

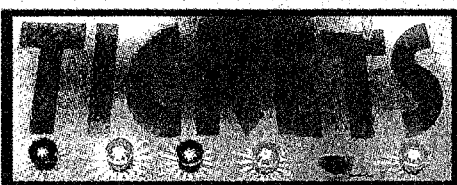
Irish paint town green to honor St. Patrick



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## Ryan: Third school bond try unlikely

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER

Following the defeat of two bond issues in the past nine months, don't look for the Plymouth-Canton Schools Board of Education to come back soon with a third bond proposal.

After voters in six communities turned down a \$62.1 million bond issue Tuesday, Superintendent Jim Ryan didn't even hesitate when asked if his crystal ball foretold a third

attempt at passing a bond for construction and renovations.

"In this case, the third time is not the charm," Ryan said. "I hear the board telling me we're done with facilities for a while. Now that the \$2.3 million (to reimburse the general fund for property purchased for a middle school in Canton Township) is gone forever, I think they're going to keep an eye on the economy, and in Michigan that's not going to be a quick change."

In fact, while a plan hasn't been discussed formally by the Board of Education, Ryan believes it will be several years before voters will be back at the polls deciding another bond issue for Plymouth-Canton school improvements.

"I believe the board will, in its master plan, ask (Assistant Superintendent) Ken Jacobs in 2008 to lead another steering committee involving the community to study our facility needs," Ryan said. "Even if it

started in January 2008, I'd be surprised if it was done by the end of the 2009 school year. That would put a bond issue at about 2010 at the earliest."

"It's a tremendous task, and then the board would have to wait for this economy to improve," he said.

Jacobs led a community steering committee in 2002-03, which took 15 months to produce future needs and wants. All of the needs on the list were addressed in the 2004 bond

approved by voters, which resulted in Workman Elementary being constructed, as well as renovations at almost every building in the district.

Instead of spending time on bond issues, the school board is expected to begin working on the 2007-08 budget at its March 12 meeting.

"We're already in a structural deficit, we've got Central (Middle School) that needs a lot of work, we've

PLEASE SEE BOND, A6

## The bare essentials

### Calendar raises money to rescue Great Danes

BY BRAD KADRICH  
STAFF WRITER

More than a dozen years ago, Sandy Suarez of Plymouth Township quit a good job at St. Joseph Hospital in Ypsilanti to devote her attention full time to the rescue of Great Danes.

So the idea she'd go to great lengths to help her favorite breed of dog shouldn't come as much of a surprise. She proved it again with her latest idea to help raise money to save the pooches — a nude calendar.

And in case, you're wondering, it's not the dogs that are nude.

Suarez, 49, and several of her friends, Great Dane devotees all, posed naked for a 2008 calendar being sold on the Web site of Suarez's rescue group, Great Dane Rescue, Inc. Of course, all the essentials are covered by props (including some Great Danes). Suarez got the idea from a group of women in England immortalized in the 2003 film *Calendar Girls*, but figured getting models might be a problem.

Not so. "I heard about the women in England, and I thought it was a good idea," said Suarez, who has worked for Great Dane Rescue, Inc., since 1993. "Surprisingly enough, we didn't have any trouble finding people to pose for it."

Suarez's love for Great Danes is nothing new; after all, she grew up with them. Her mom, Jean, remembers having a Dane as far back as 1955. Sandy moved to Plymouth in 1989, and brought a pair of Danes with her, both of whom died of old age.

The folks at Specialty Pet in Plymouth told her about two Danes that needed adopting, and Suarez wound up taking both of them.

"I realized there was a need for rescue after that," Suarez said. "I hadn't known that before."

Michigan Anti-Cruelty, an animal shelter in Hamtramck, started having money trouble and couldn't handle its load, and Suarez started helping out. Word of mouth spread, and Great Dane Rescue, Inc., began to boom.

Suarez and her husband, Jim Bouton, at one

PLEASE SEE CALENDAR, A4



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sandy Suarez, with her mom's dog Benny and her dog Esmerelda, heads Great Dane Rescue, Inc.

## Road block?

### Mayor considers waiting for city bond to fix streets

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER

It's no secret that deciding whether to ask Plymouth voters to approve a multimillion-dollar bond issue in November to continue the city's street paving program is high on the list of priorities for the city commission.

However, after witnessing voters turning down Plymouth-Canton Community Schools' request for a \$62.1 million bond issue Tuesday, Mayor Dan Dwyer is having second thoughts about the timing of putting a road millage before city voters.

"Voters in Plymouth shot it down," said Dwyer, referring to city voters turning down the school bond issue 1,063-886. "And I look at Lansing coming after people for increases in taxes and user fees. I don't know if now is the time."

City engineers have identified \$8.2 million in road and infrastructure repairs over the next five years, with an additional \$4.2 million in future street improvements. Commissioners want to resume the road improvement program, which has continued the past 10 years. However, the \$12 million in bonds voters approved in 1996 have run out of money, and unless voters approve a new millage, the alternatives include a special assessment of residents who live on the street being improved, or discontinuing the program altogether.

Dwyer is considering waiting a year before going to voters to ask for a tax increase to pay for

another road improvement program.

"We've got roads that need to be done, but are any of them so bad that we can't live with it over the next year?" said Dwyer, who also remembers voters turning down a city-wide millage increase in November 2003.

"After Proposal 1 failed, and with two school board millages going down, it's hard not to hear what people are saying."

"I strongly believe that a new millage is the right way to do it because it's not fair to special assess people who helped pave my street (Ann)," Dwyer said. "But I'm just wondering if now is the time."

Commissioner Ron Loiselle believes the school district fails this week and last May have different issues than what the city may face.

"I believe that people appreciate the work the city's been doing on the streets, and they want to see the work continued," Loiselle said. "I believe we may get a different result than the school district. If the economy is bad now, it will be a year from now. We're going to have an election anyway, so it won't cost us anything to ask voters."

"The only other option is going back to special assessing every resident on the street being improved, not that's not an acceptable option," he added. "People would rather pay \$30 more a year for a road tax than \$2,000-\$3,000 assessment to fix a road in front of their house."

PLEASE SEE STREETS, A6

Owner Victor West is nearly lost among the five-foot roses he has for sale at Vanessa's Flowers in Plymouth Township.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Five-footers make stopping, smelling roses easy

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER

For those men who may be in a bit of trouble, Victor West at Vanessa's Flowers may have the sure thing that will get you back in good graces with the special woman in your life. West received his first ship-

ment of 5-foot, long-stem roses, which are sure to get her attention.

"I don't think we'll have too many people who will send their wives a dozen of these roses, but if you want the 'wow' factor ...," said West of Canton Township, who has owned Vanessa's Flowers on Ann

Arbor Road in Plymouth Township for 15 years. "If you were doing an event, it certainly would be a 'wow' statement when somebody walked in."

West orders his flowers from Rob Stogdill, who owns Rokay Floral — a flower wholesaler who sells to retailers — on York Street in Plymouth's Old Village.

"I'm the only guy in Michigan bringing them in so far," said Stogdill. "The concept and availability have been around for a few years, but no one has sold them until recently."

"It takes a long time to produce them, and they are less than 1 percent of all the roses produced," he said. "I'll order

one box of 125 roses every other week. That compares to regular-stemmed roses, of which I order 50-100 boxes a week."

West, who has sold a few from his front window display, is selling the roses for \$10 each or \$120 a dozen.

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**Rummage sale**

The Plymouth Salvation Army hosts its annual indoor rummage sale 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 21. For the first time, table space will be rented to individuals who wish to sell their own belongings. The cost is \$25 for an eight-foot table.

Anyone interested in renting a table can contact Cassie at 734-453-5464 or by e-mailing [cassie\\_hull@usc-salvationarmy.org](mailto:cassie_hull@usc-salvationarmy.org). The Salvation Army is located at 9451 S. Main in Plymouth.

**Easter Eggcitement**

Northville Parks and Recreation's Easter Egg event is back packed with new things to see and do 10-11 a.m. Saturday, March 31 at Millennium Park.

Children 10 and younger can enjoy the animals from Carousel Acres, get their faces painted by Oddzin Ends, do crafts, hunt for Easter Eggs and see the Easter Bunny. Pre-register at the Parks and Rec Office at 700 W. Baseline Rd., Northville. Cost is \$6 per child. Millennium Park is located on 6 Mile between Beck and Sheldon.

For more information, call Parks and Recreation at (248) 349-0203.

**DAR meets**

The Daughters of the American Revolution of

Northville/Plymouth meet noon Monday, March 19, at the Northville District Library in downtown Northville.

A speaker the staff at St. Joseph Mercy Health System will present a program on "Women's Health and Fitness-Sandwich Luncheon."

For more information, call (734) 459-4764.

**Early Childhood night**

The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Early Childhood Department hosts a Preschool Site Night 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 7. All preschool classrooms at the various sites will be open for visitation.

For more information, contact the Early Childhood Office at (734) 416-6190 or check the Web site at [web.pccs.k12.mi.us/earlychildhood](http://web.pccs.k12.mi.us/earlychildhood).

**AAUW's 'Petticoat Ladies'**

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) will host a public performance by "The Petticoat Ladies" at 6:45 p.m. Tuesday, March 13, at Fox Run Retirement Community, 41000 13 Mile Road, Novi (just west of M-5). Beth Ann Knisely, (248) 305-8992.

**Supreme Court Justice speaks**

Michigan Supreme Court Justice Marilyn Kelly will be



CRESCENT ROSE PHOTOGRAPHY, NOVI

**Stage struck**

Larry Kallie (left) of Plymouth, Beth Brooks of Northville and Joan Freeman of Commerce rehearse for upcoming performances of the Novi Theatres' production of Divine Stella Devine, set for 7:30 p.m. March 8-9 and 2 p.m. performances March 10-11 at the Novi Civic Center Stage, 45175 W. Ten Mile in Novi. Tickets are \$12 at the door, special student rate of \$10 (with student ID) for the March 9. For more information, call (248) 347-0400.

the guest speaker at a luncheon meeting of the League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County on Saturday, March 10. The public is invited to attend and enjoy a modest lunch (\$5 donation requested). The meeting will be held at the Livonia Civic Center Library at 12:15 pm. For more information, please contact Paula Bowman at (734) 455-4726.

**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 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" sponsored 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](mailto: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 performances 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 line). First Baptist Church is located at 45000 N. Territorial in Plymouth Township.

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

**Arts-crafts ensemble**

The Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters hosts its annual Spring Arts and Crafts Ensemble 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 10.

All non-jewelers, including artists, photographers, and crafters who hand-craft their own items, are invited to submit an application to exhibit at the third annual event to be held at Canton High School in Canton, Mich. The juried art event is produced each year by the PCMB to assist the music programs at the Plymouth-Canton Education Park.

Artists and crafters who are interested in applying for consideration to exhibit should visit [www.pcmb.net/artcraft](http://www.pcmb.net/artcraft) to download an application and submit with photos as soon as possible. Only 100 exhibitors will be permitted to exhibit at this artistic event. Jewelry makers need not apply, as the show quota for jewelers has been met. Over 1,500 attendees are expected at the Spring Arts & Crafts Ensemble.

Canton High School is located at 8415 Canton Center Road in Canton. In addition to over 100 exhibits, there will be food, a raffle, and entertainment by local musicians and artists throughout the day. Admission is \$2.

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# Zapata's se abre en Plymouth

## New restaurant touts authentic Mexican fare

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER

Danny Gomez said opening a Mexican restaurant has been a long-time dream of his.

However, as the Plymouth resident prepares to open Zapata's on Ann Arbor Trail — in the former Coffee Studio east of Kellogg Park — Gomez wished it would have happened several years ago so his mother was alive to witness it.

"She was a fabulous cook, and I learned a lot from my mother," Gomez said. "The restaurant will have authentic Mexican food, and we'll use some of her traditional recipes. I wish she were alive to see it happen."

Gomez and his partner, David Zamudio of Dearborn, are aggressively working to open the restaurant by May 5, otherwise known as Cinco de Mayo, a celebration of the Mexican soldiers who defeated French occupational forces in 1862.

After spending hours debating what to name the restaurant, the entrepreneurs decided to name it after Emiliano Zapata, the son of a peasant sharecropper who led the fight for sharecroppers during the Mexican Revolution in 1910, forming them into revolutionary bands that eventually chased out the estate owners and divided their lands.

"It's a single word, and catchy," said Zamudio. "We hope people will like it."

Zamudio, 39, said he and Gomez are long-time friends who decided to get into the restaurant business.

"Danny used to be one of my babysitters," Zamudio said. "And, we started out working at (Ford Motor Company's) Livonia Transmission plant together."

"We decided to do it for both our families, who will be running the place," he said.

Gomez, 48, is a construction supervisor at the plant, who plans to keep his job at Ford while a proprietor of Zapata's. Zamudio, who was laid off from Ford, will continue as an



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

David Zamudio and Danny Gomez are just beginning renovations for their new restaurant. Zapata's hopes to open by Cinco de Mayo.

independent industrial representative representing minority suppliers to Ford, General Motors and Chrysler.

"While working in Livonia, Danny and I would always go for lunch in downtown Plymouth," Zamudio said. "No matter where we went, if we didn't get there by 11:30, there were lines out the door and we weren't eating. We want to bring something different to downtown Plymouth."

Gomez, who moved to Plymouth in 1979, said the food will be standard Mexican fare.

"Soft tacos, hard tacos, enchiladas, quesadillas, all served with Spanish rice and

beans," Gomez said. "Since the building is fairly small, we don't anticipate having a big sit-down area. We'll primarily have carry-out foods."

"We have a consultant from Mexicantown in Detroit and showed her the facilities," he said. "She thought it was a great venue for our restaurant."

Gomez said restaurant hours will be 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and open until 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

"We're church-going type people, so we'll be closed on Sundays," Gomez said. "It's a time to be with our families."

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

# Local clergy skeptical about TV documentary on Jesus' tomb

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER

This evening's Discovery Channel documentary "The Lost Tomb of Jesus" doesn't seem to be getting much credibility from the local clergy.

The producers claim to have located the tomb containing Jesus of Nazareth, along with his wife Mary Magdalene and their son, Judah.

However, the theory contradicts Christian theology, in which Jesus was crucified on the cross, died and ascended into heaven to be seated at the right hand of God.

Some local clergy members aren't interested in the made-for-television theory, and don't plan to watch.

"I'm not that interested because from the things I've

read, what is being promoted is not archeological scholarship," said Rev. George Williams, pastor of St. John Neumann Church in Canton Township. "The majority of science doesn't support this is Jesus' tomb."

"When you go to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, the traditional site of the tomb in Jerusalem, it's been revered because local tradition says this is where it happened," he said. "It has been handed down from generation to generation, from the people who were actually there."

Pastor Dorian McGlannan of St. John's Episcopal Church in Plymouth said she'll be watching something else Sunday night at 10 p.m.

"As soon as I saw the biblical scholars were skeptical, that was enough for me," said

McGlannan. "I'm just suspicious."

"We went through this with the Da Vinci Code," she said. "There is absolutely no evidence Jesus had a family. On the other hand, if he did it wouldn't have an impact on my faith."

Williams said the story will make for a lot of argument, but the bottom line is that it's totally contrary to Christian and Catholic tradition.

"Christ was raised from the dead, and we're not going to find his bones," Williams said. "The thought there's another place (other than Jerusalem) where Jesus lived and there is a burial pit no one knew about until some guys found it 27 years ago ... that's incredible. It sounds like good television to me."

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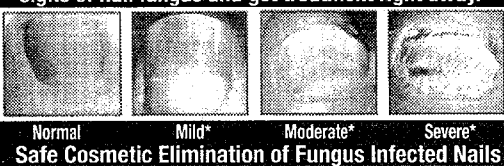
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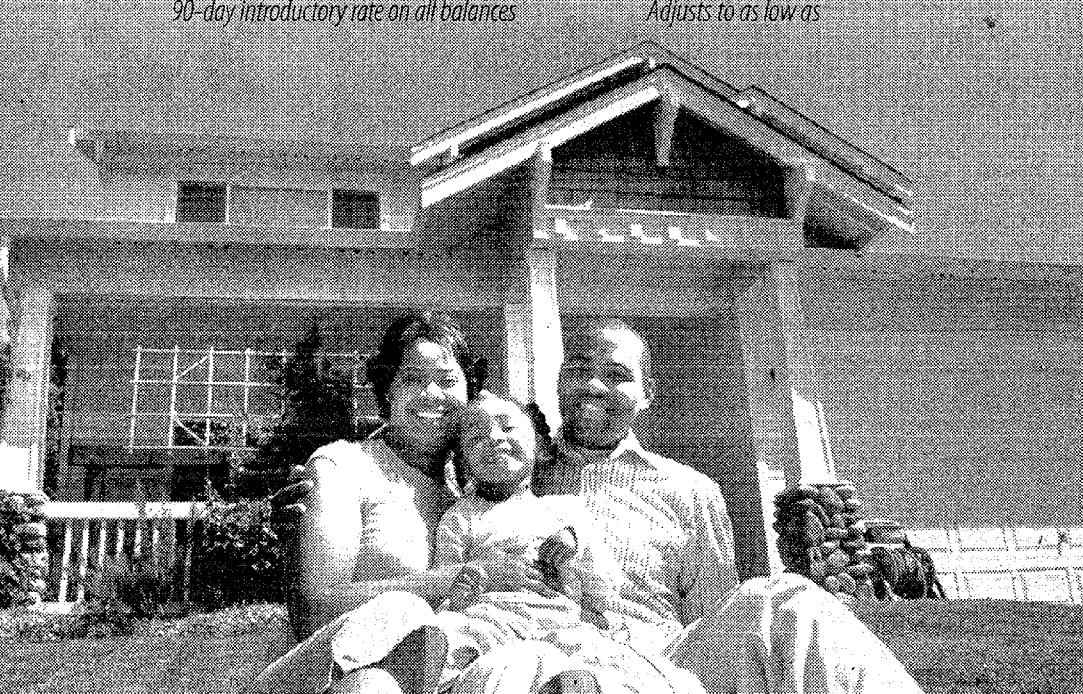
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**CALENDAR**

FROM PAGE A1

time had seven Danes. They take in predominantly handicapped dogs, such as the pair they have now. Esmeralda is a 10-year-old deaf Dane, while Santana, 8, is blind and deaf.

"I've had (Danes) my whole life," said Suarez, a Redford native. "It's a breed we know. We know their characteristics and their personalities."

Great Dane Rescue, Inc., is funded by donations and fund-raisers, such as the annual auction at Plymouth Orchards and a variety of raffles. Seeking other funding mechanisms, Suarez hit upon the calendar idea, and started looking for models.

One of them was Jeanette Coval of Troy, an administrative assistant for commercial appraiser Wieme, Rende and Associates in Troy. Coval and her husband volunteer for Great Dane Rescue, Inc., doing transports, home checks, etc.

The Covals, who own three Great Danes, adopted their first, Callie, almost six years ago from Suarez. The couple started going to functions,



Sandy Suarez and Esmeralda, as seen in the calendar, designed to raise money for Great Dane Rescue, Inc.

working the auction and getting to know Suarez.

Coval said she wasn't keen on the idea of posing for the calendar at first, but quickly warmed to it. She wound up posing in a shot with Carla Heath, Great Dane Rescue's

adoption coordinator.

"I hemmed and hawed a bit until it was fully explained to me, then I thought about the dogs and the need and said, 'I'm in,'" said Coval, who is the February entry. "It was a modest thing, kind of like, 'What

will people think?' I finally decided I didn't care, because this is a passion. I wanted to help the dogs, and if this was a way to do it, so be it."

Suarez's own mother had to be dared into posing. One of the younger volunteers said she'd only do it if Jean Suarez, 77, would do it. Jean agreed, only to see her young challenger pull out.

But Jean, who lived in Redford for 50 years before moving to Plymouth five years ago, followed through.

"I did it mostly on the dare," Jean Suarez said. "The girl said she wouldn't do it unless I did, so I finally said, 'Why not?'" That's pretty much how it went with the more than a dozen people who wound up posing for the calendar. Various props were used and the photos were all done tastefully, and all for a good cause.

Suarez breaks into a broad smile when she remembers rounding up the "models."

"Most of the people are crazy enough that all we had to do was say, 'We're doing a nude calendar, wanna pose?'" she said, laughing. "Other people had to be talked into it."

The calendar went to press late last month and should be

**HOW TO HELP**

**What:** Great Dane Rescue, Inc.  
**Purpose:** A non-profit organization dedicated to the rescue and adoption of Great Danes, many of which are blind or deaf  
**Where:** 4125 Gotfredson in Plymouth  
**How to help:** The group is funded primarily donations and fund-raisers such as its annual auction and "Fun Day." The calendars are available for \$20.  
**Contact:** Web site is www.greatdanerescueinc.com or by phone at (734) 4564-3683.

available in the next couple of weeks, primarily on the group's Web site at www.greatdanerescueinc.com.

Meanwhile, even some who shunned the modeling opportunity the first time around are having second thoughts.

"My husband said had he

known how fun it was going to be..." said Coval, who posed with Heath in Suarez's brand-new Corvette. "He didn't think it was going to be done in the manner it was done. It was a lot of fun."

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# Variable universal life is not a good investment

My husband and I are in our early 40s and about to purchase a variable universal life (VUL) policy for my husband. In light of your comment in the Jan. 7 *Observer & Eccentric* newspapers, we were wondering about the wisdom of VUL in our case. We currently contribute 10 percent of my husband's income into a 401(k), the first 5 percent is matched. The account is expected to be very large at retirement, 20-plus years from now. We were advised that we have the textbook case to purchase a variable universal life policy because our tax bracket is expected to be a lot higher when we retire. Our adviser recommends we invest half of the money currently earmarked for our 401(k) contribution into a variable universal life policy instead. He argues that a 10- to 20-year life insurance policy would probably cover most of our life insurance needs. We have currently put as much as possible in Roth IRAs as well. Is VUL a good strategy in our situation or is there a better way? What do you suggest?

- J.T.



### Money Matters

Rick Bloom

When money comes out of your VUL, it is taxed at your ordinary income bracket just like money in the 401(k) plan. Therefore, there is no tax savings by using a VUL. The one issue is that the VUL is not subject to the minimum required distribution rules. However, that is a minor benefit at most and is not offset by the high cost and limited investment options in a variable universal life policy.

In your situation, I would continue to contribute the maximum to your 401(k) plan. After all, you are getting a double tax benefit — money that you are contributing is pretaxed money and all the income grows on a tax-deferred basis. If you have additional money that you can invest, then I would invest that money outside of a variable universal life policy using a variety of growth mutual funds. By using companies like Schwab or Vanguard, you have a wide variety of commission-free funds that you can select from. You can coordinate with what you have in your Roth and 401(k) plan to supplement your portfolio. By contributing outside a variable universal life policy, you also have significant tax savings. Yes, money in the VUL grows tax-deferred; however, when it comes out it is taxed at your ordinary income bracket. Money invested outside of a VUL will grow at the capital gains rate. Your capital gains rate is substantially lower than your ordinary income bracket.

The reason why so many advisers sell VULs is because of high commissions they receive and trailers. Trailers are the amounts that the advisers — or, as I like to refer to them, financial salespeople — get on a year-by-year basis. That money comes out of your account and goes to pay the salesperson, whether they service your

account or not. My recommendation for all investors is to avoid variable universal life policies. They sound good; however, the devil is in the details. If your goal is like mine to keep more money in your pocket and less in others, you need to avoid these types of policies.

Someone I know works for a company that has all of its employees' 401(k) money in an annuity. Is that a good idea for the employees? I have never heard of such a thing.

- Gail

Dear Gail: Unfortunately, it is not unusual for companies to use annuities for 401(k) plans. In fact, you see it more frequently in nonprofit organizations such as hospitals and school systems. Typically, the types of annuities are variable annuities, which allow you to invest in a variety of mutual funds. There are two distinct types of annuities, a variable annuity and a fixed annuity. Fixed annuities are similar to CDs in the fact that you get a guaranteed rate of return on your money. I am a fan of fixed annuities, but not of variable annuities.

The reason that I'm not a fan of variable annuities is the high sales and administrative costs involved. These types of fees do nothing but hinder investment returns. In many variable annuities, the administrative fees and the fees within the fund themselves are very expensive. It is not unusual in a variable annuity for people to pay

between 2 and 3 percent a year in hidden unnecessary sales fees. However, not all 401(k) plans that use variable annuities have high fees. In some situations, the fees are reasonable.

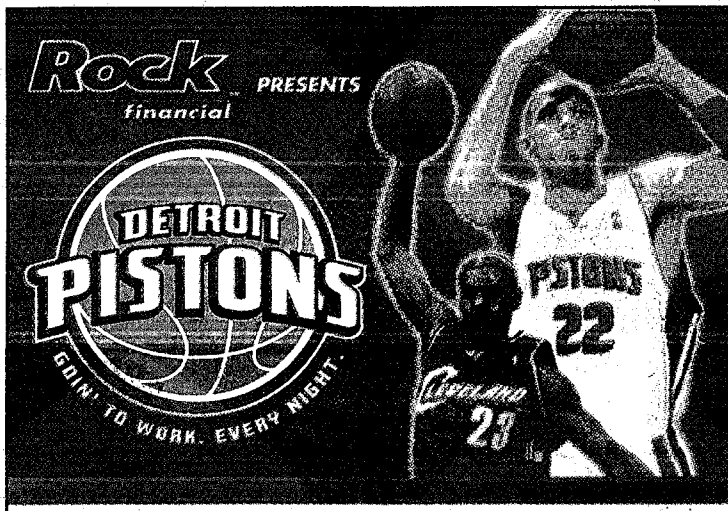
My recommendation to your friend is first to examine the annuity that is being used by the company to determine all of the fees involved. One good way to do this is to look at the fees on the mutual fund options within the annuity and then to compare those fees with the same mutual fund if they purchased it outside of the annuity. If the fees are higher, then it makes sense for your friend to try to talk to the employer. My experience has been that companies that use variable annuities within 401(k) plans are typically smaller companies which do not believe they have any other options. In today's world, small companies have a variety of options and they no longer have to pay high fees for 401(k) plans.

Using a low-cost 401(k) plan is one of the few areas that are a win-win for both the employee and the employer. After all, more likely than not the employer is also contributing to the 401(k) plan and they will also save money.

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

As far as I'm concerned, the only one who will benefit from a variable universal life policy is your agent. First, if you need additional life insurance, you should buy term life insurance. Term insurance by far is the cheapest type of life insurance and you can shop for it on the Internet. You can buy a 10- or 20-year term certain policy, which guarantees a fixed annual premium for that period of time. With the variable universal life policy, you are buying life insurance and making an investment. Unfortunately, you are paying the most for life insurance and paying the highest fees for investing.

Your adviser's recommendation that you reduce your contributions to the 401(k) plan makes no sense. Considering you are in a high tax bracket, money contributed to your 401(k) is pretaxed money. The money that is contributed into the variable universal life is posttaxed money. In addition, with a VUL you have very high investment expenses — more likely than not, substantially higher than your 401(k) plan.



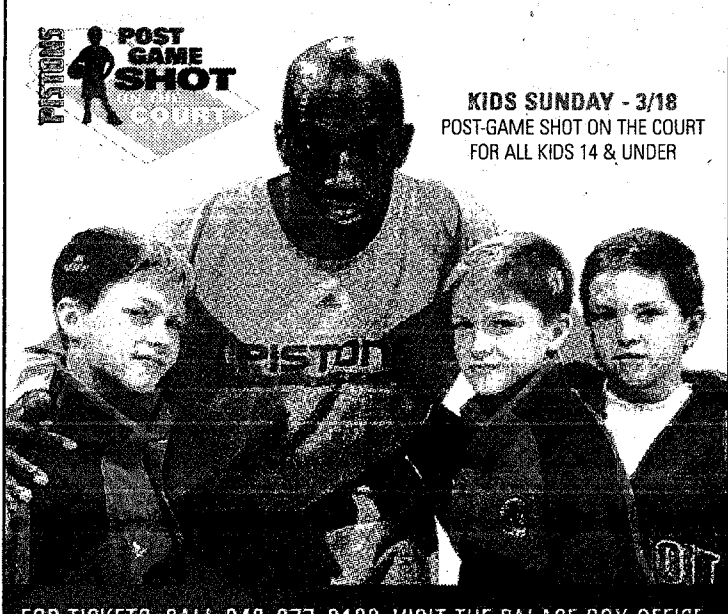
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The pain you feel may be sudden and intense as occurs in a gout attack and can mislead you and your doctor to that diagnosis. However, treatment for gout with medicine such as colchicine, will have little effect on your pain. When the problem comes from calcium in the tendon, the preferred therapy is a steroid injection at the site of maximum discomfort.

In the shoulder, "bursitis" really comes from a disruption in a shoulder tendon. As in the foot, the cause is injury to the tendon; the treatment of choice is steroid injection into the tendon. This procedure relieves irritation but does not heal the injury. The steroid dissolves the calcium improperly laid down and allows the process of repair to begin again. In most instances, this time the process proceeds properly.

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# Public supports state police, but leery of new taxes

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
STAFF WRITER

There was at least one new suggestion offered for addressing the Michigan State Police budget during a public hearing held Monday at Westland City Hall.

"The state police have their finger on the pulse of the community — we don't want an outside agency taking care of homeland security," Jim Murphy said. "On the income tax (return), I'd like a box you could check for \$1 to adopt a state trooper."

Most of the other speakers supported maintaining funding for the state police or urged legislators to figure out a way to live within their means and not seek any tax or fee increases.

More than 25 people turned out for the hearing, which also

took comments on the Military and Veterans Affairs budget.

Part of the proposed state police budget would eliminate funding for a 50-recruit trooper academy and reduce staffing in an effort to reduce spending by \$5.4 million. Other reductions proposed include fewer staff for Forensic Science and Enlisted Command, possibly resulting in post closings.

"I'd rather have as many state police as we can. They are well-trained and very professional," Westland resident Elenor Swistak said.

Another resident, Gerald Young, questioned the need for possibly laying off 30 state troopers.

"Is there no place else you can cut? It's not that much money when it comes to public safety," Young said. "You keep cutting and cutting. These are professional people with

integrity. Most of these troopers have jobs lined up in other states."

The last state police recruit school trained 80 troopers, he said, and the proposed layoffs would send 30 troopers to benefit law enforcement in other states.

"Some of the higher brass needs to step aside to save these jobs — the ones not on the road," Young said. "It's been done in the auto industry. I've done it myself."

Acknowledging he was among the top brass bottleneck, state police east region commander Maj. Tony Gomez reviewed services provided across Michigan by the state police in traffic, investigations, support services and a variety of cooperative task forces supervised by the state police.

There are already 332 fewer state troopers than in 2001,

Gomez said, adding other law enforcement agencies had lost 788 officers due to funding cuts.

The Military and Veterans Affairs budget proposal would actually increase the budget by nearly \$5 million due to additional revenue from the new Michigan Regional Training Institute at Fort Custer, expected federal funding increase and spending reductions in some areas.

Michael Harris, executive director of the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of American, called for the Legislature to allow veterans organizations to offer Michigan Lottery Keno games with the revenues earmarked for veterans programs.

"The idea was floated in the Legislature last year, but they decided not to go forward," Harris said. "The motive was

to put revenues into veterans programs."

Calling for the state to operate within its existing revenues and not pass additional taxes or fees was Dave Marshall.

"We spent too much at Christmas, so in January and February I was deprived of going to restaurants," he said. "The wife said we're cutting back, that we have bills to take care of. You've got to get rid of the bills first and don't come back for more taxes."

The comments and suggestions would all be forwarded to the appropriate parties, said state Rep. Richard LeBlanc (D-Westland), who chaired the meeting.

"There is going to be a lot of deliberations over the next weeks and months," LeBlanc said, chair of the state police and military appropriations subcommittee.

## BOND

FROM PAGE A1

got Starkweather with a program that really needs to be upgraded and we've got overcrowding at the middle schools," said trustee Richard Ham-Kucharski. "We definitely need to work fast."

"Going into this budget reshaping process, we need to be creative in the way we reduce our structural deficit," he said. "To me, that means holding teachers harmless from layoffs, and I don't want to touch class size. We need to stay afloat until the state turns around and we can start to see some growth in our funding from the state."

Ryan said the school board will also spend significant time in finding his replacement. While Ryan's contract ends July 1, the board is expected to extend his contract for up to a year as it searches for a new superintendent.

"Their target is to interview in March 2008, and we're hoping by April 1 (2008) to have a candidate in place and signed," Ryan said.

As for Tuesday's bond defeat, Ryan admitted optimism began to fade as economic bad news affecting Michigan seemed to make headlines almost daily.

"We had Pfizer moving out of Ann Arbor, DaimlerChrysler said it's cutting 13,000 jobs, we know about Ford's cutbacks, layoffs and buyouts," Ryan said. "Tax bills came out a week before the election, then on Election Day the stock market had its biggest correction since 9/11."

"We had about 25 days to give our presentation to community and school groups, and we were presenting to smaller crowds," he said. "That, coupled with the continuing development of bad economic news, I started to get the feeling in my stomach that we were swimming upstream."

Ryan said that sinking feeling didn't get any better on Election Day.

"I was cautiously hopeful Tuesday because I know the kind of people we have in the district and how they support their kids, the personal time and money they invest," he said. "But, it was a low turnout and I knew early in the day it wasn't going to happen."

## STREETS

FROM PAGE A1

Mike Policella, who has lived for 15 years on Evergreen Street, said he'd support a millage if city officials could prove they need the money and will spend it responsibly.

"I don't think we should let our infrastructure collapse, and if they can convince me that they've got their priorities straight then I wouldn't object," Policella said. "Right now I'm not convinced, although I think they're getting there. People can see from the school millage being turned down that we're not in a hurry to be taxed anymore."

Eighty-one-year-old Dan Fowler, who has been a homeowner in town for more than 50 years, said it seems everybody wants more money.

"(Gov. Jennifer) Granholm is taxing us like crazy, and living on a fixed income makes it tough," Fowler said. "I don't think it's a good time to go for it. Look at the schools, they were passing millages and all of a sudden they're not passing them."

"Just put a little asphalt on the roads and fill up the holes," he added.

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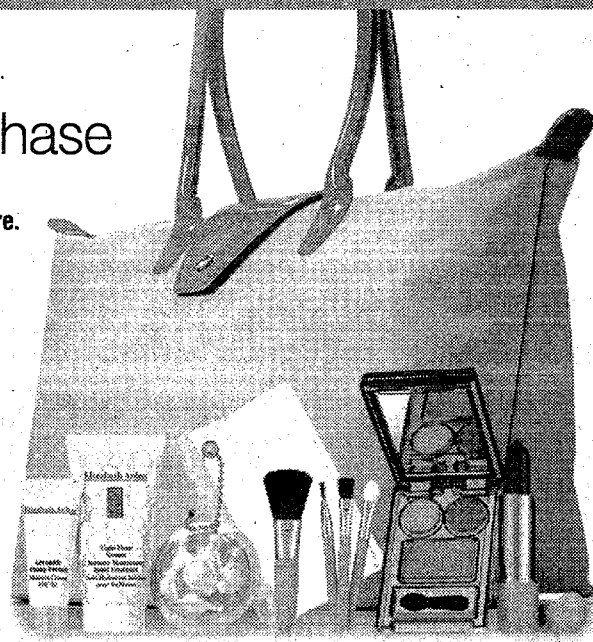
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# If you want to end war, you've got to sing loud

"Walk right in, it's around the back  
Just a half mile from the railroad track  
You can get anything you want at Alice's restaurant"

— Arlo Guthrie  
*Alice's Restaurant*

MoveOn.org sponsored a Congress the Decider event Feb. 22. War protesters delivered letters to their congressional representatives, telling them that they had an obligation to oppose the president's Iraq war policies.

President George W. Bush had once grandly proclaimed "I'm the decider," an imperial boast ranking with Louis XIV's "I am the state."

If the events across the country were anything like the gatherings at the offices of Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, and Rep. Joe Knollenberg, R-Bloomfield Township, the country's displeasure with the war in Iraq isn't even close to approaching the outcry against the war in Vietnam in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

Where are the campus protests? Where are the young people outraged by the war, the president, the vice president, big oil ... ? Are Britney Spears' breakdowns or Paris Hilton's galling antics so compelling that young people don't have time to think about less important things — like a war in Iraq, maybe soon in Iran?

At the protest in Livonia, the group of about 30 were predominantly middle age and older. Many of them probably have some fond memories of those glory days when they were young and angry and marched by the thousands up Woodward Avenue.

The exception was Rachel Lamontagne, a 24-year-old Wayne State student from Commerce Township, who has been encouraged by an activist mother to take her First Amendment rights seriously.

"I am so fed up with Bush," she said. She's taking classes in criminal justice, but she said what she really wants to be is a whistleblower and bring the wrath of justice down on corrupt corporations. Lamontagne is concerned that others of her generation are too politically passive.

During Vietnam, young Americans had the Selective Service to push them out of passivity. U.S. Rep. Charles Rangel, D-New York, has advocated restoring the draft as a way to spread the sacrifice and increase the resistance. Certainly a good regard for self-preservation added to the national displeasure with Presidents Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon and their war.

Arlo Guthrie's comic epic *Alice's Restaurant* recounted how a conviction for littering made him ineligible to serve in Vietnam. Like Lamontagne, he

had an activist parent who inspired him to speak out.

It's unlikely that the protesters at McCotter's and Knollenberg's offices will change the opinions of those congressmen. Despite some quibbles over the details, McCotter and Knollenberg are supporters of the president's crusade. (No, strike that; the word has some unfortunate connotations in the Middle East — call it a mission instead.)

In a passionate speech opposing a Democratic-sponsored resolution against the president's troop surge, McCotter compared Democrats to Neville Chamberlain before World War II and to Democratic Illinois legislators who opposed the Emancipation Proclamation. The comparisons displayed McCotter's love for history and his genuine erudition. But his analogies are thin. He might as easily have compared Iraq to Britain's disastrous campaign in Afghanistan in the 1870s.

Many Democrats are scrambling to explain their support for broad presidential powers that have allowed Bush to continue his fight. At the time, in the wake of 9/11, it seemed like political suicide to stand up against the invasion of Iraq. After all, no one would want to give a free pass to a dictator as monstrous as Saddam Hussein.

And now opposing Bush is "opposing the troops." Isn't it rich how politicians hide behind young soldiers? Troops carry out assigned missions, the American people decide what those missions should be. We support the troops by stopping misguided missions as well as by properly equipping them when they are in harm's way.

In retrospect, American actions have lit a fuse too long stifled and stirred deadly animosities and power politics. The once oppressed Shi'a have now ascended to power and neighboring Iran sees an opportunity to make an ally. Meanwhile, the decline in the power of the minority Sunni causes concern for Saudi Arabia and most of the rest of the Sunni majority Middle East. In retrospect, careful diplomacy might (might) have prevented this.

A rising national indignation isn't enough to bother Bush, Cheney, McCotter or Knollenberg. It takes a good strong case of national outrage.

At the end of Arlo's story, he urges everyone to sing the chorus loud, to create a movement, The Alice's Restaurant Anti-Massacre Movement.

"If you want to end war and stuff, you've got to sing loud."

All together now,  
"You can get anything you want at Alice's Restaurant (exceptin' Alice)."

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

# Cash and college make March a cool month for juniors

Juniors, your senior year starts now. While there's nothing quite like being a high school senior, March of your junior year is looking pretty terrific, too, thanks to the state of Michigan and some hard-working counselors.



Patrick O'Connor

What makes March so cool? Cash and college. First, about the cash. Juniors will be taking the Michigan Merit Exam March 13-14. This test replaces the MEAP test your older brothers and sisters took, and while the MEAP test gave them some money for college, MME is a much better deal. First, if you earn a good score on all four parts of the MME, you'll qualify for \$4,000 for college, no matter how much money you've saved for college, no matter how much money your parents make.

The MME is all about you and how much you know, and the four grand is a payoff for studying hard. You've always thought getting paid to go to school would be a great idea? Congratulations — your wish just came true.

The second reason the MME is a better deal has to do with the ACT, which is one part of the MME exam. You probably know the ACT is a test required by most four-year colleges as part of the application process, and taking the ACT usually requires you to give up a Saturday and about \$40. Thanks to the MME, the ACT is now free, and you get to take it on a Tuesday — so you keep the money and you get to sleep in on Saturday. With the ACT under your belt, applying to college early just got easier — and applying early in your senior year can be a big factor in getting admitted to the college of your dreams.

The state of Michigan has free ACT test preparation materials. Ask your counselor, or go to [www.michigan.gov/mme](http://www.michigan.gov/mme) for more information.

And speaking of counselors, some hard-working high school counselors and college admissions officers are throwing this huge college party for you. The Metro Detroit College Fair is Thursday, March 8, at the Burton Manor Conference Center in Livonia. More than 100 colleges will be there to talk to you about their colleges and what they have to offer. You can find out about scholarships and other forms of financial aid, and experienced counselors will be on hand to help you put your col-

lege plan together.

All of this is free, including the parking; the fair runs 9-11:30 a.m. and 6:30-8:30 p.m. For more information, go to [www.nacenet.org](http://www.nacenet.org), and look for the College Fair link in the bottom right-hand corner.

It's great the state of Michigan is giving you money for college, but it's up to you to spend it wisely. Part of making a good use of that cash, of college, and of your life is to scope out colleges that will and won't work for you, and the fair gives you that chance. Since choosing a college is kind of like buying a home (yes, a good college will feel that comfortable), bring your parents along — they know a thing or two about finding a good place to live and, admit it or not, they know a lot about you.

Plus, they'll probably spring for pizza after the fair's over, so bring your friends, too.

Once you've visited the fair and aced the MME, it's time to visit with your counselor. Counselors are busy people. There's only one counselor for every 671 students in the state of Michigan. But the good news is they care a great deal about you and your future. To make sure you get the most out of meeting with your counselor, set up an appointment to meet (rather than just dropping in) and be sure to tell your counselor you want to talk about college.

Before the meeting, type up a list of your community service work and extracurricular activities, along with awards and recognition you've received. You also want to include the classes you plan to take in your senior year, and any questions you have about college, like when to apply, colleges they might recommend, good Web sites to investigate, whatever. Make two copies of all of this, and put one in a folder to give to your counselor. This preparation will go a long way to establishing a good relationship with your counselor. So when a college asks them about you, the information you've provided and the impression you've left will both be a real plus.

The next two weeks give you a great chance to jump-start your senior year and your college search, and you could end up with free money and free, great advice at the end. We have a name for this in college counseling. It's called a deal. Take it.

Patrick O'Connor is the author of *College is Yours in 600 Words or Less*. He is on the faculty of Oakland Community College and Roper School, and can be reached at [collegeisyours@comcast.net](mailto:collegeisyours@comcast.net).

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(313) 224-6105

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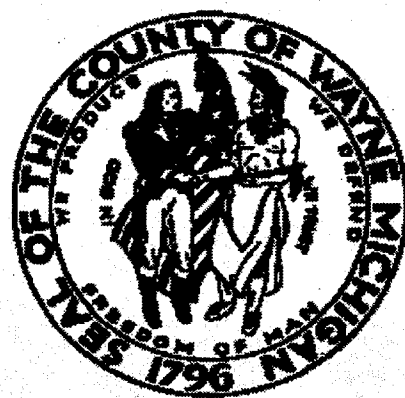
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# AAUW makes sure Cinderella gets her man



Tricia Carney (center) is plays Cinderella while Mary Rogers is the Fairy Godmother, Sharon Belobraidich the evil stepmother, Susan Iannucci an ugly stepsister and Diane Wilcox a mouse in the upcoming Plymouth Canton AAUW's production of Cinderella.

BY SUE MASON  
STAFF WRITER

The tale of a young woman and her glass slipper will come to life next month when the Plymouth Canton AAUW presents its version of the fairytale classic, *Cinderella*.

With an updated script that includes roles for more lords and ladies ... and mice ... the hour-long play will be presented Thursday-Saturday, March 8-10 at Garden City High School's O'Leary Auditorium.

"It stays true to the tale," said Melissa Uhl who is co-directing with Sandra Iannucci. Both are Plymouth residents.

This is the 47th year the Plymouth Canton AAUW has presented live children's theater.

"That's quite awhile to do the same classic fairytales," said Uhl.

This year's production is dedicated to longtime AAUW member Mary Tiell who lost her battle to cancer last year, but not

before appearing as a card in the group's production of *Alice in Wonderland*, Uhl said.

"This is definitely a tribute to her, we definitely miss her this year," Uhl added.

This year's production will star Tricia Carney as Cinderella with Julie Brown as the Prince.

Known for her portrayal of such dastardly characters as Captain Hook and the Queen of Hearts, Sharon Belobraidich is back in the nasty role of the stepmother.

Also back is Sylvia Rozian who has been involved in the productions "almost since the beginning." The Ann Arbor resident is one four cast members who will play dual roles in the production.

She will appear as the Father and as one of the lords.

"She's a trooper, she's just a sweetheart," said Uhl.

The play will be presented at 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday, March 8-9, and 10 a.m., 1 and 3 p.m. Saturday, March 10, at Garden City High School is at 6500 Middlebelt north of Ford.

The 10 a.m. Saturday show has become a big hit for Brownie and Girl Scout troops which are able to join with the cast afterwards to work on requirements for patches and badges.

"We have a couple hundred scouts come to the performance," Uhl said. "After play, they come back into the auditorium and have fun with the cast. We started it several years ago."

Presale tickets cost \$5 and are available at Fanatic U, 30409 Ford, Garden City, call (734) 266-0893; The Book Cellar, 840 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, call (734) 455-2665, and Perkos Shoes, 33426 Five Mile, Livonia, call (734) 427-3477.

They also will be available at the door on performance dates at \$6 each.

The organization takes classics like *Pinocchio*, *Snow White* and *Cinderella* and craft hour-long AAUW versions. It's first production was *Hansel and Gretel*, and the group now has a repertoire of seven plays that they rotate through and update every few years.

Many of the cast members are teachers in the Plymouth-Canton, Livonia, Garden City and Redford school districts and live around the area. Belobraidich is retired Plymouth-Canton teacher Uhl knows very well.

"Sharon was my teacher in first-grade," said Uhl. "I tease her that she was wicked then and wicked now, but now I get to boss her around."

Other familiar faces are Plymouth-Canton teachers Melissa Mosquera, Lindsey Murphy, Dawn Parker, Mickey Edell and Elaine Bain and school volunteer Julie Brown.

School closing due to the weather and a first-time-ever midwinter break in the Garden City school district posed some problems with this year's production, but the cast crew was able to work around them, Uhl said.

Everything was in place, including the scenery that had to be moved from where it's stored at the shop of a member's husband to the school in time for dress rehearsals.

While the goal is to provide quality children's theater, it also provides connection for the members.

"January through March is time for use to catch up with friends," Uhl said.

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# P·A·R·I·S·I·A·N

Men's Wardrobe Sale prices effective now through Monday, March 12, 2007. Merchandise, style and color availability may vary by store. [13419A]

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# SPORTS

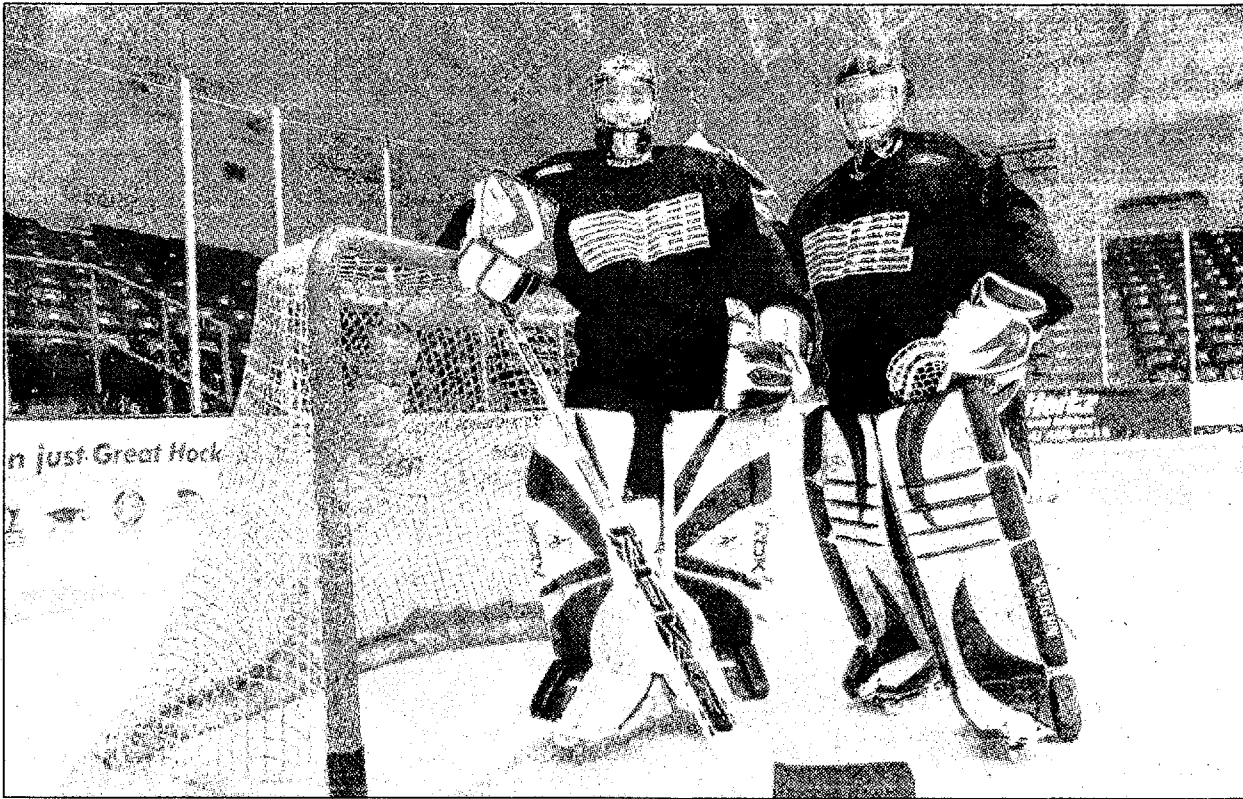
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(CP)  
Sunday, March 4, 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

www.hometownlife.com



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Michael Neuvirth (left) and Jeremy Smith have combined to give the Plymouth Whalers the top one-two goaltending punch in the Ontario Hockey League. Both Neuvirth, a native of the Czech Republic, and Smith, of Brownstown Township, are ranked among the top three goalies in the OHL based on their paltry goals-against averages.

## First-place Detroit Ignition calms Wave

The Detroit Ignition moved into sole possession of first place in the Major Indoor Soccer League standings Friday night following a 14-12 overtime victory against the Milwaukee Wave in front of 3,577 at the Compuware Sports Arena.

The victory improved Detroit's record to 14-9; the Wave slipped to 11-12.

The game-winning two-point goal was scored just 25 seconds into the extra session by Ignition midfielder Kyt Selaidopoulos.

Detroit forward Jamar Beasley extended his league-lead point total by tallying six points thanks to three two-point net-finders.

On Sunday, Detroit will head to Milwaukee for the final regular season meeting between the MISL's oldest and newest clubs. The opening kick is set for 2 p.m.

Wave rookie midfielder Marcio Leite started the night's scoring with a two-point goal at 4:13 of the opening quarter. Detroit's Hewerton Moreira knotted the game at 2-all just 29 seconds later with his 10th goal of the season.

The Waves' Troy Dusosky and Beasley exchanged second-quarter goals to tie the game at 4-all at the half.

Milwaukee led 10-8 after three quarters despite Beasley and Moreira's second goals of the night.

Beasley rounded out the hat trick with a two-point goal at 3:36 of the fourth quarter to even the contest at 10-10. Ricardinho handed the Ignition its first lead of the game with a two-point goal assisted by Hewerton at 6:58.

Milwaukee responded with a two-pointer of their own, this time from Troy Dusosky at 8:45, tying the contest 12-12.

Selaidopoulos, a former Wave, sent the sell-out crowd home satisfied when he planted a pass from Worth Sampson into the back of the net 25 seconds into the OT.

Ignition goalkeeper Sanaldo (11-8) earned the victory in net by stopping 16 of 22 shots.

## Sidelines

### Hoop clinic

Perfect Play Inc. will be hosting a "Perimeter Moves" basketball clinic for youngsters from 1-2 p.m. Saturday, March 10, at High Velocity Sports in Canton.

The fee is \$25 for the clinic, which is open to the first 20 players who register.

A former professional basketball player will direct the clinic.

Interested players can register at High Velocity Sports. For more information, call (734) 487-7678.

### Canton to host District hoop

Canton High School will be the site of the Class A District 25 basketball district tournament March 5-9. On Monday, March 5, Novi and Novi Catholic Central will square off in a first-round game. The winner will take on Plymouth, which drew a bye, in a semifinal contest set for 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 7.

The March 5 nightcap, set for 7 p.m., will pit Canton against Salem. The winner will take on Northville at 7 p.m. on March 7.

The championship game is slated for 7 p.m. Friday, March 9.

### Penguins set for playoffs

The Plymouth-Canton-Salem Penguins, the reigning champions of the Michigan Metro High School Girls Hockey League, will open the post-season playoffs Monday at 5:30 p.m. against the winner of yesterday's game between Farmington Hills Mercy and Bloomfield. A victory would advance the 16-0-2 Penguins into Thursday's semifinal round. The state final is set for Friday at 7 p.m.

All games will be played at the Eddie Edgar Ice Arena in Livonia.

### Rec offerings

The Northville Parks & Recreation Department will be offering adult women's and adult co-ed softball leagues beginning in early May. The entry fee for women's teams is \$445; the co-ed fee is \$410. For more information, call (248) 449-9947.

## World-class 'net'working

### Whalers' two-goalie platoon is giving opponents fits

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

One lives in Brownstown Township, a 25-minute drive from the Compuware Sports Arena.

The other grew up in Usti Nad Labem, Czech Republic - a 20-plus-hour flight from the home of the Plymouth Whalers.

One has evolved into an elite

Ontario Hockey League goaltender due to his incredible athleticism; the other because of his amazing technique.

One is a slender, 159-pound 17-year-old.

The other is a solid, 198-pound 18-year-old.

Yes, Plymouth Whaler goaltenders Jeremy Smith and Michal Neuvirth are different in many ways. But it's

their similarities - a willingness to share the spotlight and an ability to keep pucks out of nets - that have helped lift the Whalers to the second-best record in the OHL with just three weeks left in the regular season.

Through 67 games, Neuvirth had started 36 games while Smith had protected the net in 31, which means

PLEASE SEE WHALERS, B2

## Wolverine cagers earn MIAC Red Division title

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

Two down, one to go.

That's the status report on the Canton Agape Christian basketball team's pre-season goals following Friday night's 56-45 victory over Taylor Baptist Park. The triumph improved the Wolverines' record to 15-5 overall and 8-0 in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference's Red Division.

More importantly, it clinched Agape's second division title in the past three seasons.

"Our three goals heading into the season were to win the Red Division, beat Plymouth Christian and win a District championship," reflected Agape coach Keith Anleitner. "We won the division, beat PCA once, but we're going to have our work cut out for us to win the division. Lutheran Westland (who the Wolverines play Tuesday night in an opening-round District game) is very, very good, and so is Westside Christian, who we'd play if we beat Lutheran Westland."

The Wildcats, who finished 13-6 overall and 6-2 in the league, could have forged a first-place tie with a win over

the Wolverines.

Jack Anleitner and Ty Majeski shared the spotlight for Agape, netting a team-high 16 points a piece.

Fourteen of Anleitner's points came in the opening 16 minutes when he led his team to a 21-20 halftime lead.

Plagued by foul trouble, Anleitner played limited minutes in the third and fourth quarter before fouling out with four minutes to play.

The Wolverines trailed, 37-35 heading into the final quarter before outscoring their hosts, 21-8, down the stretch.

"It came down to the fact that we made our free throws down the stretch, and they didn't," said Anleitner.

Agape's Showla Olojo registered a pair of clutch offensive rebounds in the game's final three minutes.

Mark Mullett also played well for the winners, chipping in with nine points - five in the first quarter.

Hudson Hodges paced the Wildcats with 14 points.

The Wolverines canned 15-of-21 free throws while Baptist Park drained just 9-of-20.

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



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Alex Lajoie excelled in both football and hockey during his senior season at Canton High School. The Canton resident is the grandson of former Detroit Tigers General Manager Bill Lajoie.

## Lajoie produces on ice, gridiron

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

Considering his grandfather is Bill Lajoie - one of the most successful and respected general managers in the modern era of Major League Baseball - it's not surprising that Alex Lajoie is a two-sport standout at Canton High School.

What's somewhat surprising is that neither of the two sports Lajoie excels at is baseball.



Prep Profile

This past fall, the speedy 5-foot-8, 160-pound senior played an important role for the Chiefs' state-ranked football team as a defensive back

and special-teams contributor. In the winter, he was a high-scoring captain for the school's hockey team, which concluded its season Tuesday night.

But baseball just wasn't in the cards.

"I played baseball when I was really young, but I was horrible," Lajoie said, chuckling. "My dad and uncle were both very good players, but I liked hockey and soccer better."

PLEASE SEE LAJOIE, B2

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### The 'Girls of Winter'

The 10U Pride Stars from Canton were the 2007 indoor fast-pitch softball champions at Total Sports in Wixom. The team finished with a 7-1 record. Pictured (front row from left) are Lauren SanMillan, Tori Kiers, Emma Nowak, MacKenzie Nieto, Elizabeth Yager, (second row from left) Kristi Zink, Brooke Senkbeil, Annie McDougall, Emily Marcano, Lauren Hayes, (back row from left) assistant coach Jeff Marcano, head coach Dave Senkbeil and assistant coach Eric Yager. Not pictured is Kendall Ritcher.

### LAJOIE

FROM PAGE B1

Even though a lot of people in my family are into baseball, they never pushed me to play it. They supported me in whatever sports I chose to play."

Bill Lajoie was the primary off-the-field architect of the 1984 World Series champion Detroit Tigers. He later went on to serve crucial front-office roles with the Atlanta Braves and the Boston Red Sox, his current employer.

"A couple years ago, after the Red Sox won the World Series, my grandpa came up and watched me play in a hockey tournament right after the Red Sox won the World Series," he said. "He brought his World Series ring with him and showed it to everybody, which was cool."

"When I went through some tough times during my junior year of high school, my grandpa was somebody I could always call and talk to. I'm very appreciative of what he's done for me."

Hockey is by far Lajoie's favorite sport. He displayed early signs of excellence a short time after stepping on

the ice for a mini-mite practice at the age of 4.

"I was the only one in my group who could stop and spray ice on the boards with their skates, so they moved me up to play with the 5- and 6-year-olds," Lajoie remembered. "I played for a house team for a couple of years then my dad (Jeff) started the first Canton Crush travel team."

The highlight of Lajoie's youth hockey career unfolded three years ago when he helped lead an Orchard Lake travel team to the Silver Skates championship game in Sarnia, Ont.

"We ended up losing to a Canadian team, but it was still fun making it as far as we did," he said.

Lajoie decided to forego travel hockey for the high school variety this year. It was a decision that agreed with Canton head coach Dan Abraham.

"Alex is one of those kids you can stick out there in any type of situation - power-play, penalty killing, everything," said Abraham. "He always gives 100 percent and he motivates the other players by how hard he plays."

"He's one of the players on

our team I wanted out there when we needed a big goal. He could move the puck with his passing or he could take it coast-to-coast if he had to."

Lajoie had never stepped onto a football field prior to his freshman year at Canton, but he decided to give the sport a try anyway. He picked up the sport quickly and soon found himself starting both ways and on special teams for the Chiefs' ninth-grade team.

In the three years he played football for Canton (Lajoie didn't play his junior year due to off-the-field issues), the Chiefs' freshmen, junior-varsity and varsity teams compiled an incredible record of 30-1.

"My only loss came when we lost to Rockford this year in the semis," he said. "I never got into football when I was younger, but I'm glad I decided to give it a shot in high school. I have a lot of great memories from it."

Lajoie is going to try out for the "Team Michigan" hockey team in the spring.

"I may be the smallest guy out there, but I'm going to give it a shot anyway," he said. "I love the sport and I want to keep playing if I can."

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

### WHALERS

FROM PAGE B1

that a skill both learned in kindergarten - sharing - is as essential as glove work and smothering loose pucks.

Heading into Friday night's game at Kitchener, Neuvirth and Smith were listed No. 2 and No. 3, respectively, in the OHL's goals-against average leaders.

More importantly, the two net-minders are tied for No. 1 when it comes to setting aside their egos for the good of the team.

#### TEAM COMES FIRST

Despite his lofty statistics - a 20-6-0-1 record, .922 save percentage and 2.55 goals-against average - Smith is cool with his co-goaltending role.

"Sure, I'd like to be playing every game, but I like the system we have here, too, because it makes me battle and it makes me compete harder so that I can get more games," said Smith, a senior at Woodhaven High School. "Even though we're both competing for the same spot, Michal and I have a great relationship. We'll talk about certain goals we've given up and we'll play little games at practice to keep us sharp. We get along great and we both want to win."

The goalie treshare system is a relatively new one for Whalers' President, General Manager and Head Coach Mike Vellucci, who admitted he's almost always been a "one-goalie coach" prior to this season.

"I tried something like this once when I coached Junior A hockey, but not since I've been with the Whalers," Vellucci admitted. "Michal and Jeremy are both playing well and they both deserve the opportunity to play."

#### PLAYING A HUNCH

Vellucci said he doesn't have a master plan laid out regarding who is going to play what game.

"It's all feel," he said. "Certainly, things come up that will dictate who plays. For instance, Michal's parents were in town from the Czech Republic for two weeks earlier this season, so he played four of the six games. And if one of the guys gets a shutout, he'll probably play the next night, too. But most of it is based on a gut feeling."

Vellucci said there are pluses and minuses to the goalie-platooning set-up.

"The biggest advantage is if one of the guys is not going well, we can put the other one in there," said Vellucci. "With most of the other teams in the league, if their No. 1 guy is struggling, they're in trouble."

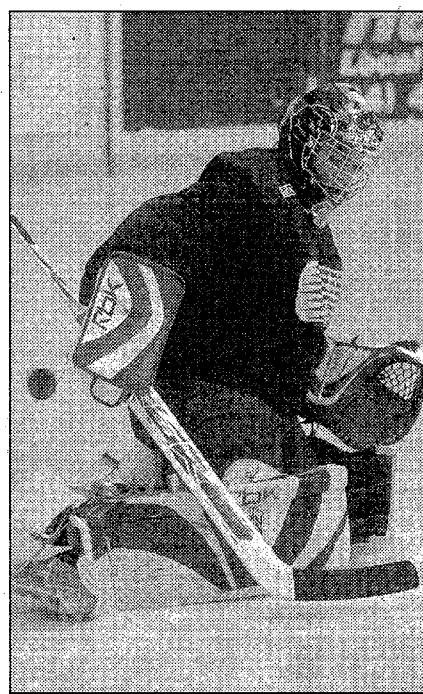
"The biggest disadvantage is that they both want to play more and they both *deserve* to play more."

#### FUTURE CAPITAL

Neuvirth was acquired by the Whalers with the 27th overall pick in the 2006 CHL draft. He was also drafted last year in the second round of the NHL draft by the Washington Capitals.

"Being a European, Michal played a lot of very competitive hockey as a youngster," said former Detroit Red Wing net-minder Greg Stefan, who currently doubles as the Whalers' goal-tending coach and a scout for the Carolina Hurricanes. "Washington selected him in the second round last year, so they obviously think very highly of him. He's more physically mature than Smitty. Playing in Europe and over here has been good for him because it's allowed him to see different styles of play."

Heading into this weekend's games, Neuvirth had racked up a sterling 23-8-1-1 record with four



Plymouth Whaler goalie Jeremy Smith is pictured redirecting a shot during Thursday's practice at the Compuware Sports Arena.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

shutouts. "Michal's technique is very good, and he's big so he covers a lot of the net," said Vellucci. "He's a very smart goalie, too."

Smith's ice time was scarce last season, his first with the Whalers, when he backed up solid No. 1 starter Justin Peters. This year he's flourished, having recorded a 20-6-0-1 record and 2.55 goals-against average in his 31 starts.

"Last year was tough for me because I didn't get a lot of starts, and the first two weeks this year were a little shaky for me," Smith said. "But I seemed to fall into a nice rhythm about the same time the team did."

#### HOME-GROWN TALENT

Unlike his teammates, Smith - a resident of Brownstown Township - gets to live in the comforts of his own home, which he considers a huge plus.

"Like they say, there's no better bed than your own," he said.

"I like the fact that I get to see my parents and my younger brother all the time. I can't imagine what it must be like for Michal to only see his parents once or twice a year."

Smith said he doesn't receive any extra attention from his peers at Woodhaven High School despite his status as one of the OHL's rising stars.

"I've been going to school with pretty much the same kids since the fifth grade, so I'm just the same old Jeremy Smith to them," he said, with a smile. "Obviously, my buddies know what I do, but most of the kids in school probably don't even know I play for the Whalers."

#### GOOD STUDENT, TOO

Smith has been as solid in the classroom as he has been in the crease. In fact, his grade-point average (3.6) is a point higher than his goals-against average (2.55).

"The school has been really good about working with my schedule," he said. "I'm in a work-study program that allows me to leave school early because we start practice at 2 p.m."

"I'm in the National Honor Society, but I had to cut back because hockey has just been too demanding."

If he keeps turning away pucks at his current rate, he'll soon be a card-carrying member of the NHS and the NHL.

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### WINTER 2

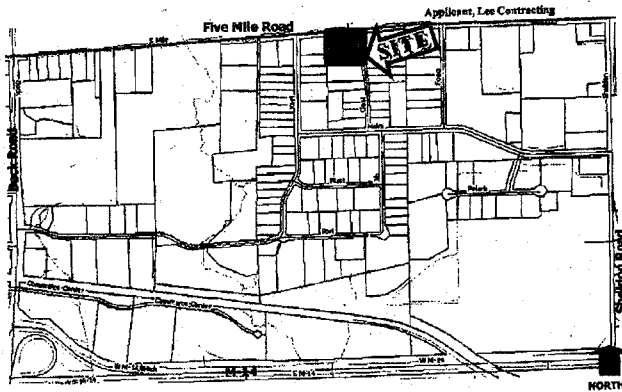
March 17-May 31  
Reg. Deadline: March 5

(734) HV-SPORT 46245 Michigan Ave. hvsports.com

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH PLANNING COMMISSION

**PROPOSED ACTION:** Request Approval of a Special Land Use  
**DATE OF HEARING:** Wednesday, March 21, 2007  
**TIME OF HEARING:** 7:00 P.M.  
**PLACE OF HEARING:** Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Planning Commission of Plymouth Charter Township has received an application from Lee Contracting requesting Special Land Use Approval for Outdoor Storage for a Backup Generator, Nitrogen Tank and Associated Equipment in an Industrial District (IND), on Tax ID R-78-009-01-0006-300, (property address is 45755 Five Mile Road) pursuant to Zoning Ordinance No. 99, Section 19.2-7.  
**Application 1959. Applicant, Lee Contracting**



**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** For parcel descriptions, see tax records based on Tax ID No. R-78-009-01-0006-300. Property address is 45755 Five Mile Road.

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

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

**KENDRA BARBERENA, SECRETARY  
PLANNING COMMISSION**

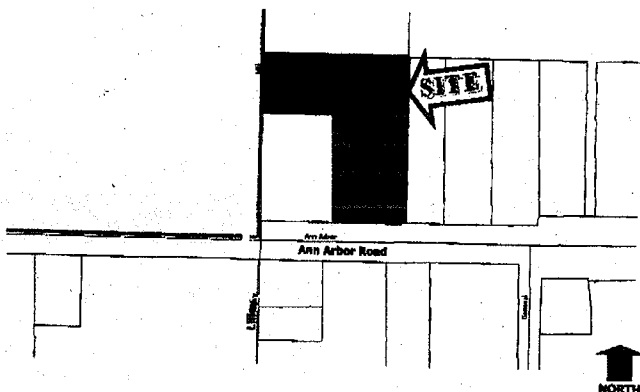
Publish: March 4, 2007

0E0509996

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH PLANNING COMMISSION

**PROPOSED ACTION:** Request Approval of a Special Land Use  
**DATE OF HEARING:** Wednesday, March 21, 2007  
**TIME OF HEARING:** 7:00 P.M.  
**PLACE OF HEARING:** Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Planning Commission of Plymouth Charter Township has received an application requesting Special Land Use Approval for As Needed Storage of New Automobiles in the Ann Arbor Road Corridor District (ARC), on Tax ID R-78-060-99-0025-000, (property address is 42350 Ann Arbor Road) pursuant to Zoning Ordinance No. 99, Section 14.2-3(j).  
**Application 1961. Applicant, Charter Township of Plymouth**



**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** For parcel descriptions, see tax records based on Tax ID No. R-78-060-99-0025-000. Property address is 42350 Ann Arbor Road.

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

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

**KENDRA BARBERENA, SECRETARY  
PLANNING COMMISSION**

Publish: March 4, 2007

0E08910070

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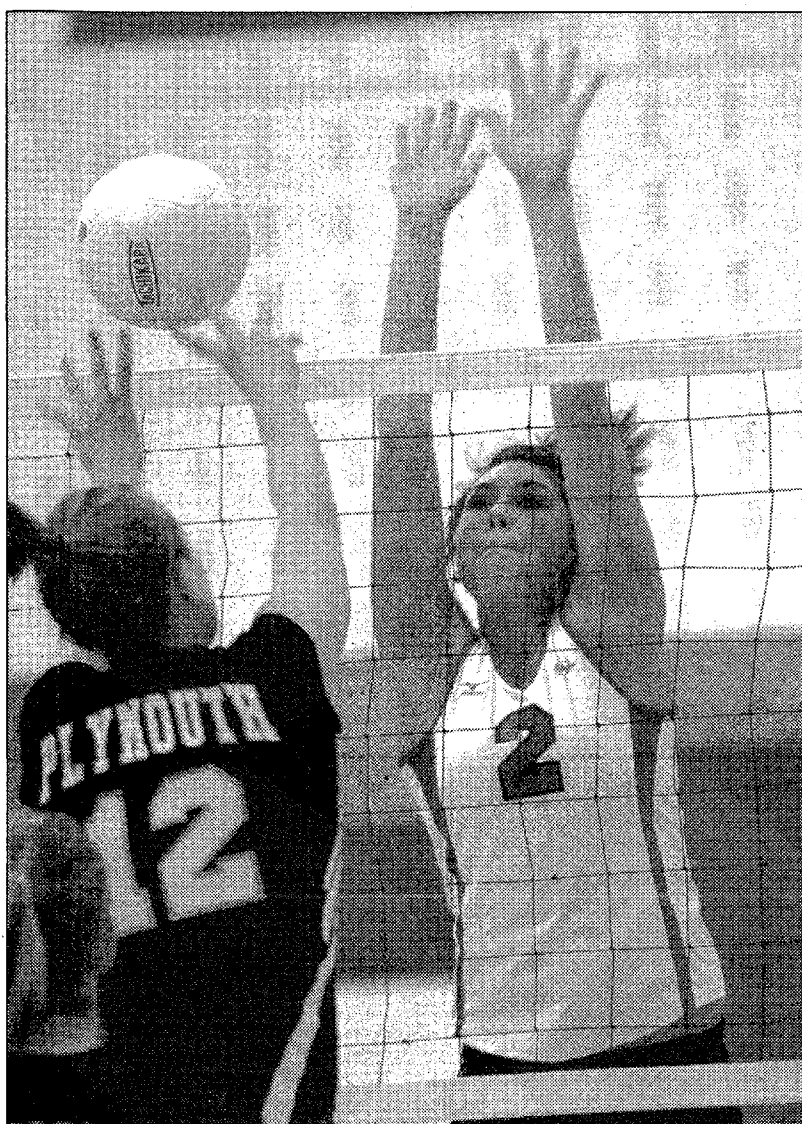
8207 N. Middlebelt • Westland 33320 Farmington • Farmington Hills  
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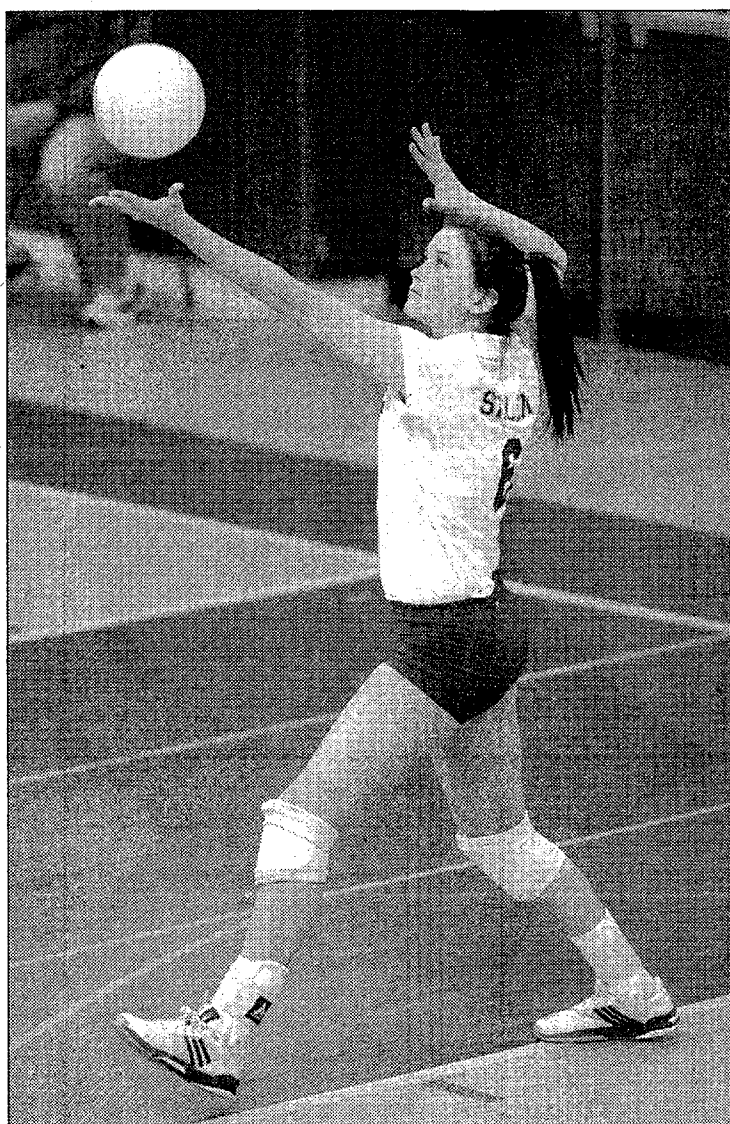
BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Brittany Hengesh, pictured above in a match earlier this season, and her Plymouth teammates were ousted by Northville in three games in Friday's Class A District tournament at Churchill.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lauren McPartlin (No. 2), pictured above in a match earlier this season, and her Canton teammates had their season ended by Northville Friday night in the Class A District tournament played at Livonia Churchill.



ANDY RUBENSTEIN

Alecia Goodes, pictured above in a match earlier this season, and her Salem teammates were eliminated from Friday's Class A District tournament in four games by eventual champion Churchill.

# Churchill spikers capture talent-rich district

## Salem ousted in tense semifinal match; Northville eliminates 'Cats and Chiefs

BY BRAD EMONS  
STAFF WRITER

Volleyball's version of March Madness started early Friday as host Livonia Churchill emerged victorious in one of the toughest Class A district girls tournaments in the state.

The Chargers, ranked No. 3, ran their record to 51-2-1 overall by ousting Western Lakes Activities Association rivals Northville (25-19, 25-19, 25-17) and Salem (25-18, 25-17, 23-25, 25-23), two teams with over 40 wins this season.

The championship game was anti-climactic compared with Churchill's four-game semifinal victory over Salem, its fourth win over the Rocks this season.

Senior Lauren Krupsky and junior Kyndra Abron combined for 62 kills in the match with 36 and 26, respectively.

Setter Kelsey McKenzie added 51 assist-to-kills, while the defense was led by senior libero Kelly Archer with 32 digs.

Stephanie Bradshaw added 16 digs, while McKenzie and Jordan Kerr each added 14.

"I thought Kelsey was absolutely wonderful," said Churchill coach Mark Grenier,

whose team overcame a 19-16 deficit in the fourth game. "She was sick with the flu all week and was under the weather today. But she came to school and put it together. She did a nice job and deserves a lot of credit."

Churchill was able to offset Salem's one-two attacking duo of Teresa Coppiellie and Lauren Kurtz, who finished with 26 and 19 kills, respectively.

"Playing Salem four times we were fortunately able to fall back on," Grenier said. "And our kids have the experience of making it to the quarterfinals. We played a very good Salem team, but we know how to take care of business and we were able to play with."

The 6-foot-2 Abron was particularly effective in the front row against the Rocks.

"Kyndra was dominant today," Grenier said. "She swung as well as she has all year and she was equal with her presence blocking. She was able to put together a great day. But everybody else did their job and did their role. They did a wonderful job as a supporting cast."

Salem's sophomore setter Jansan Falcusan had 42 assist-

to-kills, while Courtney Seiler and Coppiellie paced the defense with 29 and 18 digs, respectively.

"We made some minor adjustments the third game," Salem coach Amanda Suder said. "We decided to pull Teresa (Coppiellie) off her middle hitter spot and put her off for more side shots and it opened up that third game. But we basically played them the same way we have all year."

"But Churchill is a great team. It's the best Kyndra has played against us and Krupsky was also on fire. When you have two of the best hitters in the state, it's hard to defend."

Salem defeated South Lyon, 25-23, 25-7, 25-18, as the 6-foot Coppiellie had 13 kills and nine aces. Kurtz, another 6-foot senior, added 12 kills.

Falcusan finished with five aces and 23 assists, while Seiler had 17 digs.

The Rocks, who lose five seniors, finish the year at 44-9-1 overall.

"Those seniors have been a special group," Suder said. "They've played together so long. They're like a family."

Four will possibly play in college. We'll miss them a lot and they'll be hard to replace."

In the win over Northville, a rematch of last Saturday's WLAA Tournament final, the 5-11 Krupsky led the way with 19 kills and four blocks. Abron also had 19 kills and three blocks.

Digs leaders included Archer (16), Anna-Marie Gatt (10) and Kerr (9). McKenzie added 35 assists.

Joanna Foss, a 6-foot senior, led Northville with 13 kills, but no other Mustang reached double figures.

"Our serve receive broke down and generally we're stronger than that," said Northville coach Steve Anderson, whose team finished a school-record 43-6-3 overall. "I thought hitting and blocking-wise, we matched up well. I thought every other part of our game was fabulous. But a critical part of our game fell apart at the wrong time. When you can't pass, you can't play."

Churchill advances to the regional semifinals, 10 a.m. Saturday at West Bloomfield

to face the Southfield district champion. Plymouth's season ended with a three-game quarterfinal setback to Northville: 25-11, 25-9 and 25-11. The loss left the Wildcats with a 17-21-5 record.

"Regardless of our overall record, I'm proud of how the girls won with class and how they learned to lose with class, too," said Plymouth coach Kelly McCausland. "They kept their heads up, stayed positive and never got down on one another throughout the entire season."

Junior Rachel Heaton went out with a bang for the Wildcats as she registered eight kills and 11 digs. Also playing well were Brittany Hengesh (10 kills), Chelsey Quinlan (seven digs) and Courtney Buttermore (18 set assists).

Canton drew a first-round bye, but got eliminated in three games by the Mustangs in the semis. Details of the match were not made available to the *Observer* as of Friday night's deadline.

### PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a **Bid for Asbestos Abatement at Eriksson, Field, and Hulsing Elementary Schools as well as Pioneer Middle School.** The project will be completed in early 2007 prior to building renovation activities and will include the removal and disposal of asbestos flooring materials, asbestos thermal system insulation, asbestos transite materials, and windows with asbestos window caulk. Bid documents will be available for pickup on or after Tuesday, March 27, 2007 at HealthAir, Inc., 23491 Research Drive, Farmington Hills, Michigan 48335 or by phoning (248) 426-0165. A Pre-Bid meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 6, 2007 at 4:30 p.m. at Pioneer Middle School located at 46081 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48187. All submissions should include 3 bid copies (1 original, 2 duplicates) which are due to the PCCS E.J. McClendon Educational Center, RE: School Abatement Bids, 454 South Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170, on or before 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 20, 2007 where they will be read publicly. For additional information, phone Dan Phillips, Assistant Director of Finance & Purchasing at (734) 416-2746. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

Board of Education  
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools  
JUDY MARDIGIAN, Secretary

Publish: March 4 & 11, 2007

OE0809739

### PLYMOUTH TWP. POLICE DEPT. 734-354-3232 NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given that on 03/09/07, at 10:00 a.m., at Mayflower Auto Transport, 1179 Starkweather, Plymouth, MI 48170, a public auction of the following:

1988	FORD	BRONCO	1FMCU14T6JUA16530
2003	HONDA	ODYSSEY	5FNRL18603B082993
1995	DODGE	SPIRIT	3B3AA46K0ST532311
2000	DODGE	STRATUS	1B3EJ56H7YN249926
1995	PONTIAC	GRAND AM	1G2NE55D8SC735461

Publish: March 4, 2007

OE0851071

### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

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

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

Publish: February 25 & March 4, 2007

OE0850725

### LEGAL NOTICE

The Plymouth Housing Commission is requesting proposals from qualified agencies/individuals interested in the administration of a HUD-sponsored Family Self-Sufficiency Program. This agency/person must have a minimum of five years experience in this program and/or the original Boot-Strap program.

Proposals, including scope of work and fee requested, will be accepted by mail until COB Friday, March 14, 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: March 1 & 4, 2007

OE0859978

### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE TO PUBLIC BOARD OF REVIEW APPOINTMENTS

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned, Terry G. Bennett, Clerk of the Charter Township of Canton, County of Wayne, State of Michigan to all residents of the Charter Township of Canton: that all persons protesting their assessment must complete petitions prior to appearing before the Board. A personal appearance is not required. All petitions must be received in the Assessor's office by March 17, 2007 at 12:00 p.m.

The Board of Review will be held in the Canton Township Hall on the first floor, at 1150 S. Canton Center Road. Entry into the building can be accessed through the front doors of Township Hall. Please come prepared, as an eight (8) minute limit before the Board will be strictly adhered to.

The Following is the schedule for March Board of Review:

Tuesday, March 6, 2007 Organizational Meeting -  
4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.  
**(No Appointments)**

Monday, March 12, 2007 Hearings from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and  
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. **(Appointments Only)**

Tuesday, March 13, 2007 Hearings from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. and  
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. **(Appointments Only)**

Saturday, March 17, 2007 Hearings from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
First Come, First Serve **(Walk-in-Schedule)**

Please be advised entry the building on Tuesday, March 13th after 5:00p.m. and Saturday, March 17th can only be accessed through the front entrance of the Township hall.

If you have any questions regarding the March Board of Review, you may call Jana Shaw, Secretary to the Board of Review (734) 394-5111.

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK  
Charter Township of Canton

Publish: February 25, March 1, 4 & 8, 2007

OE0850743

### ADVERTISEMENT

Sealed proposals will be received for the installation of a **Soil Vapor Extraction System** by Plymouth Charter Township as Owner and representative for the Plymouth Charter Township Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, until 2:00 P.M. Official Local Time, on Friday, March 16, 2007 at the office of the Clerk, Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170 at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read:

#### The services will include:

- Project Administration
- Extraction Well Installation
- Mobilization/Demobilization
- SVE Power Installation
- SVE System Rental and O&M Services
- Non-Hazardous Water Disposal

**A mandatory site walk-through will be held Monday, March 12, 2007 at 10:00 A.M. Official Local Time at the Plymouth Township Fire Station No. 2, 41212 Wilcox Road, Plymouth, MI 48170.**

Specifications may be examined at the Clerk's Office, Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170. Copies may be obtained at the office of Dietrich, Bailey and Associates, P.C., 107 South Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan 48170 on or after Monday, March 5, 2007 by making a deposit of \$25.00 for each set, which will not be refunded. Bid documents will be mailed for an additional charge of \$5.00.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a Certified Check in the amount of 5% of the bid, payable to the Owner, as security for acceptance of the contract. A bid bond in the Michigan Standard Form issued by an approved surety company may be furnished in lieu of a Certified Check.

No bidder may withdraw his proposal within 60 days after the date set for the opening thereof.

The right is reserved by the Owner to reject any or all proposals, either in whole or in part, and to waive any irregularities therein.

Signed: Marilyn Massengill, Clerk  
Plymouth Charter Township

Publish: March 1 & 4, 2007

OE0850590

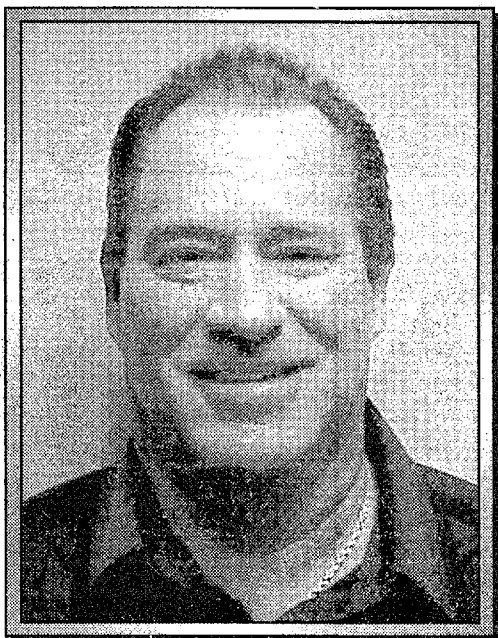


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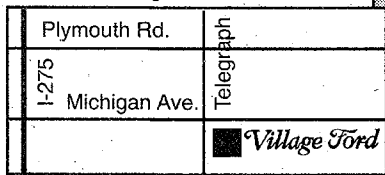
# Village Ford

ron.clark@villageford.net

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Tues., Wed., Fri. 9-6  
Saturday Service 8-2

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### Icing on a championship

The Canton Crush Bantam AA hockey team defeated the USA Eagles, 10-5, in the District 4 championship game played earlier this month. Team members are Ryan Bauer, Matt Berry, Jimmy Botti, Justin Brewer, Bryce Connor, Sean Gaffney, Alex Gillo, Austin Hervey, Matthew Hull, Kyle Korte, Steven Mansori, Vince Rossi, Christopher Sitler, Bradley Wilhelm, Ben Wilkewitz, Michael Woynick and Stephen Zavori. Coaches are Ken Gaffney, Doug Hervey, Mark Korte and Michael Woynick. The team will play in the Michigan Amateur Hockey Association State Bantam AA championships in March in Sault Ste. Marie.

### SPORTS BRIEFS

#### IGNITION CAMPS

The Detroit Ignition will be hosting a series of summer soccer camps for youth players. The camps, which will be located throughout metropolitan Detroit, will give young players an opportunity to train with Ignition players as well as members of the Major Indoor Soccer League team's staff.

Designed for kids between the ages of 4 and 18, the camp curriculum will offer a broad spectrum of training — from basic soccer introduction for younger players to advanced training for older players who are looking for both a technical and tactical edge.

Camp instruction will be led by Ignition head coach Mark Pulisic and team members. Instructors will be subject to camp dates and availability, but they may include Jamar Beasley, Jonathan Greenfield, Doug Rice and Danny Waltman.

For locations and schedules of the camps, visit [www.detroitignition.com](http://www.detroitignition.com); or call (888) 436-4625. The camps are sponsored by the Hantz Group and the Henry Ford Medical Group.

#### 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 tournament on Tuesday, March 6, against Lutheran Westland in a game slated to tip off at 6 p.m. A victory would send the Wolverines into a semifinal game at 6 p.m. on Thursday, March 8, against Westside Christian Academy, which drew a first-round bye.

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 propel the Eagles into Thursday's semifinal round against Huron Valley Lutheran, which also received a bye.

The championship game is set for 6 p.m. Friday, March 9.

#### DIESEL TRYOUTS

The Detroit Diesels minor league football team that plays its home games in Livonia will be holding tryouts 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 Michigan Ave. in Canton.

You must be 18 years old or older to try out. The registration fee is \$30. Call (313) 294-0890.

#### 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.

Contact Kevin Suppelsa at [ksuppelsa@wowway.com](mailto:ksuppelsa@wowway.com); or (734) 414-8275; or visit [www.olgcfotball.net](http://www.olgcfotball.net).

# INDIVIDUAL TICKETS ON SALE NOW

Don't miss your chance to see the Tigers in a World Series rematch with the St. Louis Cardinals, interleague play with the New York Mets, a four-game series with the New York Yankees and more!

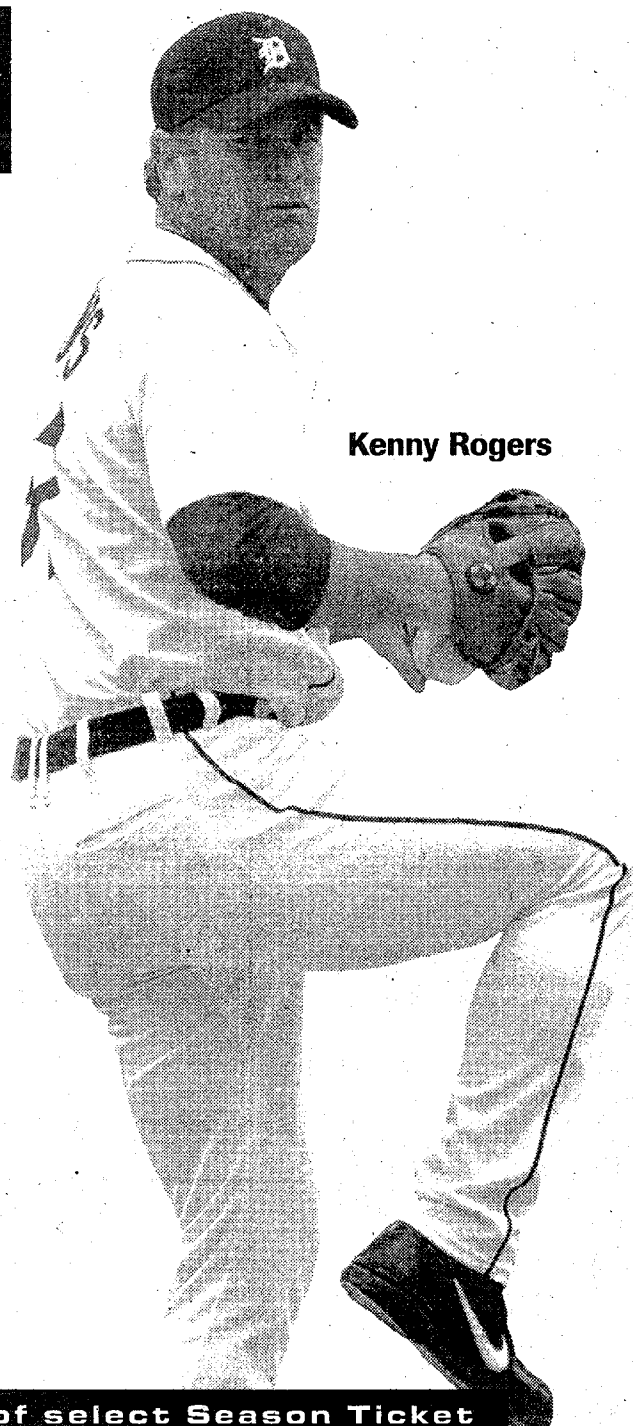
### Weekend events to entertain every Detroit Tigers fan!

- Friday and Saturday night Fireworks — beginning May 18
- Sunday Kids Day featuring Kids Run the Bases and Kids Take the Field

### Great FREE Giveaways and Special Events:

- April 5 2007 Magnet Schedule First 10,000 fans
- April 20 2006 AL Championship Replica Rings First 30,000 fans
- April 21 2007 Magnet Schedule First 10,000 fans
- April 22 Tigers Calendar First 10,000 fans
- April 28 Pre-Game On-Field Clinic
- April 29 Tigers Pin Album First 10,000 fans
- May 19 2006 World Series Rally Towel All fans
- May 26 Pre-Game On-Field Clinic Gary Sheffield Replica Baseball Glove First 7,500 kids 14 & under
- May 27 Floppy Hat First 10,000 fans
- June 30 Justin Verlander 2006 A.L. Rookie-of-the-Year Baseball First 10,000 fans
- July 1 Magglio Ordoñez Bobblehead First 10,000 fans On-Field Photo Day
- July 4 Fourth of July Fireworks Spectacular
- July 21 Negro Leagues Tribute Game
- July 22 2006 Tigers A.L. Championship Cap First 10,000 adults 21 & over
- Aug 5 Carlos Guillen Bobblehead First 7,500 kids 14 & under
- Aug 11 Tigers Youth Cap First 10,000 kids 14 & under
- Aug 12 Joel Zumaya T-Shirt First 10,000 fans
- Sep 9 Duffel Bag First 10,000 kids 14 & under
- Sep 21-22 Fan Appreciation Weekend
- Sep 23 Fan Appreciation Weekend/Shirt Off Our Back

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Kenny Rogers

Plus lots more — visit [tigers.com](http://tigers.com) for more details! All events, dates and promotions subject to change. All on-field promotions are weather permitting.

Opening Day tickets ONLY available with purchase of select Season Ticket Packages (call 313-471-BALL for more information) or through the random online ticket drawing (visit [tigers.com](http://tigers.com) for details).

# 2007 SEASON SCHEDULE

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## Family support and food journals

Family and friends can be a great source of support while you're trying to lose weight. However, making dramatic lifestyle changes can cause tension even among the closest families.

Some family members, or even close friends, may be unsupportive. Some may be resentful, while others may feel uncomfortable eating around you. Some, often those who need to lose weight, may be jealous of your weight-loss progress and try to sabotage your efforts.

If you find your loved ones are unsupportive, try to remain positive. They may not want you to change simply because they fear

change. Don't we all at times? When they see the positive results healthy weight loss has on your attitude and appearance, they may want to join your efforts.

In the meantime, if relatives encourage you to eat high-calorie foods at family gatherings, try to be polite and refuse. You can respond by saying, "No thanks, I ate so much of that delicious chicken, I have no room for cake."

You might want to avoid gatherings for a little while, until you're more comfortable asserting yourself. You cannot become a hermit, though. A very important part of successful, long-term weight loss is being able to handle social situations, since you're obviously not going to avoid them forever.

You can also try asking for help. Sometimes all it takes is letting someone close to you know how important and helpful their support is in helping you achieve your goals. Good support is a common trait among successful dieters.

Another common trait is food journaling. At times, when the weight doesn't seem to be coming off, or staying on track seems difficult, keeping a food journal is very beneficial. If you don't keep track of your diet using food journals, now's the time to start. Write everything down, and carefully examine those times when you strayed and had a little extra.

Are you noting accurate portion sizes? If you're not, then you're probably not weighing and measuring, which will ensure proper portions and teach you how to judge portion sizes when eating out. Just 100 extra calories a day will pack on 10 pounds in a year.

Look for times when you ate too little, as well. For example, you may notice that you tend to skip breakfast often. Breakfast jump-starts your metabolism for the day.

Even if you don't skip breakfast, take a closer look at your food choices. Are you eating protein at breakfast? Protein gives you energy and makes you feel full longer. Selecting good protein sources, such as skim milk, yogurt or eggs, combined with complex carbohydrates like whole wheat bread or high-fiber fruit, will give you a great boost to start your day.

Also, look at your meal times. Are you consuming three meals with no snacks, or one large meal with several snack times? Try to spread your food out evenly among four to six meal and snack times. This will help boost your metabolism, help your body burn calories more efficiently, and prevent energy dips during the day.

You should also examine your food selections. Are you consuming high-fiber selections? Fiber is important when trying to lose weight as it makes you feel full and curbs your appetite between meals. It's also important for your overall digestive health as well, regardless of whether you're trying to lose weight.

Finally, look at the last time you ate. Are you snacking late at night? Is there a big gap between your last meal and your first? Again, spreading out meal and snack times will help keep your metabolism humming along and burning calories, and will keep your appetite in check.

Furthermore, make sure you get about eight hours of sleep each night. Not only will you have low energy levels from too little sleep, research shows people tend to compensate for a lack of energy with food.

Keeping track of what you eat doesn't just help keep you aware of what you're eating. It allows you to examine your eating habits so you can have a clearer picture of where you can make significant changes to promote and maintain weight loss.

**Linda Aubuchon** is the owner of Diet Center of Canton, a provider of personalized weight loss solutions. She can be contacted via e-mail at [Linda@DietCenterofCanton.com](mailto:Linda@DietCenterofCanton.com) or call her at (734) 414-9200.



Linda Aubuchon

## Shamrocks

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2006 Grand Marshal Brian Bonner, and United Irish Societies officers Curtis Anderson, Dennis Hayes and Mary Lou McKelvey paint shamrocks on Michigan Avenue.

## to shenanigans

### Irish paint town green to honor St. Patrick

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
STAFF WRITER

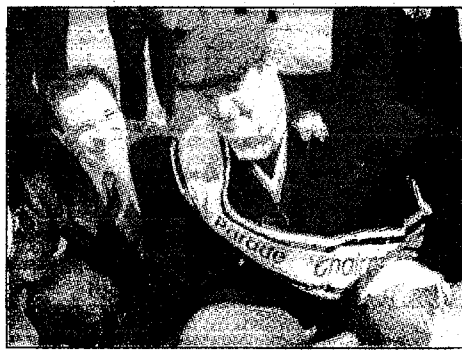
One of Mike Kelly's favorite parts of the Detroit St. Patrick's Day Parade is the painting of shamrocks on Michigan Avenue Friday, March 9. The event kicks off the weekend when 30 member organizations of the United Irish Societies (UIS) gather to celebrate their heritage.

The 49th annual parade steps off at 2 p.m. from Michigan and Sixth and travels to 14th through historic Corktown on Sunday, March 11.

Kelly and Joe Parsky of Huntington Woods co-chair the parade that turns Detroit green.

"It's a family day to reflect on our Irish heritage and honor our ancestors to carry on our traditions, and to promote Corktown and Detroit," said Mike Kelly, a Livonia resident and member of the Knights of Equity and Ancient Order of Hibernians, Stephen Walsh Division.

Kelly's grandparents came from County Mayo. His wife Maureen's grandparents, the O'Sullivan's, came from County Clare. Maureen and Mike co-chair the annual parade fund-raiser in February. Maureen, a member of Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Rose Kennedy Division,



In 2005 parade chairman Mike Kelly (right) was assisted by Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano.

marches in the parade as does Mike.

The day begins with the UIS organizations gathering for a 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Patrick's Senior Center and Parish, 58 Parsons at Woodward. Afterward, the Motor City Striders present the Corktown races, a fund-raiser for the St. Patrick's Senior Center in Detroit at 11:30 a.m. For information, call Parsky at (313) 885-4772.

The theme of this year's parade is From Famine to Fortune - The Celtic Tiger since Ireland has progressed from one of the poorest countries in the European Union to one of the wealthiest.

"We have a calling of the clans, the Irish families that march," said Kelly. "We have novelty groups like high school bands, pipe bands, dignitaries, Roger McCarville and the United Wheelchair

PLEASE SEE SHAMROCKS, C3

### St. Patrick's Day Parade springs up in Oakland County

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
STAFF WRITER

In all of the excitement, Steve Zanetti doesn't want anyone to lose sight of the true meaning of the St. Patrick's Day Parade stepping off at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 10, in Ferndale.

The event is sponsored by the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Norman O'Brien division in Oakland County, and travels from St. James Church on Woodward and 8 1/2 Mile north to Nine Mile then west to Livernois and ends at the American Legion. Afterwards awards will be given out at Rosie O'Grady's on Troy Street. For more information, call (248) 541-2500.

The parade was held in Royal Oak for the first four years. This year, the Ferndale Downtown Development Authority is co-sponsoring the event.

"The most important thing is the celebration of St. Patrick, our patron saint of Ireland," said Zanetti, parade

PLEASE SEE PARADE, C3

## Arts patrons are invited to wear Renaissance costumes

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
STAFF WRITER

Paula Gangopadhyay won't be wearing a Renaissance-style gown to the annual Plymouth Community Arts Council dinner dance auction on March 9, but she is encouraging guests to come in costume.

Every year, arts council patrons look forward to dressing up according to the theme of the gala and 2007 should be no exception. In past years, women and men turned out in Denim and Diamonds.

This year, An Artful Affair is drawing on a Renaissance theme for the affair that takes place 6 p.m. to midnight Friday, at Laurel Manor, 39000

Schoolcraft in Livonia.

For those who enjoy dancing, Channel Six will play a wide range of music from the 1940s to today.

Tickets are \$85, \$35 of which is tax-deductible. For more information, call (734) 416-4278.

"The Renaissance theme ties in with revitalization efforts we are undertaking this year," said Gangopadhyay, who plans to wear a casually elegant gown.

Gangopadhyay became the arts council's executive director in July.

"The council is going to be turning 40 in 2009. As part of strategic planning we have embarked on a campaign, Countdown to 40."

Proceeds from the dinner dance and its silent and live auctions will help

fund three main areas of growth: programming to reach out to community members of all ages, membership, and funding.

"We currently have student and family members. We want to begin focusing on expanding retail business and corporate memberships. It is very important for the entire community to support the arts," said Gangopadhyay. "As far as funding, we're looking into expanding corporate support, seeking new grants from foundations as well as the state. We just received a \$15,000 grant from the Michigan Humanities Council.

"It's all about rebirth, revitalization."

PLEASE SEE COSTUMES, C3



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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



**COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

**AROUND TOWN**

**Crafters/vendors needed**

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. E-mail vdotson@twm.rr.com for application or call (734) 595-1083.

**Supreme Court Justice speaks**

Michigan Supreme Court Justice Marilyn Kelly will be the guest speaker at a luncheon meeting of the League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County on Saturday, March 10. The public is invited to attend and enjoy a modest lunch (\$5 donation requested). The meeting will be held at the Livonia Civic Center Library at 12:15 p.m. For more information, please contact Paula Bowman at (734) 455-4726.

**Prostate screening**

St. Mary Mercy Hospital hosts a prostate screening and Men's Health Day 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 31. Men can receive a prostate screening, learn about medical and health information and more. Prostate screening Day consists of a blood test for Prostate Specific Antigen, total cholesterol and HDL, a prostate exam by a physician and a blood pressure check. Hospital officials suggest men 40 and older get checked. A \$10 donation to the new St. Mary Mercy Cancer Center is optional. Appointments fill quickly. To register, call (734) 655-8963. St. Mary Mercy Hospital is located at 36475 Five Mile (at Levan) in Livonia.

**Hidden Lake Gardens**

Hidden Lake Gardens will waive entrance fees for the public on the first Monday of every month, beginning March 5 (excluding scheduled tests and holidays) throughout 2007. It's an opportunity to bring the family and explore Hidden Lake Gardens' 755-acre botanical garden and arboretum. For more information, call (517) 431-2060. Hidden Lake Gardens is located at 6214 W. Monroe Road (M-50) in Tipton.

**Sportsmen's Banquet**

The Metro-West Steelheaders will hold their 22nd annual Sportsmen's Banquet at 6 p.m. Saturday, March 10, at Roma Banquets, 32550 Cherry Hill, Garden City. There will be a silent auction featuring wildlife prints that are framed, matted, signed and numbered, and prizes like choice of firearm valued at more than \$1,250, an assortment of fishing and hunting supplies, charter trips and rods and reels. Tickets are \$35 each and include buffet meal and open bar. Tickets must be purchased in advanced, and are available by calling Randy Emery at (734) 368-7360 (cell) or (734)

332-6044 or by e-mail at RandyEmery@aol.com. Proceeds go to MUCC Camp for Kids, Michigan rivers and lakes to support future fishing projects, and private organizations in their endeavors to make Michigan the place to enjoy the outdoors.

**AAUW's 'The Petticoat Ladies'**

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) will host a public performance by "The Petticoat Ladies" at 6:45 p.m. Tuesday, March 13, at Fox Run Retirement Community, 41000 13 Mile Road, Novi (just west of M-5), Beth Ann Knisely, (248) 305-8992.

**Mom-to-Mom Sale**

The St. Edith/St. Kenneth Mothers of Preschoolers group will host a Mom-to-Mom Sale from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 21, at St. Edith Church, 15089 Newburgh, south of Five Mile. Gently used baby and children's items will be sold. Admission is \$1. Lindsay, (248) 252-4775.

**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.

**Academic Pathways preschool**

Academic Pathways Cooperative Preschool, at 30330 Schoolcraft in Livonia, will host an open house from 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 4-year-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 fund-raising 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

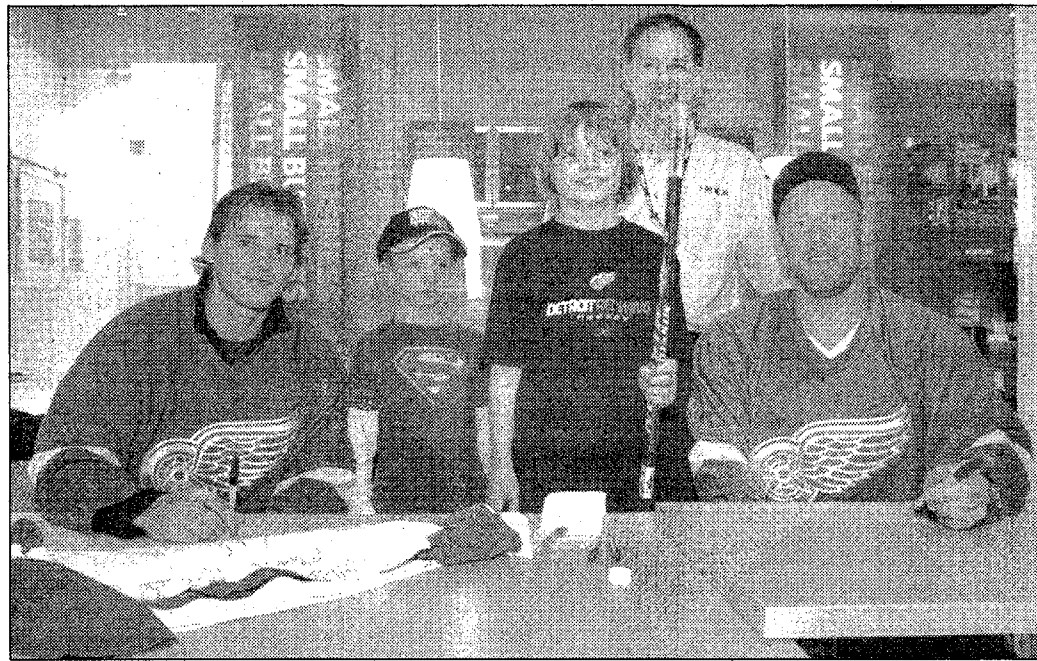


PHOTO COURTESY OF RENA LAVREY

**Hockey town for a day**

Detroit Red Wings Tomas Kopecky (left) and Johan Franzen came to Canton on Monday and signed autographs at IKEA. The players signed photographs and other items for a donation to First Step, a local organization that works to end domestic and sexual violence as well as providing a shelter facility in Canton. They also raffled off a game stick from each player and a Franzen Red Wings jersey. Here Alex Schnieder, 8, and Chandler Berlin, 12, show off their winnings. IKEA Canton store manager Mark McCaslin stands in the rear.

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.

**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.

**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. (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 house-keeping, 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.

**@ THE LIBRARY**

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**

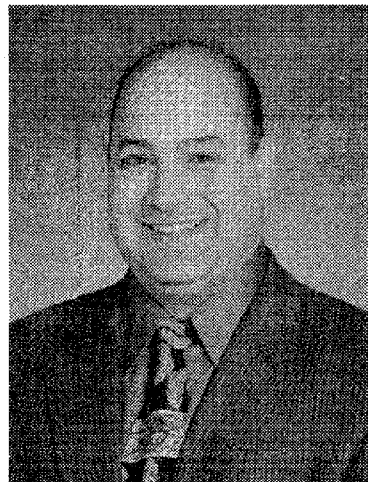
1. "Estelle Takes a Bath," Jill Esbaum
2. "The Most Precious Thing," Gill Lewis
3. "Brave Bitsy and the Bear," Angela McAllister
4. "Tickets to Ride," Mark Rogalski
5. "The Prince's Bedtime," Joanne Oppenheim

**ON CAMPUS**

**NMU Dean's List**

The following local students made the Northern Michigan University Dean's List for the fall 2006 semester: Benjamin J. Wielechowski, of Canton; Ashley E. Olson, of Canton; Robert S. Richardson, of Canton; Brad A. Filips, of Plymouth; Russell P. Markwood, of Plymouth; Kathleen A. Nicastrì, of Plymouth; and Robert L. Rymph, of Plymouth.  
To earn the achievement, students must have a grade point average of 3.25-3.99.

**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**

at

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Jeffrey H. Miller, M.D.

Dr. Miller has over 12 years experience in treating venous diseases and has received many honors and awards including being named one of "Detroit's Top Docs" by Hour Magazine.

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Before AFTER



**PARADE**

FROM PAGE C1

chairman. "We started the parade because we needed to celebrate the Irish in the area, to celebrate Irish heritage, to show pride, to bring the Irish community together, and to help the businesses and promote goodwill. It's a family-oriented parade, not all floats. It's marchers and clans. Everybody's welcome to march. We're a nonprofit organization and it costs for police overtime and city workers so a donation is welcome."

Carolyn Christopher, a member of parade committee, is inviting everyone to come out and have a good time. Christopher will be announcing the parade on the judges' stand near the Twisted Shamrock.

"The restaurants will all have entertainment," said Christopher, who lives in Berkley and works at O'Brien Services, an automotive repair facility in Ferndale where a green bus is housed and maintained and decorated for the parades in Ferndale and Detroit.

"We started the parade to bring a little bit of Irish to the suburbs. Last year, we had floats, bagpipes, and this year we've asked the Ferndale Honor Guard through the Police Department to lead the parade."

Last year, a contingent of more than 100 dogs and their owners paraded behind the Clancy clan. The effort is being organized again this year by Uppity Puppy co-owners Kim O'Brien of Ortonville and Patty Livernois of West Bloomfield. To register, call (248) 336-2380.

"We're so excited," said O'Brien. "We're asking \$5 per furry child. Each furry child that pays \$5 will get a shamrock bandana. We're collecting the \$5 per walker to benefit the Animal Welfare Society and Small Paws Rescue, Michigan-based nonprofits. We hope to reach 150 this year. We're still looking for walkers."

"This is going to be huge. I don't



Gwen Dietrich of Canton and her 5 1/2-month-old Irish Wolfhound, Clancy Callahan, marched in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Royal Oak last year.

think they've ever shut down Woodward at this end for a parade. O'Brien is bringing Larry, her 13 1/2-year-old Irish Wolfhound/Briard. Livernois is carrying Truffles, her Bichon in a backpack. Once again this year they will be giving out shamrock cookies from their Uppity Puppy shop to the dogs.

Last year, Clancy Callahan loved the homemade cookies made from all natural ingredients. The 5 1/2-month-old Irish Wolfhound marched in the parade in Royal Oak with his owner Gwen Dietrich of Canton.

"Everybody's Irish that day," said Dietrich who's a mix of German, Austrian and Ukrainian. "It was a green event. I like to think of it as a St. Paddy's Mardi Gras-like celebration."

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

**SHAMROCKS**

FROM PAGE C1

Association, and Wayne County Sheriff Warren Evans leading the mounted division. New this year is the Irish Setters Association. Afterwards, we go back to our organization for corned beef and cabbage and Irish entertainment."

Karen Tait leads the Birmingham Celtic Pipes and Drums Corps. She and husband George, a piper, have marched in the parade for 30 years. This year, George will watch from the sidelines because of his arthritic hips. George has been playing bagpipes for 35 years and still rehearses with the band every Tuesday night at Birmingham Chrysler Jeep, the Troy dealership that sponsors the corps. George and the band perform the rest of the year at concerts, parties and weddings around town (www.celtic-pipes-and-drums.com). Daughter Kristen Tait, a percussionist with the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra, teaches the drum corps. The band offers lessons in pipes and drums, and is always looking for individuals to join the 28 members ranging in age from 11 to 81.

"The parade is just a wonderful holiday for the Irish," said Karen Tait, the Pipe Major.

"We do fund-raisers for the United Irish Societies so they give us the honor to lead the parade," added George Tait who's Scottish. "With bagpipes, there's not much difference between Irish and Scottish. We're all brothers under the skin."

George is especially looking forward to doing a little pub crawling after the parade and playing a few tunes, having a glass of Guinness and going on to the next. Alcohol is not allowed during the parade as the day is for families.

"It's always a good, happy day for everybody," said Dennis Hayes, United Irish Societies president. "Prior to the first parade in Dearborn there were a couple of small parades on the west side by a parish priest. It was moved to Detroit and we've had them on Woodward then Michigan Avenue ever since. We've had people get married during the parade. "There are clown groups, a Detroit Fire Department clown team and funny fire engines, something for everybody, color guards from the VFW and American Legion, and clans of families like the O'Malleys. It's a very welcoming event. We hope to see you there. We want people to realize what a wonderful city we still have in Detroit. The suburbs need the city; the city needs the suburbs."

For more information, visit www.detroitirish.org.

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Bidding on auction items is always one of the most exciting parts of the Plymouth Community Arts Council's gala evening.

**COSTUMES**

FROM PAGE C1

In addition to inviting guests to come in Renaissance attire, volunteers plan to decorate the hall at Laurel Manor with pillars and busts of David, Michelangelo's classic sculpture. "We want to kind of create that ambiance," said Gangopadhyay. "We'll have close to 200 items - unique artwork, vacation pack-

ages, autographed sports memorabilia, dinner and tickets to museums, sports events and zoos. We will be publishing a list of items on the Web site (www.plymoutharts.com).

"So many of us do these fund-raisers," said Gangopadhyay. "This is the arts council's major fund-raiser and supports arts education for the entire western Wayne area. When funding for schools is declining it's important for us to keep offering these opportunities."

**BABY CONTEST**

**Boys & Girls:**  
Baby...Under 1 year  
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March 23, 2007 at 6 p.m. • Marriot Detroit-Livonia  
www.ModelSearchContest.com 813-839-8054

**Arts group offers classes, exhibit chances**

The Visual Arts Association of Livonia (VAAL) begins classes Wednesday, March 7, at the Dickinson Center, 18000 Newburgh, between Six and Seven Mile, Livonia. For more information, call Laraine Walowich at (734) 838-1204 or send e-mail to vaalinfo@sbcglobal.net.

VAAL's next meeting is March 15 and features speaker Edee Joppich discussing design and composition. The group's spring show will be held May 1-31 at Livonia City Hall. There is also the opportunity to exhibit in Art from the Heart, Livonia's annual arts and crafts fair, to be held June 9-10. For details, call VAAL president Virginia Bosak at (734) 432-5976.

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CLASS 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.

REUNIONS

**Berkley High School**  
**Class of 1987**

A 20-year reunion is 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 kimslasophia@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 efnhs67@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 Cody**  
**Class of 1957**

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 toast and much more. This invitation is to all 50's graduates. Deadline is 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 www.classreport.org/usa/mi/detroit/cooley/1967

**Detroit Denby**  
**Class of 1957**

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 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 rmezzardi@hotmail.com.

**Detroit Henry Ford**  
**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 chuckandelman@comcast.net.

**Detroit Holy Redeemer**  
**Class of 1957**

A 50-year reunion, Oct. 12, 2007, at O'Kelley KofC Council, Dearborn. 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.

**Detroit Western**  
**Class of 1967**

A 45-year reunion will be held in Sept., 15, 2007 at Warren Valley Country Club, Dearborn Heights. Seeking information on classmates from that year. All other

classes welcome. Contact Helen Knights at (734)285-4927 or Ralph Brighton at (734)513-7499.

**Detroit Southwestern**  
**Class of 1957**

A 40-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**  
**Class of 1966**

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

**Ferdale 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, bobtreva@aol.com or Dick Reising, 248-623-9060, dreising@sbcglobal.net

**Fordson High School**  
**Class of 1969**

Planning a reunion for 2007. Please contact Kathy Nisun at (248) 363-5679 or e-mail: Kaynini@uol.com or Kathy Shoebrieger @ Klivingston@nu-core.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 website at www.gchs97reunion.com.

**Grosse Pointe North**  
**Class of 1991**

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

**Ladywood High School**  
**Class of 1967**

A 40-year reunion is 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.

WEDDING



**Marino-Curtiss**

Caroline Suzanne Curtiss and Mark Ashton Marino were wed July 8, 2006, at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Plymouth with the Rev. John Sullivan officiating.

The bride is the daughter of James and Suzanne Curtiss of Plymouth. She is a 1995 graduate of Mercy High School, a 1999 graduate of the University of Michigan and 2002 graduate of Notre Dame Law School. She is an attorney with the firm of Leader, Berkon.

The groom is the son of Anthony and Deborah Marino of Mandeville, Louisiana. He is a 1994 graduate of Holy Cross High School, a 1998 graduate of the University of Notre Dame and a 2001 graduate of Northwestern Law School. He is employed a real estate broker.

The bride was attended by Kelly Ainsworth, maid of honor and bride's friend; Kelly Marion, groom's sister; Meghan Covino, bride's friend; Rachel Stockhausen, bride's friend; Elena Tantille, bride's cousin.

The groom was attended by Gregory Marino, best man and groom's brother; Ross Cannizaro, friend of the groom; Kevin Cantrelle, friend of the groom; Brad Diggs, groom's cousin; and Stuart Marino, groom's brother.

A reception was held at the Bay Pointe Golf Club in West Bloomfield. The couple honeymooned in Tahiti and Bora Bora.

They are making their home in Manhattan.

ENGAGEMENTS

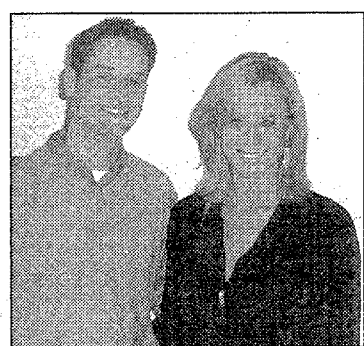
**Cole-Keyes**

Gerald and Patricia Cole of Wyandotte announce the engagement of their daughter, Kelly Shannon Cole to Justin Michael Keyes of Westland.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of the University of Michigan and a teacher at the Burger School in Garden City.

The prospective groom is the son of Russ and Cathy Keyes of Westland. He is a graduate of Eastern Michigan University and a teacher in Wyandotte at the Lincoln Center.

A Saturday, June 30, 2007



wedding is planned for Grosse Ile Presbyterian Church with Pastor Karl Travis officiating. A reception will be held at Grosse Ile Golf and Country Club.

**Stout-Clos**

David and Lynn Stout of Fremont announce the engagement of their daughter, Sarah Marcel Stout, to William Clos, the son of Charles and Elizabeth Clos of Plymouth.

The bride-to-be, a West Bloomfield resident, earned bachelor's and masters' degrees from Michigan State University and is an elementary art teacher in the Troy School District.

The prospective groom, also of West Bloomfield, is a graduate of Eastern Michigan University and the Michigan State School of Law, and is an attorney with Asker Clos & Perlmutter, P.C., in Westland.

A July 28, 2007 wedding is planned at Saint Mary's Catholic Church in Muskegon, with Fr. Ernest Bernott officiating.

The bride-to-be is to be attended by Matron of Honor



Kate Glancy and bridesmaids Nicole DeMol and Melissa Clos. The prospective groom is to be attended by Best Man Andrew Clos and groomsmen Thomas Clos, John Stout, Rudolfo Pacheco and Paul Urbel.

The couple plans to take a honeymoon cruise to the Western Caribbean before settling into their home in West Bloomfield.

BIRTH

**Ella Grace Tomlinson**

Jeff and Kelly Tomlinson of Florence, Ky., announce the birth of their daughter, Ella Grace, on Dec. 4, 2006. The Tomlinsons are former residents 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 Hope of Livonia, Ilsa deArmas of Redford and Pat Cardinal of Livonia.

ANNIVERSARY

**Mastersons celebrate**

**50th anniversary**  
Edward H. and Helen V. (Gustus) Masterson of Livonia celebrated their 50th anniversary March 2.

The Mastersons were married March 2, 1957, at St. James Catholic Church in Ferndale. They have lived in Livonia for 45 years.

The Mastersons have five children: Edward Jr. of Westland; Kevin of Westland; Leslie of Livonia; Steve of Livonia; and Shane of Livonia. They have three grandchildren.



Edward Masterson has been retired for 20 years. Helen Masterson has been retired for 14 years.

The couple enjoy music, traveling and playing cards.



Edward Masterson plays guitar. They will celebrate their anniversary March 10 at a party for 50 people at the Moose Hall.

How to submit announcements to the Observer

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 announce-

- ments, 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.

SINGLES

**MISC. SINGLES**

**Moon-dusters**

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. Call Joe Castrodale (248) 968-5197.

**THE AMERICAN SINGLES' GOLF ASSOCIATION**

**Open House**

Thursday, March 15 at the Bahama Breeze Restaurant, 19600 Haggerty Road (between 7-8 Mile Roads on the east side of Haggerty.) Cocktails and

mingling between 6-7 p.m. with announcements at 7 p.m. Dinner is optional and is off the menu. For more information contact Diane at (248) 347-0379 or stop by our booth at the Michigan Golf Show held on March 9-11 at the Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River, Novi.

**BETHANY SUBURBAN WEST**

**Shamrock card and game night**  
Friday, March 9, at St. Linus Activity Center, 6466 Evangeline, Dearborn Heights. Admission will be a dish of food to pass and \$5 at the door. Refreshments will be supplied. For details, call Michele at (313)996-8644

**Breakfast meeting**

Saturday, March 17, at Leon's Family Dining, 30249 Ford Road, Garden City. For details, contact Kathy M. at (734)513-9479.

**Lenten Mass**

9 a.m. Sunday, March 25, Felician Sister Chapel at Madonna University, 36600 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia. Use Newburgh exit. Breakfast to follow Mass, for details contact Kathy M. (734)513-9479.

**Together Dance**

8 p.m. Saturday, March 31, at St. Robert Bellarmine, 27101 W. Chicago, Redford. Limited to 450 paid admissions only. Proper attire. \$12 admission. For more information, call Loretta from Bethany East at (586)264-0284.



Passages

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

1-800-579-7355 ♦ fax: 734-953-2232  
e-mail: oeobits@hometownlife.com

**BETTY BARNETT MORRIS**

Age 84, of Bloomfield Township, died February 19th in Miami, FL. She was born October 26, 1922, in Pueblo, CO. Betty Morris was a graduate of Eastman School of Music. She taught school in Grosse Pointe, MI, Upper Darby, PA and the Birmingham School District until she retired in 1986. Predeceased by husband Eugene Morris in 2001, she is survived by one daughter, Betty Jeanne of Pembroke Pines, FL, one son, Charles Kevin of Miami, FL, and two grandchildren, Perry and Caryn. A service is scheduled for March 9th at the Baptist Church in Great Valley, 945 N Valley Forge Rd, Devon, PA 19333. The family suggests memorial tributes may be made in her name to the Humane Society or the Arthritis Foundation.

**HELENA M. HYMA**

Age 90, died February 28, 2007. Beloved wife of the late George A., dear mother of George M. (Annabelle). Grandmother of Ruthie (Eddie) Zelmanski, great-grandmother of Eddie; sister of Walter (Virginia) Messer and twin sister Elizabeth (the late Earl) Halsey. Also survived by several nieces and nephews. Memorial service was 11:00 a.m. Saturday at Kirk in the Hills Presbyterian Church, 1340 W. Long Lake, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302-1335. Memorials to the church.

**LILLIAN MILCZAREK**

Age 92 of Oxford, OH formerly of Punta Gorda, FL and Garden City, MI. She passed away February 5, 2007 at McCullough-Hyde Hospital. She was born January 17, 1915 in Detroit, MI, the daughter of Wladyslaw Dul and Alexandra (Szram) Dul. She was a member of the Oxford, OH Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses. Services will be private and at the convenience of the family. Advance Funeral Home & Crematory, Fairfield, OH is serving the family. For condolences, more family information and loving thoughts at: www.advancefuneralhome.com

**ROBERT W. WILLIAMS**

Age 86, February 27, 2007. Beloved husband of Constance. Loving father of Carol (Richard) LaPensee, Gerald (Brenda) and Nick (Heidi). Dear grandfather of Bruce and Christopher LaPensee, Mary and Elizabeth Williams. No services. R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home (734) 422-6720 in charge of arrangements.



ROBERT D. DEN UYL

After a long battle with Parkinson's disease Bob died in his home in Vero Beach on February 25th, 2007. He was born October 14, 1926 in Detroit and lived in Grosse Pointe, Michigan. After graduating from D.U.S. at 17 in 1944 he enlisted in the Merchant Marines in the second World War. After the war he went to the University of Michigan for two years and pledge Chi Psi Fraternity. He transferred to the University of Colorado in Boulder and graduated with an M.B.A. in June, 1949. Seven days later he and the former Andrea Jorgenson were married in Kenilworth, Illinois on June 18. They lived in Birmingham, Michigan and moved to Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, where they still have a home. They have three children, Douglas Den Uyl 1950, Bruce Den Uyl 1952, Marcia Dietz 1955. He started his own Manufacturer's Rep. business in 1957 and besides work he loved sports, especially handball, tennis and windsurfing and traveling to many places. He has a home at Macatawa, Michigan near Holland, where his father Simon and his mother Marjorie grew up before moving to Detroit. Besides his wife, he has a brother Richard and seven grandchildren, Julia and Deborah Den Uyl, Clark and Eric Den Uyl, and Lindsey, Andria and Erica Dietz. He is a 60 year member of the D.A.C. of Detroit and also belongs to the 100 Club. A service will be held on Saturday at 11:00 A.M. at Trinity Episcopal Church in Vero, the 3rd of March. Another service will be planned in the spring in Bloomfield Hills, MI, so the grandchildren can attend. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to the Humane Society, the Parkinson's Foundation or Hospice in Vero or Bloomfield. Arrangements are under the direction of the Thomas S. Lowther Funeral Home and Crematory.

**TOIVO W. HUURTO**

Age 90, March 1, 2007. Beloved husband of the late Ina. Loving father of Judith (Robert) Witt, Kathleen Bentley and Cheryl (James) Jones. Cherished grandfather of ten, great-grandfather of three. Funeral Friday 1 PM (In-state 12 noon) at St. John Lutheran Church, 13542 Mercedes, Redford. Visitation Wednesday 2-9 PM at THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME, 33603 Grand River Ave., downtown Farmington, (1 blk. W. of Farmington Rd.). Memorial contributions may be made to the church. www.thayer-rock.com

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Deadlines:  
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# Guide to Employment

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 Classified Advertisements  
 Help Wanted-General 5000

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 Full time position. Interested applicants please refer to our website, www.schoolcraft.edu/jobs/ for the job description and qualifications. Apply online, applications, along with photocopy of college transcripts from regionally accredited institution(s), must be received in Human Resources by no later than 4:30 on Fri., Mar. 13, 2007.

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 Long-term, seasonal workers for a world class auto supplier located in Plymouth, MI 1st & 2nd shift  
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 Courtyard Manor of Farmington Hills has a full-time (11-7:30pm), Activities Assistant position available. Activity & Geriatric Exp. required. Must be able to work weekends.  
 Please fax resume to: 248.539.1250  
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**GOLF SHOP**  
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 Esalon: The Hairplace for Everyone is currently looking for talented, enthusiastic hairstylists who are ready to advance in their career of cosmetology. We are looking full-time and part-time positions at our Westland location at the Merriman Plaza. We offer guaranteed wage versus commission, competitive health benefits, 401 K, contests with prizes, vacation, free ongoing training, and much more! Come join the team! You provide your cosmetology license and shears, we supply the rest. Call 1-888-888-7778 ext. 1220 and ask for Lori!

**HEAD MECHANIC**  
 Clarenceville School District is seeking a motivated individual to serve as Head Mechanic for all district vehicles. Qualified individuals should submit resume to: E-Mail: georgegd@clarenceville.k12.mi.us Mail: George Dix, 28832 W. Eight Mile Rd., Farmington Hills, MI 48336 Phone: (248) 919-0410

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**INFORMATION SYSTEMS COORDINATOR**  
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**IT Support Entry Level**  
 With 2 to 4 years experience with Windows XP in a network environment. Strong knowledge of Windows XP, Microsoft Office 2000 and above. Will require some administrative tasks. excellent benefits. Fax resume to 248-865-0324

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 Rating/Operations Support person needed. Experience in the moving industry preferred, but not required. Part time, w/ full time potential. For immediate consideration, email resume to: dburke@corriganmoving.com or mail to: Corrigan Moving Systems 23923 Research Dr. Farmington Hills, MI 48335 Attn: Daniel Burke  
**GENERAL OFFICE**  
 Immediate opening in Southfield law firm for general office help. Exp in answering phones, data entry and typing a must. Approximately 30 hours per week. Please send resume to Cindy Ball, 26555 Evergreen Rd., Suite 1530, Southfield, MI 48076 or email to: cmball@gurstenlaw.com

**LEGAL SECRETARY**  
 PART Time Livonia law firm. Fax 734-261-9510.  
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**DENTAL ASSISTANT**  
 High tech Southfield dental practice, 10 Mile & Beech area. Seeking FT, dynamic, exp'd Dental Assistant. Kodak practice works and digital X-ray exp. a plus. Competitive wage and benefits. Fax: 248-354-2486  
**DENTAL HYGIENIST** Part-Time, Mon & Tues. eves. Email resume: teamlivonia@aol.com or Fax resume: 734-427-1233  
**DENTAL PART TIME**  
 Plymouth office seeking part-time individual experienced in Dental Insurances & Collections. Must be energetic, self motivated, a team player & able to work eves & Saturdays. Please fax your resume to 734-420-8304 or email us at dentalhelp101@sbglobal.net

**HYGIENIST-EXP'D**  
 For temp/on-call basis for our friendly Westland office. Fax resume to: (734) 425-7675  
**OFFICE MANAGER**  
 Looking for high energy office manager for Oak Park location. Exp required. Degree preferred. Fax resume to: 248-547-0608

**Help Wanted-Medical 5060**  
**CHIROPRACTIC OFFICE MGR/INSURANCE BILLER**  
 For a fast-paced Farmington Hills health center. Organized, self-motivated, good communicator, energetic, detail oriented, computer. Part time/long term. 3+ yrs exp. in chiropractic & insurance req. 248-626-5006  
**Dialysis**  
 Botsford Kidney Center is looking for some new team players. Become a part of a team where you can make a difference! We provide an excellent orientation program, and competitive compensation and benefits, including tuition assistance, Sundays and major holidays off. We have the following full- and part-time positions available:  
 \*RN - Acute Dialysis  
 \*RN - Chronic Dialysis  
 \*Patient Care Technician  
 Previous hemodialysis exp. required.  
 Send/Fax Resume to: Nurse Manager Botsford Kidney Center 28425 W. Eight Mile Rd. Livonia, MI 48122 Fax: 248-442-2041 (No calls, please) E.O.E.  
**DIETARY MANAGER**  
 For senior facility in Wayne County. Experience required. Fax resume: 734-425-1083 or email: ahilvoni@sbglobal.net  
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**LPN's**  
 We are looking for LPN's, who live in Northern Oakland & Macomb Counties, to join our Blood Collection Team. Selected applicants will work variable full-time hours. A car & nursing license are required. Must attend a 6 week training program prior to assignments. Submit resume to:  
**American Red Cross Blood Services Human Resources Dept.**  
 P.O. Box 33351 Detroit, MI 48232 semresumes@usa.redcross.org

**MEDICAL ASSISTANT**  
 Infinity Primary Care is looking for an experienced Medical Asst. for busy Livonia MI & PP office. Excellent computer skills required. FT & PT Please send resume & salary requirements to: careers@ipcpc.com or fax 734-853-4900 EOE

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 Full/Part-Time. Great pay with benefits available at an Irish sports pub. Sheehan's On The Green, 5 Mile, E. of Haggerty. (734) 420-0646  
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 Experienced, full-time, permanent position. Nights & weekends. Apply within: Mon-Fri 2-4. Four Friends, 44282 Warren Rd., Canton  
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**Fax resume to (734) 946-8672**  
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 Classes begin in Apr. 1 day a week. 5 weeks. Cost \$850 at local hospital. (313) 382-3857

**PHYSICAL THERAPISTS**  
 Busy home care agency has immediate openings in Wayne, Oakland, Detroit (east and west) and the Downriver area. Must have current home care experience. Interested candidate please call 1-800-956-8773 to schedule an interview or fax resume to 248-591-9400. Attn: Mark  
**PHYSICIANS Career Opportunity for Walk-in Clinic**  
 Full time Arabic speaking Family Practice or Internal Medicine physicians are needed in Metro Detroit for an established Walk-In Clinic operation. J1 and H1 waiver applicants accepted. Part time position will also be extended to the right combination of skills and hours. Spoken Arabic is a must to serve a population niche. Growth potential, good salary and benefit package. Please forward your credentials: Attn: ORCB with references, to: careers@livoniawalkinclinic.com or by fax to: (248) 671-0493

**PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT (PA) Career Opportunity in Walk-in Clinic**  
 Full Time Physician Assistants (PA) are needed in Metro Detroit for an established Walk-In Clinic operation. J1 and H1 waiver applicants accepted. Part time position will also be extended to the right combination of skills and hours. Spoken Arabic, Urdu, Hindi, or Spanish is highly preferred but not a must to serve a population niche. Growth potential, good salary and benefit package. Please forward your credentials: Attn: PAOCCB with references, to: careers@livoniawalkinclinic.com or by fax to: (248) 671-0493

**RN / LPN**  
 Westland Convalescent & Rehab Center, a leader in providing consistent professional services, has openings for nurses interested in employment opportunities on the day or afternoon shift. Full time and part time positions are available. Interested candidates should forward their resumes to:  
 Linda Chon, RN  
 Nurse Educator at Fax: 734-728-9741 lchon@wstcc.com or apply online at www.westlandcc.com

**RN'S UP TO \$7500 SIGN ON BONUS**  
 Busy Medicare-certified home care agency with rapidly growing referrals seeks experienced RN's for full or part time positions in the following areas: Wayne, Oakland, Detroit and Downriver. Benefits are provided for full-time. Interested candidates please call 1-800-956-8773 ask for Mark and/or fax your resume to 248-591-9400.

**Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080**  
**BANQUET SERVERS**  
 Experienced only! Needed at Banquet Hall in Southfield. Apply in person between 11AM-3PM Mon-Thurs. Palace of Southfield, 25228 W. 12 Mile Rd. W. of Telegraph, across the street from the Star Theater. No Phone Calls Please.

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 THE Observer & Eccentric NEWSPAPERS



## Hyperbaric oxygen therapy

### Series of treatments changes lives

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
STAFF WRITER

Randall McGhee was far from irritated when his wife asked him to slow down as they walked through Northland Mall in Southfield. The 53-year-old Detroit police officer was happy since his spry steps were a sign that he'd fully regained his health.

At one point, McGhee was nearly forced into retirement because he couldn't walk. While recuperating from arthroscopic knee surgery, he contracted a staph infection and had to be admitted to St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia. Upon release, his physician referred him to Dr. Bruce Ruben for treatment. After 1 1/2 months of intravenous antibiotics, McGhee was depressed to learn the infection returned only one week later. That's when Ruben suggested McGhee undergo hyperbaric oxygen therapy in a glass, cylindrical chamber at Ruben's O2, The Complete Hyperbaric, Infusion & Wound Care Center in Farmington Hills. After seven months on medical leave, McGhee was finally able to return to work as a patrol officer thanks to 30 hyperbaric oxygen treatments.

"I kept thinking my infection would come back, but it didn't," said McGhee.

#### INFECTION NEARLY HEALED

Gene Dean looks comfortable inside the chamber built for one person. The 54-year-old Novi man is nearing the end of 40 treatments for a bone infection that resulted from an automobile accident. Ruben says Dean's leg is 80 percent healed.

An infectious disease specialist, Ruben developed an interest in wound care about four years ago. On Thursday, he installed a second chamber after seeing how hyperbaric therapy saved the limbs of several patients at the center by inundating the body with oxygen.



Mamie Martin talks about the benefits she received with treatments in a Hyperbaric Chamber under the care of Dr. Bruce Ruben at the O2 offices in Farmington Hills.

Wounds fester and fail to heal when not enough oxygen-enriched blood reaches the area. A single hyperbaric treatment increases oxygen in the body by as much as 10 times. These high levels are carried in the blood to help heal wounds and damaged tissue.

While 80 percent of Ruben's patients receive hyperbaric therapy for diabetic ulcers, bone infections or radiation damage from oral cancer treatments, the high-levels of oxygen can be used for a variety of conditions including crush injuries caused by accidents, carbon monoxide poisoning and smoke inhalation, brain and certain other abscesses, skin grafts, and decompression sickness. Ruben even treated one young girl with a nontraumatic brain injury.

"In the 1950s the Navy realized those scuba diving who would come up too fast would get the bends or decompression sickness," said Ruben. "Since then they've found excellent medical uses for the chamber."

Mamie Martin suffered with a limb-threatening bone infection. After undergoing 40 hyperbaric oxygen treatments, the 90-year-old Detroit woman is back doing housework and looks forward to growing flowers and vegetables in her garden this summer.



PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dr. Bruce Ruben of O2, The Complete Hyperbaric, Infusion & Wound Care Center in Farmington Hills talks about the benefits of Hyperbaric Chamber treatments.

"I was fearful they might have to amputate my toe," said Martin.

#### UP AND AROUND

Charlotte Adams was afraid doctors might have to surgically remove her foot after a toe became infected while she was doing aerobics in the swimming pool. The 85-year-old Westland woman was unaware of the injury due to neuropathy which can cause numbness.

"At one point I was unable to walk," said Adams. "I'm claustrophobic and thought I'd never make it through the treatments, but losing my foot did not appeal to me."

Once Adams overcame her fear of being trapped inside the chamber, she grew to like the 1 1/2 to 2 hours she spent there for each treatment. Without the therapy she probably wouldn't be able to attend a March 20 fundraiser at Schoolcraft College. Adams is a member of the advisory board for the

Women's Resource Center at the college in Livonia.

"It's a most fantastic feeling," said Adams. "You don't feel anything. You're very comfortable."

McGhee is claustrophobic as well so it helped to be able to see wife Alicia standing alongside the chamber. Ruben prefers the monoplace to the multiplace chambers where several patients at a time receive therapy. A monoplace chamber allows family members to be in the same room with the patient. Mamie Martin shared her time inside the chamber with her niece and grand-niece.

"It's like taking a nap. You can take a nap, turn the TV on to a program I like," said Gene Dean.

Except for a feeling of fullness in the ears, hyperbaric treatment is painless and heals

PLEASE SEE OXYGEN, NEXT PAGE



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## OXYGEN

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

wounds so effectively that Ruben has not only added a second chamber at his Farmington Hills center but has become a partner in the Infection Care Specialists at the Lake Center in West Bloomfield where hyperbaric therapy is also available.

## GROWING TREND

Robert David of Advanced Therapies International in Auburn Hills says wound care centers using hyperbaric therapy are growing in popularity. He currently is serving as a consultant to proposed facilities in Chicago, Missouri and Bloomfield Township.

"A number of patients (at O2) they were able to save two feet," said Robert David. "Afterwards, one of the patients did a cancer walk."

Garden City Hospital's Wound Healing & Hyperbaric Center of Michigan has seen success with a number of conditions since opening in August 2006 with two hyperbaric oxygen chambers. Since then the Garden City Hospital center has added a third due to demand caused by patient volume in the area. For the last 14 years, the hospital has had a special wound nurse on staff.

"We've had patients with diabetic foot wounds, soft tissue radiation injury, deep bone infections known as osteomyelitis, and venous leg ulcers that have been doing very well," said Scott Filgo, director.

"As volume expands we might go to a fourth or convert to a multiphase."

For more information about O2, The Complete Hyperbaric, Infusion & Wound Care Center, call (877) O2HEALS (624-3257) or visit the Web site at www.O2heals.com.

Garden City Hospital's Wound Healing & Hyperbaric Center of Michigan can be reached at (734) 762-9935.

ichomin@hometownlife.com  
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## Hospital hosts prostate screening

St. Mary Mercy Hospital is hosting a Prostate Screening and Men's Health Day 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 31, at the hospital, 36475 Five Mile at Levan, Livonia. Men can receive a prostate screening and learn about medical and health information.

The screening consists of a blood test for Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA), Total Cholesterol and HDL, a prostate exam by a physician, and a blood pressure check.

A \$10 donation to the new St. Mary Mercy Cancer Center is

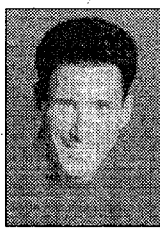
optional. Appointments fill quickly. To register, call (734) 655-8963.

It is suggested that men 40 years and older get tested. PSA results and other forms of screening allow men to access prostate cancer treatment during the early stages of their disease. Whether immediate treatment is required or not, symptoms can be monitored by your doctor if the condition worsens. Prostate cancer is the second most prevalent cancer among men. Early screening and early detection can save lives.

## Exercise, will help you sleep

**Matt from Ann Arbor e-mails saying that he is having a hard time sleeping, but he does not want to take any medication. He asks if there is anything naturally that he can do to get some more shut-eye.**

Good question, Matt. There are so many people who have a tough time getting good sleep. Most people are just doing the wrong thing right before they go to bed. The first no-no is drinking alcohol. While it may help you get to sleep initially, it tends to disturb your sleep later in the night, leaving you feeling sleepy the next day.



**Peter's Principles**

Peter Nielsen

If you bring work home with you, finish it up early in the evening so it does not linger into your bedroom. The same thing with food, don't eat right before bedtime. Finally, try to go to bed at the same time every night and avoid those

long naps during the day.

**Rich from Canton is concerned about prostate health. He has been hearing for years that pumpkin seeds help promote a healthy prostate and e-mails for the lowdown.**

Rich, unfortunately research shows that claims about pumpkin seeds and prostate health are most likely false. The seeds have been used for centuries to promote urinary tract health. Some research shows that extract from the seeds can promote healthy urinary flow, but studies trying to link the seeds to prostate health have been a wash so far.

However, don't toss out that pack of pumpkin seeds just yet. They are still a very healthy snack food! In fact, the seeds have just 148 calories and 12 grams of heart healthy fat for every ounce. Halloween may be history, but it wouldn't hurt to keep a pumpkin around the house year-round.

If you have a health or fitness question you would like answered in the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*, e-mail Peter through his Web site [www.peternielsen.com](http://www.peternielsen.com). Contact him at Peter Nielsen's Personal Training Club in West-Bloomfield or Nielsen's Town Center Health Club in Southfield.

## MARCH

## Catch your breath

Women's Lung Health Conference and Luncheon begins at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 18, at the Troy Marriott Hotel. Hosted by American Lung Association, the event features speakers on topics of interest to laypersons and medical professionals including lung cancer and women, COPD, healthy homes, hazards of mainstream industry personal care and cosmetics products, tobacco marketing to women, nutrition, smoking cessation, clean air, asthma, infections, and pulmonary hypertension. Cost is \$65 before March 12. For more information, visit [www.catchyourbreathmi.org](http://www.catchyourbreathmi.org). For questions, call (248) 784-2012 or (248) 784-2000.

## CHADD meeting

CHADD (Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit Disorder) will be meeting Monday, March 5, at Way Elementary School on W. Long Lake Road, east of Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills. The parent presentation by psychologist Steve Ceresnie is on Thinking Straight about AD/HD and Mood Disorders. The adult group will have a presentation/panel on Coaching for Teens and Adults to Enhance Productivity and Life with Elyse Gilbert, Reading Specialist and ADD Coach, Kevin Roberts, Academic Coach, and Kathleen Marske, CHADD Adult group leader. Registration begins at 7 p.m., meetings at 7:30 p.m. and are free to members, \$5 per non-member families. Call (248) 988-6716 or visit [www.eocc.homestead.com](http://www.eocc.homestead.com).

## Health classes

New Techniques in Stress Reduction: Learn to manage stress, anxiety, cravings and more by balancing your body's energy system and increase its flow by gently tapping on selected points on the body 7-9 p.m. Monday, March 5. Instructor Brenda Strausz is a psychotherapist and energy practitioner.

Natural and Holistic Medicine: Treatments for Depression, Bio-Identical Hormones, Vitamin Therapies, an interactive course that covers Complimentary and Alternative Medicine, Acupuncture and other holistic approaches to health care and wellness. Learn about ailments that have not been effectively addressed by conventional medicine, an overview of herbal medicine, and weight loss 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 7. Instructor is Robert C. Levine, an M.D. practicing natural and holistic medicine and acupuncture internal medicine. Cost for both classes is \$24 each at The Community House, 380 South Bates, Birmingham. To register call (248) 644-5832, or online at [www.communityhouse.com](http://www.communityhouse.com).

## MS program

## MEDICAL DATEBOOK

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Michigan Chapter hosts Building Emotional Bank Accounts, a program dedicated to building safety and trust in relationships tested by the challenges of MS 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 6, at NMSS Michigan Chapter Education Center, 2131 Civic Center Drive, Southfield. Cost is \$5. Call (800) 243-5767.

## Eat your way thin

Dr. Carol A. Fischer presents a free workshop to help you learn why diets do not work, ways to avoid weight gain, how to lose weight with diet/nutrition and exercise 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 6, at the Alfred Noble Library in Livonia. Learn what to eat, when to eat, how to eat. Learn why eating fat will not make you fat. Seating is limited, reservations requested. No charge. Call (734) 425-8588.

## Half hour to health

Dr. Daniel Laframboise, chiropractor, presents Half Hour to Health Workshop at 6:15 p.m., in his office at 18444 Farmington Road, Livonia. March 6 topic is The Best Kept Health Secret. No charge. Seating limited. To register, call (248) 474-5252.

## After I'm gone

Parents and care givers can plan now to help ensure loved ones with developmental disabilities are cared for in the future during seminars 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 7, at the Arc Detroit Building, 51 West Hancock. After I'm Gone features presentations on estate planning, property rights transfers, insurance issues, social security, and items vital to planning for the future. If interested in attending, call Arc Detroit at (313) 831-0202 weekdays during business hours.

## Less stress with pressure point

Dr. Carol A. Fischer presents the free workshop where you learn to perform a 5- to 10-minute massage therapy technique that can be used to relieve headaches, neck tension, and stress 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 7, at Contours Express, 6558 Wayne Road (Hunter Plaza), Westland. No charge. Please bring a partner. Seating is limited, reservations requested. Call (734) 425-8588.

## Our Body lecture series

Dr. Conrad Nagle, corporate chief of diagnostic imaging for Beaumont Hospital is the first speaker in a series in conjunction with the Our Body: The Universe Within exhibit at the Detroit Science Center. Admission to the lecture is free with paid general admission. RSVPs are required to attend these events and seating is limited. To RSVP, send e-mail to [events@sciencedetroit.org](mailto:events@sciencedetroit.org) with event date and names of those attending. Museum hours are extended to 10 p.m. on event dates (except April 26) to allow atten-

dees to view the exhibit. There is a separate admission charge for the exhibit. Conrad speaks at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 8, on Our Health in a Picture: Is an Image Worth a Thousand Words?; 8 a.m. April 26, the topic is Can Michigan Make Employee Health a Competitive Advantage?; 7 p.m. May 3, Why Should Bone Health Matter to You?; 7 p.m. May 24, Preventing Obesity in Children, Where Do We Begin?; and 7 p.m. June 14, Does Family History Accurately Predict Your Future Health? Our Body: The Universe Within is an educational exhibition comprised of actual human bodies and organs, and exposes the inner workings of human anatomy by presenting actual human specimens, anatomical displays, reproductions of historic anatomical artwork and more. Tickets are \$24.95 adults, \$22.95 seniors, \$19.95 children. General admission is free with the purchase of an exhibit ticket. Children ages 12 and under must be accompanied by adult. Advance tickets are on sale at [www.detroitsciencecenter.org](http://www.detroitsciencecenter.org). For information, call (313) 577-8400 or visit the website, <http://www.detroitsciencecenter.org>.

## Yoga workshop

The Energy of Health, a weekend workshop with Michael Glicker, energy healer and teacher March 9-11, sponsored by Yoga Association of Greater Detroit. Participants may attend one, two or all three sessions. For more information or to register, call (313) 562-5937 or (248) 545-2685, or send e-mail to [apleasant@att.net](mailto:apleasant@att.net).

## Replacement seminar

Orthopedic surgeon Dr. Angelo Sorce addresses the latest technologies and current surgical techniques in hip and knee replacement surgery 9-11 a.m. Saturday, March 10, at Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton. No charge. To register, call (313) 586-5347.

## Project Hope benefit

Women's Division for Project HOPE (Health Opportunities for People Everywhere) present Casino Royale, James Bond Party with Casino games, strolling supper, music, silent auction, raffle prizes 7-11 p.m. Saturday, March 10, at Oakland Hills Country Club, 3951 West Maple, Bloomfield Hills. Benefits Women's Division for Project HOPE which since 1958 has worked to develop and implement programs around the world to share health education and medical technology. Tickets \$100, \$125, \$150. Reservations and information, contact Serena Orsini at (248) 646-0289 or e-mail to [sebbio@aol.com](mailto:sebbio@aol.com), or Gwen Bowly at (313) 393-9428 or e-mail to [gjbowlby@comcast.net](mailto:gjbowlby@comcast.net).

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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 soldier and five men under his command to phone home (must say overseas calling or be a Costco, WalMart, Smart, or Old Middle Eastern Calling Card with a camel on it).

Surplus items will be passed

on to other U.S. soldiers 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 different organizations such as the Boy and Girl Scouts 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 way 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, Roloids, 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. 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 non-profit 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](http://www.muttsandmutts.petfinder.org).

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

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

## Exhibit explores cultural diversity

One Great Tapestry - A Celebration and Exploration of Ethnic & Cultural Diversity continues on display through March 9, in the second floor Exhibition Gallery in the Library Wing at Madonna University, 36600 Schoolcraft at Levan, Livonia.

The show's title was inspired by the lyrics of the song Weave us Together, and was taken from the words, "We are many colors, we are many textures, yet we are entwined with one another, in one great tapestry." The show draws attention to the beauty of diversity and acknowledges the need for education and for healing negative conceptions regarding race and ethnicity.

The exhibit showcases the work of 13 visual artists working in a variety of mediums. Some of the artists featured are Patricia Izzo, Olena Sydoruk, Anthony Bacon, Jean Paul Abou-Dib, and Asha Walidah.

A significant contribution to the exhibit is a contemporary Asian art collection loaned to the university by Oliver Aguilar and Richard Phillips.

The works have been in major museums and exhibi-



This woodblock print is by Fang Lijun. It is from the collection of Oliver Aguilar and Richard Phillips.

tions in the U.S., Europe and Asia, and have been featured in books, respected art magazines and on the cover of Newsweek.

Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. For more information, contact Nancy Paton,

the exhibit curator, at (734) 259-2934, or send e-mail to [nancypaton@yahoo.com](mailto:nancypaton@yahoo.com). Madonna University Gallery director, Jeanne Moore can be reached at (248) 875-7332, or by e-mail at [jartdirect@comcast.net](mailto:jartdirect@comcast.net).



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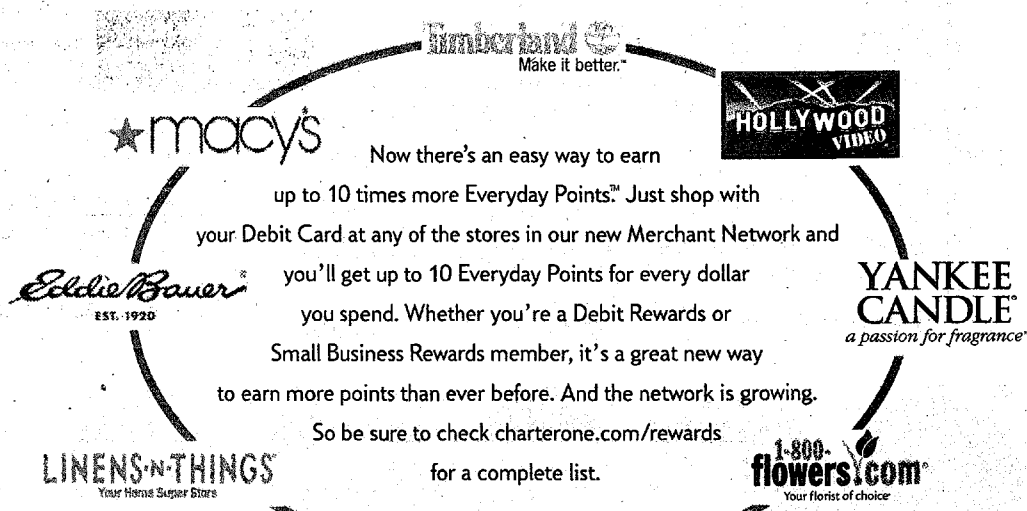
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