restaurant has an interesting selection at amazingly low prices. Grab breakfast for 99 cents! For lunch or dinner, choose from such savories as a crusty sandwich, a smoked salmon (gravlax) plate, or the famed Swedish meatballs.

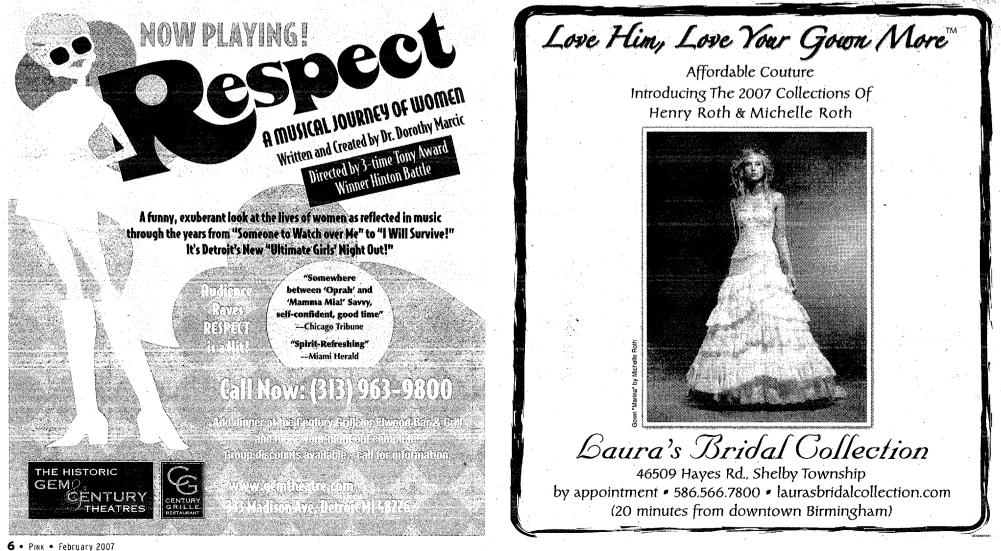
For dessert, try a slice of Swedish style apple cake, lingonberry mousse cake and more. Or, relax over a 'fika' (coffee break) in the first-level bistro with a yummy cinnamon bun. Then, to the marketplace for an olio of Swedish delicacies to take home.

A Peek at Willow Creek

Home decor is taking on a whole new life with motifs from distant lands and bygone eras. More eclectic designs await just west of IKEA at Canton's Willow Creek Plaza. Drop into Bombay for a 'Valentino' iron bed reminiscent of those made in France centuries ago. Or, perhaps a Baroque jeweled picture frame?

For an 'Out of Africa' theme, hit Pier I to create an exotic canopy for your bed or patio from a beaded mosquito net. Then, pick up a reed infuser to emit a romantic scent.

Elaine "Lainey" Perlin Crossley wishes you a happy and healthy '07. She can be reached at (586) 612-7177.





By Stephanie Tardy

There are so many new craft books on the market recently, it can be hard to tell what's worth the money. Here are some of my favorites, all of them worth the cash.

New Hip Stitch

Jenny Hart's embroidery has taken her from linen to skateboards (Craft magazine) and screen doors (Craftivity by Tsia Carson). And most notably, into the hearts of a lot of crafters. Among my friends, purl stitches and legwarmers are quickly being replaced by satin stitches and tea towels. And it's easy to see why. Hart's adorable patterns include everything from record players to owls, skulls to roller girls. Released last year, Hart's Sublime Stitching: Hundreds of Hip **Embroidery Patterns and How-To** (Chronicle Books) includes simple how-to instructions and over 90 transfers for creating your own projects making it a great resource for beginning stitchers and those already hip to embroidery.

More info: sublimestitching.com



gal

Monster Mash

Stuffed monsters are quickly turning into the indie equivalent of the teddy bear of more traditional crafting. Inside Plush-o-rama: Curious Creatures for Immature Adults by Linda Kopp (Lark Books) you'll find over 30 playful projects and patterns for creating your own strange creature like "Mr. Skelly," a cute skeleton, and interviews with leading plush artists like Jenny Harada.

But most importantly, the projects featured in Plush-o-rama are all-around adorable. And that's really what we want in a good craft book, no matter the subject.

Shorter Attention Spans Two newer magazines are aimed at



younger crafters and both get a big thumbs up from me.

With a philosophy that focuses on personal expression, many of the projects inside Adorn feature items you

may already own and creatively

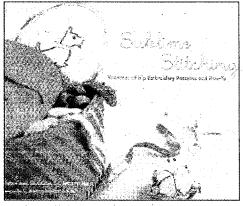
'Craft' magazine "adorning" them to reflect your

style. For example, in the current issue, there is a lampshade project which uses

wallpaper, buttons, and ribbon to cover a boring shade.

More info: adornmag.com

Picking up a copy of *Craft* magazine is a wholly different experience. Craft has its pages on the pulse of the indie craft revolution, with all its many facets. Inside the first two issues, you'll find an in-depth silk-screen guide, projects for everything from crochet purses to stamp carving, columns on the community of crafting as a whole and much,



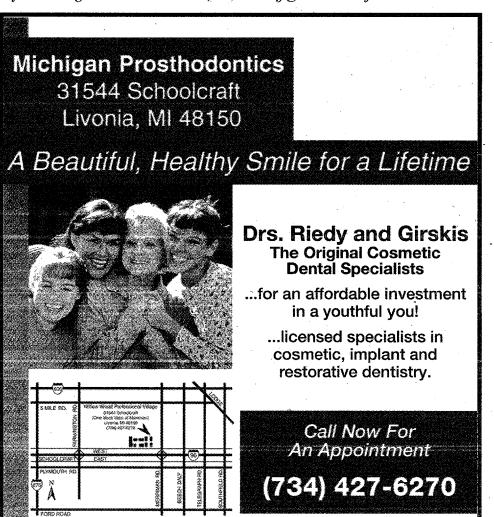
Sublime Stitching: Hundreds of Hip Embroidery Patterns and How-To' by Jenny Hart

much more.

Clear out some shelf space, you'll want to keep Craft around for reference long after the first read. More info: craftzine.com

Stephanie Tardy is the founder of the indie craft collective Handmade Detroit, which hosts Sunday Crafternoon, a monthly craft showcase at the Woodward Avenue Brewers in Ferndale. Find out more at www.handmadedetroit.com. Submissions, events and ideas for this column may be sent to stardy@hometownlife.com.





www.livoniaprosthodontics.com

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By Wendy Pierman Mitzel

It was a bitter cold, yet sunny, day in February when PINK braved the elements to visit the downtown Farmington Library and ask four women:

"How do you get the warm fuzzies on a cold winter day?"



'A cup of hot ginger peach tea **Karen Paterson** Farmington



In the library we always think a good book will do the trick **Cheryl Mastantuano Farmington Hills**



By cuddling up with my son **Stacy Conklin** Novi



'Staying in my nice warm home with my children' **Annabelle Trouve** Farmington Hills



By Christina Kallery



Whether you're prepping for a stroll down the aisle or just want to exude that so-in-love radiance, the right makeup can take you from simply pretty to princess-worthy. Trish McEvoy, celebrity makeup artist and creator of her eponymous line, dished some of her easy-to-follow secrets for looking resplendently beautiful on the big dayor any day. 1. Prime.

"Prep skin with moisturizer for your skin type," says McEvoy. "Next, apply face primer to lock in moisture, give skin a glow and create the perfect canvas." 2. Conceal.

'Choose foundation with a creamy texture and light reflective properties. It'll blend more naturally and give an effect that looks lit from within." 3. Luminize.

"Use shimmer powder or cream to create the illusion of dewiness. Apply to the high points of the face-cheekbones, browbones, bridge of the nose-then blend well." Get Cheeky.

"I always recommend using textures you're comfortable with and that work best with your skin type. If you choose a cream blush, you'll need to add a powder over it for longer wear. And the key to making any color appear natural is to blend, blend, blend." 5. Make Eyes.

"It's all about staying power: pick mascaras that don't smudge, prime the lid before applying shadow and look for fixatives to mix with your eye liner to make it waterproof." Ĝ. Pout.

Prep with a lip primer, then apply a lipliner that is a close match to your lips. Apply lipcolor and a touch of gloss in the center of the mouth for a full, pouty finish.

BLUSH recommends:

NARS Makeup Primer with SPF-Preps and nourishes skin, while offering 20 SPF protection.

www.narscosmetics.com. Trish McEvoy Even Skin Luminizer Apply under makeup for sheer, gor-

geous radiance. www.neimanmarcus.com.

NYX Cosmetics Rouge Cream Blush in Glow-The perfect neutral pink, this creamy blush blends like a dream. www.nyxcosmetics.com.

Benefit Dandelion-Dust over face for a subtle, pretty-inpink flush. www.benefitcosmetics.com.

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